

CULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

November 25, 2005

PRESENT: Andrew Inch, Vice Chair
Gary Vermeir
Shahin Sayadi
Margie Clow-Bohan
Elias Metlej
Mike LaLeune

REGRETS: Councillor Uteck
Councillor Streach (absent)
Gordon Morgan
Paul Greenhalgh
Betty Thomas (absent)

STAFF: Holly Richardson, Community Developer, Recreation Tourism &
Culture
Jennifer Weagle, Legislative Assistant

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.	CALL TO ORDER	4
2.	APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES	4
3.	APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS AND APPROVAL OF ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS	4 & 6
4.	BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES	4
5.	CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS	4
6.	CORRESPONDENCE, DELEGATIONS, PRESENTATIONS	4
7.	REPORTS	4
	7.3.1 Public Art Policy	3 & 4
	7.3.2 Governance (Oral)	6
8.	ADDED ITEMS	6
9.	NEXT MEETING DATE	6
10.	ADJOURNMENT	6

Without a quorum being present, Ms. Holly Richardson, Community Developer, updated the Committee on the draft Cultural Plan Policy document, which was endorsed by the Committee at the November 18, 2005 meeting.

Ms. Richardson advised the Committee of the following:

- C Staff completed a gap analysis of the Policy and a gap with youth was identified. Revisions are currently being made and her intent is to have the revised copies mailed out to Committee members by Monday.
- C The intent for today's meeting is to have a general discussion regarding two key parts of the Cultural Plan - the Public Art Policy and Governance. She further advised that there have been discussions regarding the establishment of a permanent cultural committee and reviewing the mandates of HRM's current committees to ensure they integrate into the Cultural Plan.
- C The idea of creating an HRM Arts Council is also being explored.
- C The Evaluation Framework that was distributed as an information item should be reviewed by Committee members for discussion at the December 2, 2005 meeting.
- C HRM is applying to host the Creative City Network of Canada 2007 conference.

Public Art Policy

- C A document entitled Drafted Proposed HRM Public Art Policy and Procedures dated August 31, 2005 was circulated to the Committee for discussion.

Ms. Richardson provided an overview of the Public Art Policy, and in response to comments made by the committee she advised of the following:

- ! An HRM Municipal Archivist has been hired to develop a municipal archives policy and inventory, as well as a storage and display process.
- ! The archiving of all forms of art has been identified through the Public Art Policy.
- ! The Public Art Policy also speaks to establishing an investment strategy for the delivery of cultural programs and for the capital development of the plan. Priorities for each phase of the Cultural Plan need to be identified and further public consultation may be required in order to set priorities.

Committee members commented that the need to include public performances in the definition of public art was required and that public art works that no longer exist should also be included in the historical recording of HRM's art.

Mr. Elias Metlej arrived at 11:25 a.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

With a quorum now present, the Vice-Chair called the meeting to order at 11:25 a.m.

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES - November 18, 2005

This item was dealt with later in the agenda.

3. APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS AND OF ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS

The agenda was accepted as circulated.

4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES - None

5. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS - None

6. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS AND PRESENTATIONS - None

7. REPORTS

7.3.1 Public Art Policy

The discussion regarding the Public Art Policy continued and the following was noted by Committee members:

Section 1

- C Public art must be redefined to include more than just tangible pieces of art.
- C Murals, including commissioned graffiti murals, should be included in the public art inventory, and the possibility of commissioning artists to create murals on blank spaces to prevent graffiti vandalism should be explored.
- C HRM should work with private property owners to incorporate public art into their properties. Issues such as ownership rights and maintenance, as well as opportunities for grants and tax incentives need to be explored further.

In response to the Committee Ms. Richardson advised of the following:

- C The appendices were not distributed in the draft Public Art Policy as they were examples from other cities and needs further development.
- C An inventory of public art works was completed in 2000, which indicated that there are 120+ pieces of public art within HRM. The opportunity to use a national art work inventory database will be explored.
- C There is a need for better coordination within HRM departments regarding public art

as well as developing the opportunity to incorporate art into HRM street scapes, such as bus shelters, manhole covers, fire hydrants, sidewalks, etc.

Section 2

Ms. Richardson advised that collecting a percentage rate of total construction costs of capital projects has been identified as a funding source for public art. A percentage is now collected, however, the funds go to Planning and Development Services. The plan will propose transferring this amount (approx. 2%) to a public art reserve. Costs would not increase to the developer.

The Committee suggested that there is an opportunity to collect a percentage for square footage of business signage and that another approach is an anti-art tax or property beautification incentive. In reference to section 2.2 use of Public Art funds Page 7 , the Committee also suggested that 10% of the funds go into a maintenance reserve.

Section 3

Staff is recommending that a Public Art Committee be formed, as a subcommittee of the permanent Cultural Advisory Committee. Composition of the Committee would include citizens with a broad interest in art, artists, educators, historians, designers, architects, and a Councillor. The Cultural Officer would be the staff advisor to the Committee. A public art jury would be chosen, with rotating members, to recommend purchases and commissions of art.

Committee members raised concern regarding the Public Art Policy and the participation of staff in the Cultural Planning Process. Ms. Richardson advised that the Public Art Policy will be moved forward with the Cultural Plan, and the procedures will be moved forward internally.

After further discussion the Committee agreed that further discussion regarding the prioritization of projects as a result of the Cultural Plan is required. The Committee suggested that a chart outlining the seven pillars with respective definitions, and the various subcommittees be prepared for ease of reference of the Committee.

Ms. Richardson reminded the Committee that the intent is to have an information report before Council on December 6, 2005. The draft Plan is intended to go before Council on January 9, 2006. Ms. Richardson requested that the work plan be added to the December 2, 2005 agenda.

7.3.2 Governance

This item was deferred to the December 2, 2005 meeting.

8. **ADDED ITEMS** - None

2. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES** - November 18, 2005

Amendment

Item 4.1.1 shall read

“HRM constantly strives to be a cultural panorama of geographically and socially diverse communities, a rich mosaic of natural beauty, heritage, artistic creation, leading colleges and universities and leisure.”

MOVED BY Mike LaLeune, seconded by Andrew Inch, that the minutes of November 18, 2005, as amended, be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

9. **NEXT MEETING DATE**

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Cultural Advisory Committee is December 2, 2005 from 11:00 to 1:00 p.m. in Halifax Hall.

10. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Jennifer Weagle
Legislative Assistant