

CULTURE SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Thursday, March 12, 2020

A Regular Meeting of the Culture Services Advisory Committee convened on Thursday, March 12, 2020 at 7:02 p.m. in the Council Committee Room, City Hall, 3000 Guildford Way, Coquitlam, BC with the following persons present:

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Councillor Steve Kim, Chair
Councillor Craig Hodge, Vice Chair
Candrina Bailey, Coquitlam Heritage Society
Marie Del Cid-Luque
Julie Eastman
Abnash Kaur Gill
Todd Gniissios, Coquitlam Public Library Board
Kim Hockey
Janice Mazon
Joan McCauley, Place des Arts
Bradley Nickason, Evergreen Cultural Centre
Hazel Postma
Mandy Tulloch, Artistic Community Representative

REGRETS: Andrea Howorth, Festival Planners Network

STAFF: Chris Siddaway, Acting Community Partnerships and Policy Manager
Karen Basi, Cultural Services Manager
Eric Kalnins, Tourism Manager
Jeremy Arbuthnot, Coordinator Plans, Policies and Community Partnerships
Jeri Hohn, Committee Clerk

CALL TO ORDER

1. Welcome and Introductions (Icebreaker Exercise)

The Chair welcomed new and returning Committee members and the Committee participated in an icebreaker exercise.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

2. Minutes of the Culture Services Advisory Committee Meeting held on Thursday, November 14, 2019

The Minutes of the Culture Services Advisory Committee Meeting held on Thursday, November 14, 2019 were approved.

NEW BUSINESS

3. Northeast Community Centre Update – Presentation/Committee Input

The Acting Community Partnerships and Policy Manager provided introductory remarks and an on-screen presentation regarding the concept design of the Northeast Community Centre, utilizing slides titled as follows:

- Northeast Community Centre Update – Culture Services Advisory Committee
- Purpose
- Presentation Content
- 1 Background
- 2016 Population / 2026 Projected Population
- The Site
- New Centre / Commercial Store
- 2 Survey Results
- Survey Results in Potential Ideas for Centre Design
- Survey Results in Potential Ideas for Centre Design (Cont'd)
- 3 Expanded Engagement
- Community Stakeholder Meetings – Winter/Spring 2020
- 4 Site and Fit
- A/B
- 5 Innovative Ideas
- Edmonds Community Centre – Burnaby
- The Shipyards – City of North Vancouver
- Hollyburn Country Club – West Vancouver
- Clayton Community Centre – Surrey
- Aaniin Community Centre – Markham Ontario
- The Pavilion – Bend, OR USA
- Brunco Town Hall & Community Ctr – Bruno, Czech Republic
- Towada Community Centre – Towado, Japan
- Streetmekka – Aalborg, Denmark
- Turanga Library – Christchurch, New Zealand
- Discussion
- Timeline/Next Steps
- Timeline

The Committee considered the following focused questions:

- What do you think are the current challenges facing NE community members with regard to accessing culture needs?
- What innovative ideas for community centres have you seen elsewhere to support access and inclusion of culture, that could be included here?

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- The distance that those living in the northeast sector have to travel to access services
- The growing pains relative to supply and demand of amenities due to the explosion of development in the area
- The unique demographics of the area relative to the rest of Coquitlam

- The expectations of young families living in the area for indoor amenities
- The understanding that the aquatic needs of some northeast residents were presently being met by the Hyde Creek facility in Port Coquitlam
- That the Coquitlam Public Library was working with City staff to address the challenges of finding parking for the LibraryLink in the northeast area
- The desire that the future Community Centre accommodate on-site parking for the LibraryLink
- Whether a daycare would be incorporated into the design of the future facility
- The desire for a “black box” theatre and to incorporate visual and performing arts into one space
- The benefits of providing a mix of cultural spaces so that the facility could incorporate all aspects of culture
- The desire that the facility designers consider infrastructure placement, so that cultural flow between user spaces would not be impeded
- Whether the facility could act as a “one-stop-shop” so that the cultural and recreational needs of all ages could be served in areas closely proximal to one another
- The excellence of the ideas presented, including the “no-vehicles-allowed” outdoor promenade
- The idea that the City could connect with its diversity of cultures and, with guidance from those cultures, incorporate an integrated representation of Coquitlam’s cultures into the facility’s design
- The belief that creative design and innovative technology could be used to provide desirable, flexible spaces able to serve the varied needs of users
- The potential for the future facility to offer community programming that provides “deeper, cultural connection points” for users
- Whether some cross-facility programming could be offered so that the “breaking of boundaries” occurring at facilities in Maillardville could be mirrored in the northeast
- The belief that the unique location of the future facility afforded an opportunity to provide a popular outdoor performance space like that of the TD Community Plaza
- The outstanding way that nature, through the placement of a living tree, had been incorporated into the interior design of the Vancouver International Airport

4. Promoting the Arts: Building Bridges

The Tourism Manager introduced himself, highlighted some of the responsibilities of the Economic Development Division, and spoke to the unprecedented challenges being faced by local businesses, community organizations, and the City as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic within Canada.

He provided a verbal presentation regarding the ‘Between the Bridges: Arts, Culture and Dining Festival’, noting that the program concept came from Tourism Burnaby and its original intent to encourage people to visit arts facilities in Burnaby, New West, Port Moody, and Coquitlam. He further noted that the program dates (March 1st to 31st) had been set in January, and spoke to the possibility of the Festival being postponed and/or refreshed at a future date. He previewed the Festival’s webpage on-screen and noted that copies of the program passport and Coquitlam’s Travel & Experience Guide were available on-table.

In response to questions, the Tourism Manager described some components of the month-long Festival. He encouraged the Committee to visit the Tourism Coquitlam website for complete program details and information.

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- That the program was mainly advertised on social media
- The number of arts and dining partners that had signed on to the program
- The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the program
- Recent social distancing and travel directives made by senior levels of government
- The local cancellation of sporting events and team practices
- The desire to encourage residents to support local businesses during unprecedented events
- The belief that people will make informed decisions regarding their own safety
- Whether the program dates could be extended or the program repeated in future
- The belief that the Tourism Coquitlam website and Coquitlam Travel & Experience Guide was an excellent resource for seniors

The Chair encouraged the Committee to support the festival, so that arts facilities and dining establishments would be encouraged to participate in the future.

5. Committee Orientation

The Committee Clerk provided the Committee with an orientation of its structure, mandate, and responsibilities, utilizing on-screen slides titled as follows:

- Culture Services Advisory Committee Orientation
- Housekeeping Items
- Coquitlam City Council
- 2020 Advisory and Statutory Committees
- Connect with Us
- City's Planning Processes and You
- Committee Mandate
- Role of the Committee
- Role of the Committee Cont'd.
- Role of the Chair and Vice Chair
- Role of the Staff Lead(s)
- Role of the Committee Clerk
- Term of Appointment and Code of Conduct
- Conflict of Interest
- Questions?

At this time, the Committee agreed to amend the Order of Business so that item 5a was added and considered before item 6.

5a. Culture Services Overview

The Cultural Service Services Manager presented a slide titled “Culture Services Overview” on-screen and spoke to the work of the Culture Services Division, including the following:

- Arts, Culture & Heritage Strategic Plan
- Cultural Partners
- Festivals and Events
- Public Art
- Riverview Artifacts – Heritage Collection
- Community Arts, Heritage & Culture Outreach

At the request of the Culture Services Manager, the Committee Clerk undertook to provide a link to the Arts, Culture and Heritage Strategic Plan to the Committee for information.

6. Review and Adoption of the Draft 2020 Work Plan

The Cultural Services Manager referred the Committee to the draft 2020 Work Plan attached to the agenda package and briefly reviewed each of the proposed Work Plan items.

The Chair invited the Committee to provide input and/or share feedback relative to the draft Work Plan. In response to a question from a Committee member, the Culture Services Manager spoke to the refresh of the Parks, Recreation and Culture Master Plan presently being undertaken by the City and the potential timeline for a draft version to be presented to the Committee for input in the future.

The Committee approved the 2020 CSAC Work Plan and a copy is attached to these minutes.

The Committee recommended:

**COMMITTEE
RECOMMENDATION**

That Council approve the 2020 Culture Services Advisory Committee Work Plan.

7. Public Art Discussion Question: How can art in public spaces enhance a community?

The Cultural Services Manager provided background and context regarding public art in Coquitlam, utilizing on-screen slides titled as follows:

- Public Art Policy and Project Plan
- Public Art Committee Feedback – How can art in public spaces enhance a community?

The Committee participated in a group exercise to answer the question posed.

Discussion ensued relative to the belief that public art could:

- Create a sense of belonging to the community and a sense of personal well-being

- Like trees, bring a different kind of life to spaces
- Help to illustrate history
- Draw people out and create a focal point that could provide continuity in people's lives
- Create a powerful sense of community and break-up "the concrete jungle"
- Be of benefit to youth if it is experienced through touch and outside of formal settings
- Instill pride in one's community and encourage people to take care of the community
- Act as a wayfinding marker for those who cannot read English signs
- Showcase local talent and can evoke a certain time and place
- Make art accessible for everyone

8. Facilities Updates (Standing Agenda Item)

The Cultural Services Manager provided a facilities update, highlighting planned expansions and improvements to the Festival Lawn area, Buchanan Square, Town Centre Park/Lafarge Lake Loop, and restrooms proximal to Evergreen Cultural Centre.

9. CSAC Members' Roundtable/Emerging Cultural Issues (Standing Agenda Item)

The Chair invited Committee members to share details regarding upcoming events or emerging issues in their communities. Committee members shared the details of some of the programs that their organizations had cancelled as a result of COVID-19 or, to date, were ongoing due to smaller group sizes. It was noted that future programs could be cancelled depending upon how the COVID-19 pandemic evolved in Canada.

The Chair encouraged everyone to wash their hands, stay safe, and come together to support one another, local businesses and organizations through the COVID-19 pandemic.

OTHER BUSINESS

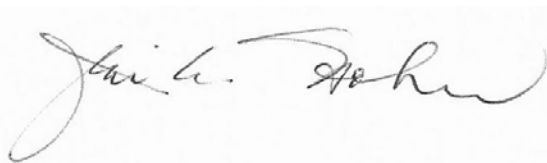
NEXT MEETING DATE – To Be Determined

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:06 p.m.

MINUTES CERTIFIED CORRECT

CHAIR



Jeri Hohn
Committee Clerk