

ARTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES

Thursday, April 7, 2022
Electronic and in Meeting Room G
Lower Level, City Hall

PRESENT

Councillor Mary Trentadue*	Chair
Sienna Campbell*	Community Representative
Erin Jeffrey*	Representative, Local Not-for-Profit Arts Sector
Stephen O'Shea	Representative, Arts Council of New Westminster
Anjana Pradhananga*	Urban Designers, Architects, Landscape Architects
Kelly Proznik	Representative, Education Sector
Julia Schoennagel*	Artist, New Westminster Based
Giulia Setticasi*	Community Representative

REGRETS

Sonyowah Elijah	Artist, New Westminster Based
Ezra King	Community Representative
Jas Lally	Arts Professional

STAFF

Todd Ayotte	Manager, Community Arts and Theatre
Quyen Hoang	Public and Community Art Coordinator
Katie Stobbart	Committee Clerk

*Denotes electronic attendance

1. CALL TO ORDER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Councillor Trentadue opened the meeting at 5:32 p.m. and recognized with respect that New Westminster is on the unceded and unsundered land of the Halkomelem speaking peoples. She acknowledged that colonialism has made invisible their histories and connections to the land. She recognized that, as a

City, we are learning and building relationships with the people whose lands we are on.

2. INTRODUCTIONS AND ICEBREAKERS

Julia Schoennagel, Artist, New Westminster based, announced an Artists for Ukraine event taking place at Massey Theatre on April 8 to 9.

3. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the Arts Advisory Committee add the Poet Laureate Program to the agenda as Item 5.3.

Carried.

All members present voted in favour of the motion.

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

4.1 Minutes of March 3, 2022

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the Minutes of the March 3, 2022 Arts Advisory Committee meeting be adopted.

Carried.

All members voted in favour of the motion.

5. REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS

5.1 Public Art Project Update

Quyen Hoang, Public and Community Art Coordinator, reviewed the "Public Art Projects Update" memo.

In response to questions from the Committee, Ms. Hoang advised:

- The City has not yet signed the contract with the artist who will create the installation on the façade of City Hall. The artist has

proposed an engagement plan which will consider people with lived experiences around police reform;

- Once the contract for the Agnes Greenway has been finalized, the artist will further define what is meant by youth artists and who that will apply to;
- There is no policy about commissioning the same artist multiple times. We want to ensure that a diversity of artists are represented and do discuss when artists have been hired before as part of the selection process, but also do not want to preclude an artist if they are right for the opportunity;
- It was determined in consultation with the Public Art Advisory Committee that the reach of the Artist Roster call should be the Lower Mainland. Artists were asked in their expression of interest to share their knowledge, connection, or experience with New Westminster; and
- Artist Roster can be used to support opportunities initiated by other City departments or local businesses and organizations.

Procedural Note: Julia Schoennagel left the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

5.2 Public Art Plan

Quyen Hoang, Public and Community Art Coordinator, reviewed the “Public Art Plan” memo.

The Committee voiced its support for the plan, particularly the community consultation aspect.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the Arts Advisory Committee endorse the development of a Public Art Plan, including funding of a consultant and community consultation process.

Carried.

All members present voted in favour of the motion.

5.3 Poet Laureate Program

Todd Ayotte, Manager, Community Arts and Theatre, advised that in honour of National Poetry Month, Elliott Slinn, the City of New Westminster’s fifth Poet Laureate, has created a digital project called Common Threads, which displays four one-line poems on electronic display screens at the entrance points to the city.

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

There were no items.

7. STANDING REPORTS AND UPDATES

Erin Jeffrey, Representative, Local Not-for-Profit Arts Sector, advised that Massey Theatre has a call out for arts activators, and that their community nights will start in the next two weeks. She also encouraged the committee to go see *Bear Grease*, which is showing at Massey Theatre on April 9 and 10.

The Committee discussed how best to use the Standing Reports and Updates section of the agenda going forward, noting the following:

- Rather than having representatives deliver reports as with the previous Arts Commission, Arts Advisory Committee members could share experiences and observations in relation to the local arts community;
- The Committee would like to invite representatives from New Westminster arts organizations to report on their activities, challenges, etc.

The Committee decided to continue this discussion at the next meeting of the Arts Advisory Committee, once members have considered how they might like to contribute to the conversation.

8. NEW BUSINESS

There were no items.

9. END OF MEETING

The meeting ended at 6:33 p.m.

10. **UPCOMING MEETINGS**

Remaining scheduled meetings for 2022, which take place at 5:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted:

- May 5
- June 2
- July 7
- August 4
- September 1
- December 1

Certified Correct,

Mary Trentadue
Chair

Katie Stobbart
Committee Clerk