



MARKHAM PUBLIC ART ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES JANUARY 30, 2013 Meeting No. 1

PRESENT

Members

Matthew Korchinski, Chair
Glen Harrington
Judy Lau
Peter Pavlovic
Stefania Pflugbeil
Alina Tarbhai
Kenny Yu

REGRETS

Regrets

Paul Cosburn
Regional Councillor Gord Landon

Linda Irvine, Manager, Parks & Open Spaces

Staff

Corinna Ghaznavi, Public Art Coordinator
Francine Périnet, Director, Varley Art Gallery
John Ryerson, Director of Culture
Bev Shugg Barbeito, Committee Secretary

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Markham Public Art Advisory Committee was called to order at 7:05 pm with Matthew Korchinski presiding as Chair.

2. CHANGES OR ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

The Agenda was accepted as distributed.

3. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES OF THE MARKHAM PUBLIC ART ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETINGS ON MAY 23, 2012 AND DECEMBER 19, 2012

It was

Moved by Glen Harrington
Seconded by Alina Tarbhai

THAT the minutes of the Markham Public Art Advisory Committee meetings held on May 23, 2012 and December 19, 2012 be adopted as distributed.

Carried

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

A) Public Art Coordinator

John Ryerson, Director of Culture, introduced Corinna Ghaznavi who has been hired on a nine-month contract in the role of Public Art Coordinator. Ms. Ghaznavi spoke about her twenty-eight years experience as an art historian, artistic director of film festivals, and art teacher. Ms. Ghaznavi will create a 3-year public art plan and will support the implementation of public art projects through consistent procedures for requests to place public art on publicly owned lands.

B) Henderson St. Bridge Project (Proctor & Henderson)

Francine Périnet, Director of Varley Art Gallery, reported that the Varley Art Gallery had approached artist Katherine Harvey to mentor an emerging artist to be hired to design art for this project. A Request for Proposal to elicit project proposals will close February 6, 2013. Ms. Harvey will assist in the selection process and then meet with the successful artist to assist in developing the proposal for this project.

The budget for the project is currently divided equally between the Public Realm Committee and the Public Art Advisory Committee. It was reported that Councillor Burke is attempting to acquire additional funds for the project via Section 37 funding.

C) Markham Museum Project

Francine Périnet reviewed the history of this project. The Public Art Advisory Committee had agreed to support this project and identified two possible places for a piece of art: a large plain wall in the reception area and the outside wall of the building facing Markham Road. The artist selected for this project chose the outside location and proposed a pillar approx. 30 feet high, reminiscent of a bird. The cost of the project is over the planned budget; and options are being investigated.

D) Joint project on public realm bicycle racks

Francine Périnet reported that a decision had been made to grant additional time to the artist to attend to a personal situation.

E) Private Sector Art Projects

John Ryerson reported that Markham plans to encourage developers to include plans for public art from the outset of the project. It was noted that the redevelopment of the Buttonville airport land offers much potential for presenting public art through undertaking a public art plan.

John Ryerson provided an overview of Section 37 funding for cities.

5. UPDATE ON PUBLIC ART PROJECTS

Corinna Ghaznavi discussed possible art installations on two walls at the Cornell Community Centre that could be available for public art. Ms Ghaznavi will develop the call for proposals; the theme may promote the ideas of wellness, health, and community engagement. It is hoped to interest the youth group in developing options for another wall which leads to the youth area of the centre. The call for artists will be circulated to the Committee.

John Ryerson reported that the Markham South East Community Centre will feature many community gathering places which would be ideal sites for presenting public art. Budget discussions relating to this project are underway; it is hoped that 1% of the project budget will be allocated to public art projects as this is the first major project opportunity for the public art program for several years.

It was also noted that another large project to create the proposed Outdoor Sports Park project at Elgin Mills Road and Warden Avenue could also be appropriate to host public art and will be included in the three year plan.

Corinna Ghaznavi reported that she will conduct research and consult with individuals and groups to develop a public art plan; it is intended that a preliminary draft will be ready by the end of February for input from this Committee

Corinna Ghaznavi reported that a citizen suggestion to create a graffiti wall had been received. Committee discussion recognized that graffiti has evolved but educational outreach about the new context of graffiti might be needed. John Ryerson and Corinna Ghaznavi will conduct more research into the matter and report back to the Committee.

6. NEW BUSINESS

Francine Périnet advised that a new brochure will be developed to promote public art and the work of the Public Art Advisory Committee.

7. NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting of the Markham Public Art Advisory Committee will be held on February 27, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. in the Canada Room.

8. ADJOURNMENT

The Markham Public Art Advisory Committee meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.