
Public Art Subcommittee

OPEN MINUTES

Minutes of a meeting of the Public Art Subcommittee held in Committee Room 1 Municipal Building, Garden Place, Hamilton on Tuesday 11 August 2015 at 11.00am.

PRESENT

Chairperson	Her Worship the Mayor J Hardaker
Members	Cr G Chesterman Cr A O'Leary Cr P Yeung
In Attendance	Lance Vervoort - General Manager Community Cherie Meecham – Museum Director Nick Johnston - Strategic Advisor, Waikato Museum Nancy Caiger – Trust Member – Warhorse Charitable Trust and Chair of MESH Sculpture, Hamilton
Committee Advisor	Mary Birch

1. Appointment of Chairperson

As this was the inaugural meeting of the Public Art Subcommittee, Members were required, under the Local Government Act 2002, to appoint a Chairperson.

Resolved: (Crs O'Leary/Yeung)

That Her Worship the Mayor Hardaker be appointed as Chair of the Public Art Subcommittee.

2. Apologies

There were no apologies.

3. Confirmation of Agenda

Resolved: (Her Worship the Mayor Hardaker/Cr O'Leary)

The Committee to confirm the agenda.

4. Declarations of Interest

No members of the Committee declared a Conflict of Interest.

5. Warhorse Public Artwork

The Strategic Advisor, Waikato Museum, introduced this Item. He explained that this project had evolved over the past two years from a small steering group, which had culminated in the creation of the Warhorse Charitable Trust (“the Trust”). The Subcommittee was being asked to consider approval at Stage One of the Public Art Development Process (the Artist Brief and a site for the proposed sculpture) in respect of the Warhorse Charitable Trust’s artwork proposal for Hamilton Gardens to commemorate the New Zealand horses that had died during World War One.

The Strategic Advisor and Nancy Caiger, Trust Member – Warhorse Charitable Trust responded to questions on the following:

- **Process** – It was confirmed that the Public Art Development Process was very rigorous and followed best practice across the country.
- **Selection of Artist** – An artist had been selected by the Trust; the Subcommittee would be asked to consider the artist at Stage Two of the Public Art Development Process.
- **Alternative Project** – It was understood that Noeline Jeffries, a member of the project steering group, was now proposing an alternative project to commemorate the horses. Although no application through the public art process for an alternative project had been received, it was acknowledged that other parties were not prevented from having ideas or doing their own projects. However, if they wanted the alternative project as a city public art piece, it needed to go through the formal process.
- **Artist’s Brief** – This spoke to a contemporary piece, which was felt to be a more appropriate way of commemorating the horses; the piece needed to be forward looking and celebrate their contribution rather than portray the reality of war-torn animals.
- **Visibility** – The sculpture needed to be visible from Cobham Drive, though the exact extent of visibility could not be determined until both the site and artwork had been confirmed; consultation with the New Zealand Transport Agency would be undertaken as required.
- **Funding** - The project was dependent on securing funding from the WW1 Commemoration Fund. Partnership funding would be need to be confirmed prior to the application for a grant being made. Although timeframes were extremely tight, the Trust would endeavour to apply for a grant in the next round of funding, which closed on 2 September 2015.
- **Timeframes** – It was anticipated that the project completion date would align with the 100th Anniversary of the end of World War One in November 2018.

Resolved: (Crs Chesterman/Yeung)

- a) That the report be received; and
- b) That the Subcommittee approve the Warhorse Charitable Trust’s proposal at Stage One of the Public Art Development Process.

A letter to confirm Council's commitment of recognising and commemorating World War One, its support of the project and endorsement of the specific site would be provided to the Trust for inclusion with the Lotteries WW1 Commemoration Fund.

It was requested that the revised Public Art Development Process be circulated to Members as soon as it was available and that it was to be a standard inclusion in all future Public Art Subcommittee Agendas.

The Meeting was declared closed at 1.05pm.