

**VARLEY- MCKAY ART FOUNDATION OF MARKHAM**

**Tuesday, June 16, 2015**

**Canada Room, City of Markham**

**3:30 P.M. – 5:00 P.M.**

**MINUTES**

**Attendance:**

Board of Directors Present: Terrence Pochmurski, Chair, Howard Back, John Ingram, Sid Karsh , Paul Keeling, Sammy Lee, Ernestine Tahedl, Santo Natale, Edie Yeomans, and Beverly Schaeffer

Staff: Niamh O’Laoghair, Director, Varley Art Gallery, Moe Hosseini-Ara, Acting Director of Culture, Francesca Dauphinais, Development Officer, and Pamela Cook, Council/Committee Coordinator

Regrets: Councillor Don Hamilton, Craig McOuat

| <b>Item</b>                                  | <b>Discussion</b>                                                                                                                                                          | <b>Action Item</b> |
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| <b>1. Call to Order</b>                      | The Varley-McKay Art Foundation of Markham convened at 3:54 p.m. with Terrence Pochmurski presiding as Chair.                                                              |                    |
| <b>2. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest</b>   | None                                                                                                                                                                       |                    |
| <b>3. Changes or Additions to the Agenda</b> | None                                                                                                                                                                       |                    |
| <b>4. Approval of the Minutes</b>            | Moved by Paul Keeling<br>Seconded by Sid Karsh<br><br>That the Minutes from the May 11, 2015 Varley-McKay Art Foundation of Markham Board Meeting be adopted as presented. | CARRIED            |

| Item                                               | Discussion                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Action Item |
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|                                                    | <p><u>Resolution Passed by Email on June 15 2015</u></p> <p>Moved by Edie Yeomans<br/>Seconded by Terrence Pochmurski</p> <p>THAT the Varley McKay Art Foundation of Markham approve the purchase at the Live Auction of:<br/> Lot #127: F.H. Varley, Sunset After Storm, Kootenay, BC oil on Board 11 ¾ x 15 inc<br/> 29.8 x 38.1 cm at Heffel Live auction Vancouver May 27, 2015 to a maximum bid of \$50,000 plus applicable taxes and buyer's premium.</p> <p>CARRIED</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |             |
| <p><b>a. Business Arising from the Minutes</b></p> | <p>The Committee reviewed the action items from the previous meeting with no changes or additions.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |             |
| <p><b>5. Director's Report</b></p>                 | <p><b>Niamh O'Laoghaire, Director of the Gallery extended her personal appreciation and congratulations to the Art Auction Committee Chaired by Paul Keeling, and to Fran Dauphinais for a very successful Fine Art Auction held May 13, 2015.</b></p> <p><b>Exhibition Program</b><br/> The exhibition <i>Visualizing a Culture for Strangers: Chinese Export Paintings from the Nineteenth Century</i> organized by the Art Gallery of Greater Victoria is scheduled for May – September, 2016. The works are primarily watercolours created by Chinese artists for a new market from the late 18<sup>th</sup> to the 19<sup>th</sup> centuries. They had considerable influence on the western vision of China. The Gallery is planning to exhibit works by the late Pudlo Pudlat at the same time. Also created for a new, western market, they reveal his exploration of both traditional and modern Inuit lifestyles.</p> <p><b>Loans</b><br/> Twenty works by members of the Group of Seven from the collection of J.J. MacQuarrie, currently at the Orillia Museum of Art and History, are expected to arrive at the Gallery for further assessment by late June of this year. The loan agreement with Mr. MacQuarrie is for</p> |             |

| Item                                        | Discussion                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Action Item |
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|                                             | <p>one year and the Gallery hopes to maximize the display time and possibly negotiate an extension.</p> <p><b>Public Programs and Events</b></p> <p>Planning and organizing of public programs and events are well underway. Adult and pre-teen art classes ended in late May, the children's weekly classes are wrapping up by mid-June, and registration for Summer Adult Art Classes for July and August is well in place.</p> <p>The summer camp team received orientation and training in mid-May and all 14 staff are preparing for June 29<sup>th</sup> start up. Registration has been very strong with limited space available in 9 of the 50 camps offered and waitlists for other camps.</p> <p>Despite recent strikes at the schools, class visits continue to be doing very well and in fact reached \$21,000, surpassing last year's \$18,000 in revenue for the same period in 2014.</p> <p><b>COMPASS Program</b></p> <p>The Director reported that the draft proposal and interview with the consulting group of Planche and Planche was very positive. It is anticipated that a draft proposal will be received next week that could provide the basis for an application to the COMPASS Program.</p> |             |
| <p><b>6. Development Officer Report</b></p> | <p>Francesca Dauphinais, Development Officer verbally presented her report to the Board and confirmed that she will be commencing maternity leave on June 26, 2015. It was reported that Gallery staff have recently joined a pilot project spearheaded by the Culture Department. The Gallery has unique criteria for volunteers and unfortunately, several resignations have been received in the past few months.</p> <p>The City's new portal system is not as user friendly as the previous one, but strategies for improvement on speed and access are in place. Summer camp registrations may be affected by this adjustment. The Varley-McKay.com website access has now expired; there is still a great deal of marketing material with that address in public display that can create confusion until everything is replaced.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |             |

| Item                                   | Discussion                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Action Item |
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|                                        | <p>There were fewer people in attendance at the Annual Art Auction this year, but the results were impressive. Craig McQuat has done a lot of sponsorship work for the Garden in White event.</p> <p>Volunteer requests were posted for Summer Camps positions, with a lot of students expressing interest, but many have limited timetables. Our needs are more unique because we want people who know how to store things safely and who are confident in working with children at the same time. It was commented that the \$30 fee for police reference checks is taxing on senior and student volunteers, but it was reiterated that the vulnerable reference check is mandated by the Province. The City has determined that orientation will be on-line with a certificate indicating that it is completed. The City's Legal Department is looking at finding a way to balance these concerns for our volunteers.</p> <p>Mr. Pochmurski, Chair of the Varley-McKay Art Foundation Board of Directors, thanked Fran for her dedication and efforts, and wished her well on her leave.</p> |             |
| <p><b>7. Sub-Committee Reports</b></p> | <p><b>A. Art Acquisition Committee</b><br/> Edie Yeomans indicated that with the formal approval from the Board of Directors the Gallery was able to take advantage of an opportunity to acquire an important Fred Varley piece of work. With the potential donation of two Fred Varley drawings from the collection of Michael Wayne and Sandra Tychsen, these acquisitions will make a wonderful addition to the collection.</p> <p><b>B. Art Auction Committee</b><br/> Paul Keeling expressed special thanks from the Committee to Councillor Don Hamilton for his great efforts for the Art Auction. The Committee was also very thankful for IBM for their sponsorship. The items collected by John Ingram and others were welcomed and also contributed to the overall success of the Art Auction.</p> <p><b>C. Development Committee</b><br/> Sammy Lee reiterated that meetings of the Development Committee have been</p>                                                                                                                                                             |             |

| Item                       | Discussion                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Action Item                                                                                                           |
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|                            | <p>suspended pending finalization of the Foundation's Strategic Plan and its approval by the City.</p> <p><b>D. Volunteer Committee</b><br/>Nothing to report at this time.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                       |
| <b>8. Financial Report</b> | Nothing to report at this time as City Council just approved the Annual Report on this date.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                       |
| <b>9. New Business</b>     | <p><b>a) Strategic Plan</b><br/>The Chair indicated that a draft of the Strategic Plan will be available for review by the Board in September / October 2015.</p> <p><b>b) Election of the Chair, Vice-Chair, Treasurer, and Secretary</b><br/>The Chair thanked the Board for their assistance and support over the past year, and especially for today's attendance at the AGM.</p> <p>Moved by Edie Yeomans<br/>Seconded by Beverley Schaffer</p> <p>THAT Terrence Pochmurski, be reappointed as Chair of the Board of Directors of the Varley-McKay Art Foundation of Markham, and</p> <p>THAT Paul Keeling be reappointed as Vice-Chair of the Board of Directors of the Varley-McKay Art Foundation of Markham, and</p> <p>THAT Sid Karsh be reappointed as Treasurer of the Board of Directors of the Varley-McKay Art Foundation of Markham, and further,</p> <p>THAT Susan Gray be reappointed as Secretary of the Board of Directors of the Varley-McKay Art Foundation of Markham.</p> <p><b>CARRIED</b></p> | <p>Terrence P.</p> <p>Report decision of executive of the Board of Directors to the City of Markham – Pamela Cook</p> |

| Item                         | Discussion                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Action Item                                                                                                     |
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|                              | <p><b>c) Development Officer Search</b><br/> The Chair reported that over 100 applications were received and the process was narrowed down to three possible candidates for interview. All three candidates are qualified and very strong and the Chair requested direction from the Board to make an offer to hire.</p> <p>Moved by Paul Keeling<br/> Seconded by Sid Karsh</p> <p>THAT the Varley-McKay Art Foundation Selection Committee be directed to select and negotiate the position of Development Officer during the maternity leave for the current incumbent, Francesca Dauphinais.</p> <p>CARRIED</p> <p><b>d) Summer Student Jobs</b><br/> The hiring by the Foundation of summer students for 13 weeks (funded through the Federal Canada Summer Jobs Program) is ongoing, but the WSIB terms have yet to be finalized.</p> <p><b>e) Garden in White</b><br/> The Chair reminded Committee members of the Garden in White event being held on Saturday, July 25, 2015. It has a VIP reception at 5:30 p.m. for sponsors, councillors and Board members and a 6:00 start for the general public. Tickets are \$40 per person.</p> | <p>Selection Committee proceeds to facilitate a hire of a suitable replacement for the Development Officer.</p> |
| <b>10. Next Meeting Date</b> | <p>The next meeting of the Varley-McKay Art Foundation of Markham will be held on Monday, September 14, 2015 at 5:00 p.m. at the Gallery.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                 |
| <b>11. Adjournment</b>       | <p>On a motion from the Board the meeting of The Varley-McKay Art Foundation of Markham adjourned at 4:53 p.m.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                 |

**Varley-McKay Art Foundation of Markham - Action Item Tracking**

| No. | Action Item                                                                               | Meeting Date      | Responsibility of Staff/Board Member | Meeting Date to be Completed By | Status                                               |
|-----|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| 1.  | Meet to establish criteria for recognizing past Board of Directors                        | September 8, 2014 | Edie Yeomans, and Ernestine Tahedl   | Spring 2015                     | Overdue                                              |
| 2.  | Look at past minutes on why the scholarship was established                               | March 9, 2015     | Laura Gold                           | April 13, 2015                  | Overdue                                              |
| 3.  | Present a work plan with specific objectives.                                             | March 9, 2015     | Development Committee                | April 13, 2015                  | Discussion suspended pending direction from the City |
| 4.  | Notify Human Resources and request a maternity leave posting for the Development Officer. | April 13, 2015    | Director of the Art Gallery          | May 11, 2015                    | Completed                                            |
| 5.  | Strategic Plan                                                                            | June 16, 2015     | Chair                                | Fall 2015                       |                                                      |
| 6.  | Report Board of Directors Executive for 2015-2016 to the City of Markham                  | June 16, 2015     | Committee Secretary – Pamela Cook    | August, 2015                    | Completed                                            |