



Making a difference...together

Minutes of a Meeting of the Arts Committee

Held Wednesday, March 9, 2011 in Meeting Room 107, 625 Fisgard Street, Victoria, BC

Present: Councilors V. Sanders (*Chair*), D. Screech (*Vice-Chair*), P. Copley, A. Dobb, M. Loveless, P. Madoff, B. McIlldoon and M. Milne

Also Present: L. MacDonald (Chair) Arts Advisory Council

Staff: J. Lam, R. Sharma and G. Andrews (Recorder)

Chair Sanders called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m.

1. Agenda

MOVED by Councilor Loveless, **SECONDED** by Councilor Milne, that the agenda be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

2. Minutes

Item #7 was amended by removing the word "Policy" from the motion.

MOVED by Councilor Screech, **SECONDED** by Councilor Copley, that the Minutes of the Feb, 2011 Arts Committee meeting be approved as amended.

CARRIED

3. Chair's Report

The Chair noted the February 23rd CRD *FastFacts* bulletin featuring CRD Arts. *FastFacts* is an ongoing publication of CRD Corporate Communications.

4. Arts Advisory Council Chair's Report

Ms. MacDonald reported that the first IDEA grants intake has received 10 applications. These will be reviewed in a manner similar to that of Project Grants, being firstly adjudicated by an Arts Advisory sub-committee, with recommendations coming from the AAC to the Arts Committee's April meeting.

5. January 2011 Project Grant Recommendations

Mr. Lam spoke to his staff report noting that 21 applications were received, reviewed with their submitting organizations, summarized by Arts Development, adjudicated by an Arts Advisory sub-committee according to approved criteria, and subsequently reported to the Arts Advisory Council which has forwarded its recommendations to this committee. The 2011 budget provides \$125,170 of which approximately 60 percent, \$76,400, is recommended for awarding at this intake, leaving \$48,770 for disbursement in the second intake, May 2011.

Ms. MacDonald reported on three first-time applicants amongst the 21, and the total amount requested as \$212,836. The AAC recommended a total of \$76,400 in grants to 16 of the applicants.

Councilor Dobb entered the meeting at 4:10 p.m.

Ms. MacDonald then reviewed the five grants not recommended for approval and the reasons they were unsuccessful which included inadequate project description, lack of regional focus, lack of diversified revenues or other resources, insufficient need and lack of evidence indicating an event's likelihood of success.

During discussion, questions arose as to the possibility of some of the unsuccessful applications being considered under IDEA grants or, at least, of being advised to submit to the next IDEA grant intake. Mr. Lam stated that the approved IDEA grant guidelines exclude those applicants eligible to apply to the Project Grant program. His suggestion that it would be appropriate for the Committee to review this condition during the review following the first cycle of the program was taken under advisement. He noted that IDEA grants are currently capped at \$1,000 which may not be adequate for the purposes described in the applications in question.

As discussion continued, some disagreed with the decision to not recommend a grant for one of the applications. In response to a question Mr. Lam noted that, although the proposal was not recommended for support, the applicant organization was an eligible applicant under project grant program criteria. Following further discussion, it was:

MOVED by Councilor Screech, **SECONDED** by Councilor McIlDoon, that the Arts Advisory Council's recommendation for January 2011 project grants be approved as recommended by the Arts Advisory Council with an additional \$1,000.00 to be awarded to the *Mosaic the City Community Unity Society* resulting in a total project grant expenditure of \$77,400.

CARRIED

6. Amendment of Arts and Culture Support Service Establishment Bylaw

Mr. Lam spoke briefly to his report tabled at the last meeting, explaining the proposed amending bylaw based on the Committee's November 10th decision to establish time frames for new and existing group 2 participants to achieve group 1 status.

Attention was then drawn to a June 9, 2010 staff report outlining various strategies for the purpose of maximizing municipal support for the arts. The Committee was reminded of Councilor Dobb's memo submitted to the February meeting suggesting that other options be fully examined and that a multi-level funding formula be developed. Councilor Dobb said his memo expressed his view that residents from outer municipalities face additional expenses and obstacles in attending downtown performances. He believed the proposed bylaw could be a barrier to those communities and could result in some opting out.

The topic of two-tier voting coupled with weighted voting was then discussed as was the philosophy of full participation - whether that means all participants paying the maximum assessment or a committee comprised of representatives from all municipalities, whether they do or do not have voting rights at the table.

The Chair indicated the purpose of CRD Arts Development being, essentially, to provide funding, with enjoyment of the arts being an issue broader than individual spectators. She noted that school children often are provided opportunities to participate in the arts and, hopefully, this will impact the future of arts in the region.

It was explained that the amending bylaw will go to all participating municipalities for two-thirds consent before it can be adopted by the CRD Board. It was then pointed out that it would be the discretion of new and continuing group 2 participants to increase their contribution to the group 1 level either incrementally or on the 5th or 10th year of participation. It was acknowledged that municipalities could decide to withdraw at any time, as is currently the case. It was:

MOVED by Councilor Screech, **SECONDED** by Councilor McIldoon, that the Committee recommend to the Board that Bylaw No. 3765 cited as "Arts and Culture Support Service Establishment Bylaw No. 1, 2001, Amendment Bylaw No. 3, 2011" be introduced and read a first time, a second time and a third time.

CARRIED
Councilors Dobb & Madoff - **Opposed**

7. Strategic Priorities Action Plan Review

MOVED by Councilor Screech, **SECONDED** by Councilor Copley, that this item be deferred to the April 2011 meeting.

CARRIED

8. Correspondence

MOVED by Councilor Screech, **SECONDED** by Councilor Copley, that the February 21, 2011 correspondence from Art Gallery of Greater Victoria be received.

CARRIED

9. New Business

Mr. Lam noted he was currently working with Corporate Communications and IT on the web project contained in the brochure. He noted it will be hosted on *Facebook* and tied into *Sustainable U*, and that it was hoped to be up and running soon.

10. Adjournment

MOVED by Councilor Loveless, **SECONDED** by Councilor Milne, that the Committee adjourn the meeting and move in camera in accordance with the *Community Charter*, Part 4, Division 90(1)(a) personal information on an identifiable individual(s) being considered for a position(s) appointed by the Committee.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 5:25 p.m.

The next regular meeting is to be held 4:00 p.m., Wednesday, April 12, 2011.

Chair