

VARLEY- MCKAY
ART FOUNDATION OF MARKHAM
Monday, May 11, 2015
Art Gallery
5:00 P.M. – 7:00 P.M.

MINUTES

Attendance:

Board of Directors Present: Terrence Pochmurski, Chair, Councillor Don Hamilton, John Ingram, Sid Karsh , Paul Keeling, Sammy Lee, Craig McOuat , Beverly Schaeffer, Ernestine Tahedl, Edie Yeomans, Santo Natale

Staff: Niamh O’Laoghraire, Director, Varley Art Gallery, and Pamela Cook, Council/Committee Coordinator

Regrets: Susan Gray, Howard Back

Item	Discussion	Action Item
1. Call to Order	The Varley-McKay Art Foundation of Markham convened at 5:08 p.m. with Terrence Pochmurski presiding as Chair.	
2. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest	None	
3. Changes or Additions to the Agenda	None	
4. Approval of the Minutes	Moved by John Ingram Seconded by Craig McOuat That the Minutes from the April 13, 2015 Varley-McKay Art Foundation of Markham Board Meeting be adopted as presented.	CARRIED

Item	Discussion	Action Item
5. Business Arising from the Minutes a. Review of Action Items	The Committee reviewed the action items from the previous meeting. The maternity leave posting for the Development Officer has gone out and several applications have been received. After the closing date on May 15th, the applications will be reviewed and interviews set up.	Niamh Terrence
6. Director's Report	Niamh O'Laoghaire, Director of the Gallery provided the Director's Report. The report included an update on public programs and events, education programs, collections, membership, staffing issues, marketing and communications, and the COMPASS Program. The 2015 Exhibition Program is in place as planned. Everything has been cleared out of the galleries in preparation for the May 13 Art Auction. Once that is complete installation will begin on the cosmopolitan Canadian exhibition, Traversive Territories. There is currently a lot of planning around the 2016 exhibition program which will include an exhibition program of historical Chinese art and a show of excellent works by Pudlo Pudlat from the collection of Peter Milligan and Dorene Macaulay. With funds from the Paper Conservation project, a high end camera has been purchased to help prepare a digitized record of the collections; Collections Manager, Rachel Brodie is preparing a final report on the project for the Museum Assistance program of the Department of Canadian Heritage with presenting details on this acquisition for the Museum Board. As of this date fourteen camp staff have been hired for the summer. Five were hired through Canada Works program; we asked to have them for 13 weeks, but were approved for 8 weeks only. We have also received 3 positions through the Canada Summer Jobs programs, one of these is the Gallery animateur position, applied for by the Foundation. The position will be supervised by the Education Coordinator, and will begin on July 9th running through August and Labour Day. In response to a query, the Director explained that due to City policy, the Foundation will need to provide an additional \$100-200 for hourly wages, as well an additional cost for WSIB up to \$300.	

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	The Director informed the Board that the Varley Administrative Assistant, Doriana started compassionate leave today, and fortunately two part-time staff have agreed to increase their hours to assist. The Development Officer will be commencing maternity leave soon, but that position has been posted for replacement and interviews will be set up after the closing on May 15th The objective of the Ontario Arts Council COMPASS program is “to assist arts organizations with organizational development projects, and to assist arts managers with professional development projects, to help build administrative and management capacity in the arts”. The Director indicated verbally that she had met the morning of May 11th with an OAC COMPASS program officer to discuss a possible Varley application for the July 3rd deadline. The fact that the Foundation has a permanent part-time Development Officer that could implement a plan created through the grant will assist with the application. The Director indicated that Georgian College’s Museum and Gallery Studies is in its third academic year beginning September 2015 and that part of that semester comprises an ‘up to 3-month summer internship’; this may be an opportunity for interns at the Varley Art Gallery.	
7. Development Officer Report	Francesca Dauphinais, Development Officer sent her regrets and was unable to attend.	
8. Sub-Committee Reports	A. Art Acquisition Committee Edie Yeomans indicated the Committee met this afternoon. The Gallery has been offered a collection of 22 lithograph and stone prints by Pudlo Pudlat from the collection of Peter Milligan and Dorene Macaulay, which would greatly enhance the Gallery’s limited Inuit art collection. The Gallery has also been offered contemporary works from the Collection of Jeff Nolte. The collection is quite substantial and the Committee has not had an opportunity to meet to determine selection details. The Committee is also reviewing the possibility of a potential donation of two Fred Varley drawings from the collection of Michael Wayne and Sandra Tychsen.	

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	The Gallery has been approached regarding a one year loan of 20 Group of Seven works from the collection of J.J. (Jack) MacQuarrie. An agreement has been signed for one year, but the Committee will pursue an extension of an additional two years for the collection currently on loan at the Orillia Museum of Art. To bring the collection to the Varley there will be costs incurred for transportation and appraisals, and for insurance that still need to be determined. The Committee is very excited by this loan, and hopes to encourage the lender to donate. For this reason the Acquisitions Committee is also recommending that a catalogue be published, and that an event recognizing the lender be planned. It is anticipated that this should collection should be given to the Varley and the donation could set the bar to attract other significant donations for the Gallery in the future. Moved by Edie Yeomans, Seconded by Santo Natale, THAT the Board allocate up to \$20,000 (Twenty Thousand Dollars) to cover logistical costs for the recognition event on the Group of Seven loan / donation with further details to be finalized as details for the donation progress. CARRIED Edie Yeomans also reported that there are currently five works by Fred Varley available for sale; four can be viewed on-line at Heffel and one at Consignor Gallery. The Gallery Director and Curator Anik Glaude are to view several in person and report back to the Committee about them. The Chair commented that if the Acquisitions Committee receive the information regarding the acquisition of these works from Anik and Niamh then a motion will be circulated to the Board by e-mail for direction about their purchase. B. Art Auction Committee The Auction is ready to go for Wednesday, May 13th. Paul indicated that as a result of some dedicated volunteers and a lot of hard work there are some fabulous items for the auction this year. The Committee asked for volunteers to come to the Gallery for 10 a.m. tomorrow	

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	to help set up. The Mayor will provide opening remarks for the event. C. Development Committee Sammy Lee reiterated that the meetings have been suspended pending direction from the City. D. Volunteer Committee No report at this time.	
9. Financial Report	Sid Karsh tabled the Financial Statement for the Varley-McKay Art Foundation of Markham for the period ending March 31, 2015 and reported that nothing has been spent for acquisitions in the last four years and that most expenses are administration costs. The upcoming Art Auction has good value for its works and it is anticipated that the event will raise a minimum of \$51,000.	
10. New Business	<u>Strategic Plan</u> There Chair announced that the strategic plan is being prepared for discussion at a future meeting. <u>Annual General Meeting – 3 p.m. Tuesday, June 16, 2015, Council Chamber, Civic Centre</u>	Chair
11. Next Meeting Date	The next meeting of the Varley-McKay Art Foundation of Markham will be held on Tuesday, June 16, 2015 at 3:300 p.m. at the Council Chamber, Civic Centre.	
12. Adjournment	On a motion from Paul Keeling, seconded by Sid Karsh, the Board the meeting of The Varley-McKay Art Foundation of Markham adjourned at 6:16 p.m.	

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	
2.	Look at past minutes on why the scholarship was established	March 9, 2015	Laura Gold	April 13, 2015	pending
3.	Present a work plan with specific objectives.	March 9, 2015	Development Committee	April 13, 2015	Discussion suspended pending direction from the Board
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, applications received and interviews to be set up.
5.	Strategic Plan		Board Chair	June 16, 2015	pending