

City of Port Moody Minutes

Arts and Culture Committee

Minutes of the electronic meeting of the Arts and Culture Committee held on October 5, 2020 via Zoom.

Present Councillor Zoë Rover, Chair

Councillor Diana Dilworth, Vice-Chair (joined at 7:46pm)

Chris Dunnett Sara MacLellan Brenda Millar

Katy Sandler (joined at 7:11pm)

Jill Schuler Alison White

Absent Evgeny Demin (Regrets)

Tasha Evans

In Attendance Devin Jain – Manager of Cultural Services

Philip Lo – Committee Coordinator

Also In Attendance Jan Ballard, Ballard Fine Art

Blaire Chisholm, Pooni Group Peter Edgar, Edgar Development Mark Ostry, Acton Ostry Architects

1. Call to Order

Call to Order

1.1 The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:01pm

2. Adoption of Minutes

Minutes

2.1 ACC20/025

Moved, seconded, and CARRIED

THAT the minutes of the Arts and Culture Committee meeting held on Monday, September 14, 2020 be adopted.

3. Unfinished Business

4. New Business

Presentation on Woodland Park Proposed Development

4.1 Pooni Group Development Team

The development team for the Woodland Park development gave a presentation on the proposed project and the master public art plan, noting the following:

- the development is on a 23.4 acre site, with seven proposed neighbourhoods developed in seven phases, each with its own identity;
- the rezoning process has been amended with significant changes based on the public engagement process, as well as feedback from Council and staff, including a significant reduction in density and number of units;
- proposed amenities include a grocery store, café, child care, roof-top gardens, open green spaces, and a multiuse park trail;
- the project aims to retain as many mature trees as possible, and to retain and enhance environmentally sensitive areas (ESAs);
- there is an unprecedented opportunity for public art in this project, in terms of the scope, budget, location, and scale of the project, and which will contribute to and celebrate Port Moody as the City of the Arts;
- the master public art plan guides the approach, dialogue, and artist selection process;
- the public art process is integrated into the collaborative development process; the artist is selected early in the process and becomes part of the design team;
- public art master plan considers values, history, that is meaningful to the community context;
- the master plan recognizes the rich cultural history of the local First Nations and historical industries;
- potential art locations could include a collection of public art along the trail; the public art walk would combine a rich public realm with recreational uses and a cultural learning experience;
- the master plan does not preclude opportunities for temporary art works, community works, gardens, and other types of public art;
- the public art will have high visibility and accessibility but can provide intimate moments;
- the public art will adhere to City policies and guidelines for public art;
- a wide range of artists, teams, collectives, and forms of art will be considered:
- it is essential to have a thoughtful and multi-layered community engagement process, and to begin the process early:

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- the engagement process will include a public Open House and include consultations with Indigenous host nations; and
- Comments on the plan can be sent to: Sara@ballardfinearts.com

Online Artist Talks

4.2 Online Artist Talks Subcommittee

The Subcommittee noted the following:

- a plan is being developed for the online artist talks;
- a video is being prepared for Culture Days; the Subcommittee had a meeting to discuss the timeframe and to prepare questions to speak to; shooting and editing is being done this week;
- the goal is to have the video ready by this weekend; and
- the video will be a demonstration of how online artist talks could work.

Jill Schuler left the meeting at this point and did not return.

2020 Arts Award Nominations Review

4.5 ACC20/026

Moved, seconded, and CARRIED

THAT, pursuant to section 90 of the *Community Charter*, this portion of the Regular Meeting of the Environmental Protection Committee be closed to the public as the subject matter being considered relates to the following:

 90(1)(b) – personal information about an identifiable individual who is being considered for a municipal award or honour, or who has offered to provide a gift to the municipality on condition of anonymity.

Increase Public Awareness of the Positive Impacts of Investing into the Local Arts Economy

4.3 Councillor Zoë Royer

Councillor Dilworth left the meeting at this point and did not return.

Staff noted that this discussion is timely, based on the global impact on the arts currently as well as the feedback on the City's Art in Public Spaces Master Plan.

The Committee noted the following in discussion:

- the vision is of a vibrant arts community with many different players;
- the questions are how to contribute the most with the least amount of resources, and how to invite the public to invest in the arts and grow the ecosystem of artists and art organizations;

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- art needs to have economic value, with art being an artist's full time paying work, so that it contributes to the life of the community;
- it is important to have a professional Arts Council to advocate for the arts with the City and the public;
- the micro studios concept was to put the arts front and centre for direct community engagement so they can see the value in it;
- artists should be compensated fairly for what they do;
- Shop Local Port Moody is an example of a local organization that provided infographics on the benefits of shopping in the local community;
- this is a communications campaign, and needs to be grown and nurtured as it expands;
- a communications strategy is a good place to start, and the artist talks can build a foundation by organically discussing the impact of investing in local artists;
- making local artists visible is an important first step;
- the lack of momentum is an existing frustration;
- stable funding and sustained effort is needed for the long-term vision and strategy to grow annually and to show the public what is possible;
- funds can be obtained through grants; viability needs to be proven before Council would consider providing stable funding;
- the vision should not preclude a Tri-Cities approach to an Arts Council, which could leverage funding from three municipalities; however, a local Arts Council could provide sharper focus;
- Committee members could provide valuable skillsets towards this cause;
- the Arts Walk is an example of an event that grew from its initial small beginnings;
- the Committee's communications budget can be used to design evergreen digital graphics for public promotional use; the City's Communications staff could be requested to assist; and
- the City's Economic Development Manager could be requested to assist as well.

Staff noted the following:

- a budget of around \$4,000 is available to the Committee;
- staff will connect with Communications staff to determine if there is capacity to take on this project;
- staff can reach out to Tri-Cities counterparts to determine if there have been similar conversations in those communities as well; and
- there is information online on the social and economic benefits of investing in the arts.

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Cultural Expressions 4.4 Councillor Zoë Royer

- Information 5.
- **Staff Updates** 5.1 There were no staff updates.
 - Adjournment 6.

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 9:00pm.

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Chair Committee Coordinator