



City of Port Moody

Minutes

Arts and Culture Committee

Minutes of the electronic meeting of the Arts and Culture Committee held on Monday, November 2, 2020 via Zoom.

Present

Councillor Zoë Royer, Chair
Evgeny Demin
Chris Dunnett
Tasha Evans
Sara MacLellan (joined at 7:05pm)
Brenda Millar
Katy Sandler (joined at 7:33pm)

Absent

Councillor Diana Dilworth, Vice-Chair
Jill Schuler
Alison White (Regrets)

In Attendance

Devin Jain – Manager of Cultural Services
Philip Lo – Committee Coordinator

1. Call to Order

Call to Order

1.1 The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:03pm

2. Adoption of Minutes

Minutes

2.1 ACC20/027
Moved, seconded, and CARRIED
THAT the minutes of the Arts and Culture Committee meeting held on Monday, October 5, 2020 be adopted.

3. Unfinished Business

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

3.1 The Committee deferred this item to a future meeting until Communications staff can be invited to participate in this discussion.

4. New Business

Online Artist Talks

4.1 Online Artist Talks Subcommittee

The Subcommittee showed a demonstration video which showcased Noons Creek Creative and artist Katy Sandler, noting the following:

- the video production took longer than originally expected, due to the editing time required and the initial learning curve;
- the process was very genuine, and the artist gained confidence as a fibre artist living and making art in Port Moody;
- audio licensing for accompanying music tracks could be a potential expense for the Committee; the Subcommittee will investigate options and report back to the Committee;
- based on the time requirement, one video produced every quarter may be realistic schedule;
- the narrative for each video could be different;
- videos could be hosted on an online service such as YouTube, so they can be widely shared; and
- it may be unrealistic to take on larger scale projects at this time due to the time commitment required.

The Committee noted the following in discussion:

- the video is very well done, has the proper length and pacing, and showcases both the artist and Port Moody in an honest, authentic, and welcoming way;
- the video highlights the importance of interaction with artists that could have a profound impact with the audience;
- the video succeeds in providing access to artists, their working spaces, and their processes;
- there should be considerations for providing an honorarium for featured artists in the videos, and it fits in with the Committee's discussion regarding investing in and supporting the local arts economy;
- the Subcommittee could collaborate with other interested artists and producers to continue producing videos;
- Tri-Cities Community TV have filmmakers that could be interested in participating;
- the Art21 series could be used as a reference for a set format; and
- local musicians could be featured for the background music.

Staff noted the following:

- Council had approved a \$1,500 budget for this project in 2020; staff can request that the unused portion of this budget be carried forward to 2021 to continue the project; and
- the Committee should consider how the videos should be released: one at a time as they are produced, or released as an entire group at once or within a short period of time.

Fair Compensation for Artists

4.2 Councillor Zoë Royer

The Committee noted the following in discussion:

- fair compensation for artists should be considered as an economic development principle;
- the City should develop a policy or guidelines to address fair compensation to artists for their contributions, especially in cases where the City deals directly or indirectly with the artist;
- it is important for the City to set an example to highlight the importance of fair payment to artists, and recognize that their work, labour, supplies, and education have financial value, like in any other profession;
- the City of Prince Albert, Saskatchewan, has artist payment guidelines that could be used as a reference; and
- a community that supports artists financially could achieve a higher level of art produced from the community, as artists would have the time and opportunity to hone their craft rather than having to support themselves through other employment.

Staff noted the following:

- the City currently does not have specific policies or guidelines around hiring artists;
- most City events include a budget for artists;
- some artists volunteer for fundraising events;
- there has been backlash in the past against a “contest” approach with regards to artists;
- the Artist in the Park program was designed for artists who wish to be able to work in public, with the opportunity to sell their work without a business license or pay commission to the City, and with no commitments or expectations from the artist or the City; and
- the Busking program is similar to the Artist in the Park program, with a small administrative fee for the permit.

The Committee noted the following:

- the Artist in the Park program may benefit the public more than the artist, and the City should consider paying the participating artists;
- artists exhibiting publicly should be paid;
- in Canada, there are two gallery streams: publicly funded galleries for showcasing artwork (under CARFAC purview with a requirement to pay fees); and the private gallery system, which is set up to represent artists and sell artwork, with professional sales staff;
- there is a lack of professional sales staff at the Port Moody Arts Centre, which is something that is needed in professional galleries;
- Port Moody lacks a publicly funded gallery, which is a challenge;
- the City's contract with the Arts Centre should include language to compensate artists for their participation and for showing their work;
- the Committee should become more familiar with CARFAC;
- the City should have standards and values regardless of how other organizations operate, and has a responsibility to support and advocate for the arts, similar to its support for the school system;
- the City could contribute in the form of promotion, advertising, and infrastructure for events such as Artist in the Park;
- the Committee can invite the Arts Centre and their Board to discuss this issue; and
- the City should develop a policy first, and not be overly concerned initially about the details and other art organizations.

Staff noted the following:

- any recommended changes to the City's contract with the Arts Centre would need to be endorsed by Council;
- the City's contract with the Arts Centre expires at the end of 2021; the City will be reviewing the agreement with the Arts Centre to determine what changes are desired; and
- agreements formatted as a "fee for service" with the City could limit an arts organization's ability to be eligible for provincial gaming grants.

Action:

Staff to reach out to the Port Moody Arts Centre to invite them to a meeting with the Committee.

Cultural Expressions 4.3 Councillor Zoë Royer

There were no Cultural Expressions shared with the Committee.

5. Information

Staff Updates

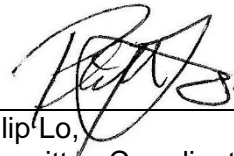
5.1 There were no staff updates.

6. Adjournment

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 9:00pm.



Councillor Zoë Royer,
Chair



Philip Lo,
Committee Coordinator