



MARKHAM PUBLIC ART ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES September 10, 2014 Meeting No. 4

PRESENT

Members

Dr. Jadwiga Byszewski
Paul Cosburn
Taleen Der Haroutiounian
Frankie Ip
Stephen Lusk
Alina Tarbhai
Kenny Yu

Council

Regional Councillor Gord Landon

Staff

Mohammed Hosseini-Ara, Director of Culture
Corinna Ghaznavi, Public Art Coordinator
Bev Shugg Barbeito, Committee Coordinator

REGRETS

Glen Harrington
Judy Lau
Peter Pavlovic

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Markham Public Art Advisory Committee was called to order at 6:05 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 JUNE 4, 2014

It was

Moved by Stephen Lusk
Seconded by Taleen Der Haroutiounian

THAT the minutes of the Markham Public Art Advisory Committee meeting held on June 4, 2014 be adopted as distributed.

CARRIED

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

None was identified.

6. SCULPTURE PATH – MARY ANNE BARKHOUSE

In 2013 the Committee agreed to undertake the project of commissioning a piece to begin a sculpture path. Mary Anne Barkhouse, an indigenous artist whose works are created in bronze and granite, was commissioned as the artist for the project. The concept for the work is a granite sculpture in the form of an 18” high ‘bench’, inspired by designs of formal gardens found at European palaces such as Versailles, positioned on either side of a large natural boulder. Around the boulder would be three bronze dogs (a terrier, a hound and a borzoi) looking up at a bronze squirrel perched on top of the boulder. The decision has been made to locate the art piece in the park at Toogood Pond on a large, flat, high piece of land visible from Carlton Road. Corinna Ghaznavi, Public Art Coordinator, reported that Ms. Barkhouse has ordered the stone and started to model the figures; the project is on schedule.

7. SCULPTURE PATH – MARKHAM MUSEUM

Corinna Ghaznavi, Public Art Coordinator, reported that a second sculpture project will be located at the Markham Museum to the left of the new museum building. A general call for art proposals closed on May 27, 2014 and twenty-two responses were received. A jury composed of John McEwen, recognized both internationally and across Canada for his many site-specific installations and public commissions, Linda Jansma, Curator of the Robert McLaughlin Gallery in Oshawa, and Ardy Reid, Board of Directors of The Friends of Markham Museum, reviewed the submissions and selected five for further consideration.

The jury met in September to receive presentations by the artists of these five submissions. Committee member Stephen Lusk attended the September jury meeting to observe the art selection process. He reported that the jury took into account ideas reflecting both history and the future. He felt that Corinna Ghaznavi mediated the process well and that the process was very democratic.

The jury selected an artwork proposal by kipjones, which featured 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. It is expected that the structure will be readily visible to passersby and attract them to the Markham Museum.

It was

Moved by Stephen Lusk
Seconded by Taleen Der Haroutiounian

That the Markham Public Art Advisory Committee recommend to Markham Council that the artwork proposal for the Markham Museum site submitted by kipjones be accepted as proposed.

CARRIED

8. WILLIAM BERCZY COMMEMORATIVE MONUMENT

Corinna Ghaznavi, Public Art Coordinator, reported that TACC Developments has proposed placing a commemorative monument to William Berczy in a new development in Upper Unionville. An invitational call for proposals was made to four artists based on their ability to work with bronze and their experience in creating monuments. A jury composed of Carl Tacon, a public artist and sculptor whose works have been exhibited across North America, Jennifer Rudder, an experienced curator, and Sandra Gallassi, TACC Developments, met to review the artists’ proposals.

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. The height of the statue is approximately 15% larger than life size; the granite and bronze base is approximately 8 feet high, making the total height approximately 14 feet high. The base will also feature images of early settlers. The park, where the sculpture will be placed, will be designed with input from the artist with the intention of drawing people into the park.

It was

Moved by Alina Tarbhai
Seconded by Stephen Lusk

That the Markham Public Art Advisory Committee recommend to Markham Council that the artwork proposal for TACC Development’s Upper Unionville Development submitted by Marlene Hilton Moore be accepted as proposed.

CARRIED

Mohammed Hosseini-Ara left the meeting at 6:45 pm.

9. TRAFFIC CONTROL BOXES

Corinna Ghaznavi, Public Art Coordinator, briefly reviewed the Traffic Control Boxes art project, which was initiated by the Public Realm Committee and supported by the Public Art Program. Forge Collective was selected as the artist team for the first phase of the project; it developed the concept of Spirits of Markham in the form of animals such as squirrels, rabbits and foxes placed into environments that reflect the diverse aspects of life in Markham. Ms. Ghaznavi reported that 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 three new designs are scheduled to be ready for installation in spring 2015.

10. PUBLIC ART UPDATES

A) Cornell Community Centre

The successful proposal was submitted by Douglas Walker who, in the 1990's, began to concentrate his efforts on the "Blue and White" delft work for which he has become known. Mr. Walker has used the medium of oil on paper although the effect looks like blue paint on white ceramic tiles. Mr. Walker proposed to use this concept on ceramic tiles for the art work at the Cornell Community Centre. Corinna Ghaznavi, Public Art Coordinator, reported that, after two months of testing, Mr. Walker was not able to reproduce the blue tint on the back of glass tiles and that he has recently found a new supplier of ceramic tiles. Installation of the project is scheduled for October 2014.

B) Joint project with the Public Realm Committee

Corinna Ghaznavi, Public Art Coordinator, reported that the joint project to create bicycle racks has been resurrected. Forge Collective and two other artists have been invited to submit designs. The selection committee will meet in November 2014; it will be composed of two members from each of the Public Realm Committee and the Public Art Advisory Committee. Committee members, who would like to be part of the selection committee, should advise Chair Paul Cosburn of their interest within one week.

11. NEW BUSINESS

A) Birchmount Road Bridge

Corinna Ghaznavi, Public Art Coordinator, reported that the Birchmount Road bridge near Highway 7 was constructed so that public art could be placed on each side at both ends of the bridge

- B)** Chair Paul Cosburn thanked Regional Councillor Gord Landon, whose term ends November 30, 2014, for his contributions to the Committee.

12. NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting will be scheduled in early 2015.

13. ADJOURNMENT

It was

Moved by	Stephen Lusk
Seconded by	Alina Tarbhai

That the Markham Public Art Advisory Committee meeting adjourn at 7:45 p.m.

CARRIED