

CULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

November 7, 2007

MINUTES

PRESENT: Ms. Joan Hicks, Vice Chair
Ms. Adriane Abbott
Ms. Sharen MacPherson
Ms. Sheilagh Hunt
Mr. William Barker
Ms. June Buchanan
Ms. Sally Camus
Mr. Michael Cross
Mr. Gary Russell
Mr. Mohamed Yaffa
Mr. Shalom Mandaville

REGRETS: Ms. May Lui
Deputy Mayor Sue Uteck
Councillor Andrew Younger, Chair

STAFF: Ms. Holly Richardson, Regional Coordinator, Culture & Heritage
Mr. Andrew Whittemore, Manager, Community Development
Ms. Sheilagh Edmonds, Legislative Assistant

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.	CALL TO ORDER	3
2.	APPROVAL OF MINUTES	3
3.	APPROVAL OF AGENDA	3
4.	BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES/DEFERRED BUSINESS:	
	4.1 Cultural Capitals of Canada Application	4
	4.2 Public Art Focus Group and Forum	3
5.	NEW BUSINESS:	5
6.	ADDED ITEMS:	5
7.	NEXT MEETING DATE:	5
8.	ADJOURNMENT	5

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 3:08 p.m. in Halifax Hall, City Hall.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOVED by Mr. Cross, seconded by Mr. Russell that the minutes of September 5, 2007 be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

MOVED by Ms. Camus, seconded by Mr. Russell that the minutes of October 18, 2007 be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Committee agreed to deal with item 4.2 as the first order of business, and the agenda was accepted as presented.

4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES/DEFERRED BUSINESS:

4.2 Public Art Focus Group and Forum

Ms. Richardson provided an update on the Public Art Focus Group and Forum. She noted that on October 17, 2007 an Industry Focus Group was held, which included professional artists, curators, a developer, and a community organization that provides funding for community arts. She added that it was a round table discussion that focussed on four key areas, i.e. Planning and Development, Investment, Art Commissioning, and Community Involvement. Ms. Richardson advised that those in attendance were enthusiastic that a policy was being developed, and when the Forum concluded they indicated that they wanted to be consulted a second time before the Policy is finalized. Ms. Richardson advised that staff had not planned for a second consultation, but it was something to think about.

For the information of the Committee, Ms. Richardson circulated promotional material which will be used for the November 29, 2007 Public Art Forum scheduled for Dalhousie University. She advised that the purpose of the Forum is to bring in keynote speakers and have a panel discussion on public art. Ms. Richardson also indicated that staff provided an information report to Regional Council on October 23, 2007 updating Council on the status of the public art policy.

4.1 Cultural Capitals of Canada Application (final review and discussion)

A draft copy of the Cultural Capitals of Canada Application and related budget information was submitted.

The Chair introduced, Mr. Ralston MacDonnell, Mr. Gary Furlong, and Ms. Sarah Vandemeer, the consultants working on the application and noted that Committee members were asked

to review the draft application and have any questions, comments, and/or suggestions prepared for this meeting.

Mr. MacDonnell advised that they were satisfied with the content of the program contained in the application, and added that there was a lot of work yet to be done on the preparation of the final document. He noted that in response to a concern that the Literary Arts Program was not adequately represented, an Activity has been developed and will fall under the category, Celebrating Our Port City. He circulated a copy of the addendum regarding the Literary Arts Program to the Committee.

In reference to the submitted draft application, Mr. MacDonnell advised that it will have to be substantially reduced in size before it is submitted to Heritage Canada.

Further to this, Mr. Whittemore advised that today the Committee is being asked to review and sign-off on the content and context of the application, and that a professional writer or editor will then take the document and polish it up before it is submitted. He added that following today's review, if the Committee is in agreement to forward it to Regional Council, then a motion should be passed recommending Council's approval with the understanding that there will be additional edits and it ultimately will be approved by the Cultural Advisory Committee.

At 3:27 p.m. Mr. Mandaville entered the meeting.

Following an overview of the application with the consultants and staff responding to questions, the following feedback was provided:

- C Ms. Richardson referred to- pg. 2, question 15, and noted that no figure has been inputted for 'Culture', and advised that staff were working on getting those numbers and she will forward them to the Committee via e-mail within the next week or so.
- C it was noted that Symphony Nova Scotia was not mentioned - suggested that it be noted.
- C HRM is a large geographical place - the document has to ensure that the whole of HRM can see itself in it; HRM is a relatively young municipality and with a region so large, it has a number of challenges.
- C support was expressed for the idea of a travelling exhibit to the smaller locales of the Municipality (e.g. dance or theatre)
- C the document provides a snapshot of where we are right now - - there should be a narrative giving some background; the structure of the document needs to be tightened up and flow better - a statement at the beginning of each program that pulls it all together.
- C a suggestion was put forward that the following be highlighted in the document: Major Event Hosting Strategy, Major Facilities Master Plan, HRM By Design, The Cultural Cluster Study, and the Inventory of public art.
- C categorize the various festivals
- C concern was expressed about the potential cost of the immigration exhibit, and that HRM would be paying for something that would benefit other communities outside of HRM.

At 4:17 p.m. Mr. Yaffa retired from the meeting.

At 4:26 p.m. Mr. Barker retired from the meeting.

- C a suggestion was put forward that the word, 'Day' in the program, African Heritage Film Day, be changed.
- C literary component - literary arts should have a higher profile.
- C there needs to be more of a tie-in to the themes of Gateway and Sea; suggestion that the program could have a focus on Maritime Culture in 2010.
- C concern was expressed with the idea of establishing a Sculpture Park Advisory Board and it was agreed that, although the Committee liked the idea of an urban sculpture garden, the idea of establishing a Board should be removed from the document (consultant indicated he would revise the wording on this aspect).

At 4:58 p.m. Mr. Russell retired from the meeting

- C Budget - Committee wants to see the revenue projections

MOVED by Ms. Abbott, seconded by Ms. Buchanan that the Cultural Advisory Committee recommend Regional Council submit the application for the Cultural Capitals of Canada Designation, and maximum finding request of \$2 million dollars, as approved by the Cultural Advisory Committee on November 7, 2007, and as per final non-substantive revisions to the application prior to final submission to the Federal Government. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

5. **NEW BUSINESS:** None
6. **ADDED ITEMS:** None
7. **NEXT MEETING DATE:** December 5, 2007
8. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 5:16 p.m.

Sheilagh Edmonds
Legislative Assistant