



## MARKHAM PUBLIC ART ADVISORY COMMITTEE

### MINUTES January 7, 2015 Meeting No. 1

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#### **PRESENT**

##### Members

Paul Cosburn  
Taleen Der Haroutiounian  
Frankie Ip  
Stephen Lusk  
Alina Tarbhai

##### Guest

Stephen Cruise

##### Staff

Corinna Ghaznavi, Public Art Coordinator  
Bev Shugg Barbeito, Committee Coordinator

#### **REGRETS**

Dr. Jadwiga Byszewski  
Glen Harrington  
Judy Lau  
Peter Pavlovic

#### **1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Markham Public Art Advisory Committee was called to order at 6:10 pm with Paul Cosburn serving as Chair.

#### **2. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST**

None was declared.

#### **3. CHANGES OR ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**

The agenda was accepted as distributed.

**4. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES OF THE MARKHAM PUBLIC ART ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING ON SEPTEMBER 10, 2014**

It was

Moved by           Alina Tarbhai  
Seconded by       Stephen Lusk

THAT the minutes of the Markham Public Art Advisory Committee meeting held on September 10, 2014 be adopted as distributed.

CARRIED

**5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

It was noted that reports would be made on these items throughout the meeting.

**6. MARKHAM MUSEUM – NEW PARK PROJECT**

Corinna Ghaznavi, Public Art Coordinator, reported that a parkette will be designed for the area immediately north of the Markham Museum on Highway 48. It was proposed that the funds donated by a local developer be used to commission an art work for the parkette. It was further proposed that the work created by Stephen Cruise be selected; this work was tailored to suit the Markham Museum and had been selected second behind the work selected by the selection jury for the Markham Museum sculpture project. Installation of the art work for the parkette would be planned for 2016.

Stephen Cruise introduced the project, *Shepherd*, as a two-part installation consisting of a 10-tonne India Red Granite horse and a tower made of stacked granite pots. He showed examples of the historical references that influenced the work, e.g. fractals (complex patterns repeated endlessly such as floral patterns or birds used to decorate announcements), as well as images from historic Markham that almost always included a horse. Cruise's large scale horse (8 ft high on a 1 ft. base) is an homage to these horses, especially the workhorses, like the Great Clydesdale, who were so integral to work by the early settlers. However, the granite horse is meant to represent a model, not a 'real' horse, as a reference to the objects in the Museum's collection, and early model toys that recall the innocence of youth. The five stacked pots create a 15 ft. high column that honours the history of the Markham pottery that was situated on the site of the installation in the 1800's. The fractals etched into the pots mimic those found in historical documents. Cruise also reviewed a number of his other works including *Gathering...* at Metro Place, Toronto, *Familia* in Port Credit ON and *Indigena* in Cambridge ON. He has been commissioned to create public art for sites across Canada. He has work in the collections of The National Gallery of Canada, the Art Gallery of Ontario, the Cities of Windsor, Toronto, Cambridge, Waterloo and Fredericton, and the University of Calgary.

Questions by committee members focused on whether the work is able to withstand Canadian weather elements; granite is very durable and will last for over 100 years. The Committee thanked Stephen Cruise for his presentation and he left the meeting at 8:10 pm.

The Markham Public Art Advisory Committee expressed the opinion that this work is an important and prominent piece of art.

It was

Moved by            Stephen Lusk  
Seconded by        Alina Tarbhai

That the Markham Public Art Advisory Committee endorse the artwork proposal for the Markham Museum Parkette site submitted by Stephen Cruise be accepted as proposed, subject to the location of the work within the parkette to be determined by the Manager Parks & Open Spaces, the landscape architect, and the selected artist.

CARRIED

It was recommended that the Committee consider sites for future art works.

#### **7. SCULPTURE PATH – MARKHAM MUSEUM**

It was previously reported that a sculpture project will be located at the Markham Museum to the left of the new museum building. An artwork proposal by kipjones has been selected. The work will feature a 21 foot gambrel barn structure with the structure base representing the “grounded” history of Markham and the upper section representing that Markham is open to the future. Corinna Ghaznavi reported that the kipjones is on schedule and is expected to break ground in May 2015.

#### **8. SCULPTURE PATH – MARY ANNE BARKHOUSE**

It was previously reported that Mary Anne Barkhouse, an indigenous artist whose works are created in bronze and granite, was commissioned to create a piece to begin a sculpture path. The piece will be located in the park at Toogood Pond on a large, flat, high piece of land visible from Carlton Road. Corinna Ghaznavi reported that the project is on schedule and Ms. Barkhouse is ready to begin installation in the spring when the ground is dry.

## **9. WILLIAM BERCZY COMMEMORATIVE MONUMENT**

It was previously reported that TACC Developments has proposed placing a commemorative monument to William Berczy in a park in its new development in Upper Unionville. The jury selected a proposal submitted by Marlene Hilton Moore, a seasoned art professional. In her proposal, William Berczy, in realistic historical dress of the times, is looking over the new TACC Developments site in Upper Unionville – representing the deep heritage of Markham looking to the continuation of new ideas into the future. TACC Developments is working with Markham Urban Design staff to establish the optimum placement in the park.

## **10. CORNELL COMMUNITY CENTRE**

It was previously reported that the successful proposal was submitted by Douglas Walker who has become known for his “Blue and White” delft work. Mr. Walker proposed to use this concept on ceramic tiles for the art work at the Cornell Community Centre. Corinna Ghaznavi reported that, Mr. Walker is painting twelve tiles per day, section by section, and then backmounting the tiles on glass. Installation of the lower and upper works is scheduled for February 2015 and April 2015 respectively. Corinna Ghaznavi invited interested Committee members to join her when she visits Mr. Walker’s studio on January 21, 2015.

## **11. TRAFFIC CONTROL BOXES PHASE II**

It was previously reported that Forge Collective was selected as the artist team for the first phase of the Traffic Control Boxes art project, which was initiated by the Public Realm Committee and supported by the Public Art program. The artists of Forge Collective are mentoring students of Unionville High School in Phase II of the project to create two new wrap designs to promote heritage and the Pan Am games, and a Pan Am street component. The project is on target and installation is planned for spring 2015.

## **12. BICYCLE RACKS (Joint project with the Public Realm Committee)**

It was previously reported that the joint project to create bicycle racks had been resurrected. The selection committee, composed of two members from each of the Public Realm Committee and the Public Art Advisory Committee, met in November 2014. Forge Collective was selected as the artist team for the project with its two designs: “Follow Me”, a versatile length design featuring a fanciful curlicue with a Markham “M” at the top, and “Zephyr”, a kinetic design emulating nature, e.g. the movement of rushes. Forge Collective is currently sourcing fabrications. It is hoped that installation will take place in spring 2015, first at the Pan Am Centre and then at gateway locations to Markham.

## **13. PUBLIC ART UPDATES**

Chair Paul Cosburn advised that the Remington Group has installed an art work, a vertical column of black and gray cubes and orbs, at the corner of Birchmount Road and Enterprise Boulevard.

**14. NEW BUSINESS**

None was identified.

**15. NEXT MEETING DATE**

The next meeting will be scheduled in late March 2015.

**16. ADJOURNMENT**

It was

Moved by	Taleen Der Haroutiounian
Seconded by	Alina Tarbhai

That the Markham Public Art Advisory Committee meeting adjourn at 8:15 p.m.

**CARRIED**