



MINUTES
MARKHAM PUBLIC ART ADVISORY COMMITTEE
JANUARY 14, 2009
Meeting No. 1

PRESENT

Members

Matthew Korchinski
Judi McIntyre
Joanne Olson
Alina Tarbhai
Stefania Pflugbeil

REGRETS

Regrets

Lana Champion
Salim Manji
Regional Councillor Tony Wong

Staff

Linda Irvine, Mgr., Parks & Open Spaces
John Ryerson, Director of Culture
Bev Shugg Barbeito, Committee Clerk

The first meeting of the Markham Public Art Advisory Committee in 2009 convened at 7:15 PM with Matthew Korchinski presiding as Chair.

1. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES OF THE MARKHAM PUBLIC ART ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETINGS ON NOVEMBER 12, 2008.

Moved by Stefania Pflugbeil
Seconded by Matthew Korchinski

THAT the minutes of the Markham Public Art Advisory Committee held on November 12th, 2008 be adopted as distributed.

CARRIED

2. ART ON ICE EVENT

Chair Matthew Korchinski reported that the sub-committee met on January 13, 2009 to discuss the ice proposal with the ice supplier. The proposal is similar to the 2008 proposal and the price will remain the same, approximately \$17,000. Linda Irvine, Manager Parks & Open Spaces, advised that the ice supplier will need to submit a quote so that a purchase order may be issued. Matthew Korchinski will also provide information about requests for quotes from other ice suppliers.

Theme

Committee members discussed at length the theme of the event. It was agreed that the theme should also reflect art, be creative, dynamic and playful, as well as inclusive of diverse cultures. Chair Matthew Korchinski will discuss with the ice supplier the idea of animals (bears, whales, seals, beavers, dragons) wearing winter clothing (toques, scarves, mittens etc) using winter sports equipment (hockey sticks, skis, skates, curling stones etc). It was suggested that the largest ice sculpture could be of a sled and dogsled team and that this might provide a great photo opportunity for families. The possibility of including a carving in front of the McKay Art Centre will also be discussed.

Promotion and Publicity

- It was reported that Sylvio Gagnon works of art will be on display at the McKay Art Centre in the days leading up to the Art on Ice event. Mr. Gagnon will also be conducting winter landscape painting demonstrations, with the resulting painting to be raffled off. This is an ideal opportunity to collect names of residents who might be interested in public art and the efforts of the Committee.
- Corporate Communications is creating a banner and posters. It was agreed that these items will need to be well branded as representing the Markham Public Art Advisory Committee.
- The Unionville BIA will be asked to donate hot chocolate for the opening ceremonies event but would be able to sell refreshments for the rest of the event. If the BIA declines the opportunity, other local businesses will be approached.

Volunteers

- Chair Matthew Korchinski is drafting a schedule for Volunteers. He has sent an email to Committee members encouraging them to volunteer for whatever time they can commit to for any or all of the 3 days of the event and encouraged them to recruit friends as volunteers also.
- Judi McIntyre will recruit volunteers through the Teen Arts Council.
- Stefania Pflugbeil reported that she has requested eight adult volunteers through the Varley Art Gallery Volunteer Coordinator.

3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

A. Municipal Public Art Plan

Linda Irvine, Manager Parks & Open Spaces, reported that she and John Ryerson, Director of Culture, will present the draft to Commissioner Brenda Librecz for feedback.

B. Liberty Developments – Cast Bronze Sculpture Update

Linda Irvine, Manager Parks & Open Spaces, reported there has been no further developments; this project has been placed on hold pending confirmation of ownership of the land and any future development of the land for highway improvements.

C. Public Art Brochure

Alina Tarbhai circulated a draft brochure outlining information about the Committee and promoting art in Markham. The draft was well received. Committee members suggested broadening the perspective of art to include urban design and including a “call to action”, encouraging Markham residents to indicate interest in public art. Ms. Tarbhai will review the suggestions and make appropriate revisions.

D. Canadian Art Exhibit – Canada Day Celebrations

It was agreed to defer discussion of this event until the Art on Ice event is over.

4. NEW BUSINESS

John Ryerson, Director of Culture, identified for discussion at a future meeting the topic of the standardization the “look” of municipal infrastructure items, e.g. lamp posts, park benches, drain covers, garbage bins, bicycle racks, etc.

5. DATE FOR NEXT MEETING

The date of the next scheduled meeting of the Markham Public Art Advisory Committee is Wednesday, February 11, 2009 at 7:00 PM, in the Ontario Room.

6. ADJOURNMENT

The first meeting of the Markham Public Art Advisory Committee adjourned at 8:25 PM.