



Minutes

Tom Thomson Art Gallery Advisory Committee

July 7, 2021, 2:00 p.m.

City Hall - 808 2nd Avenue East - Council Chambers

MEMBERS

PRESENT:

Chair John Tamming
Mayor Ian Boddy
Member Tom Burri
Member Megan Celhoffer
Member Neil Devlin
Member Peter Tovell

MEMBERS

ABSENT/REGRETS: Member Mary Anne Alton
Member Constance Maconaghie
Councillor Richard Thomas

STAFF PRESENT: Tim Simmonds, City Manager
Aidan Ware, Director and Chief Curator
Kim Skene, Operations Coordinator

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Tamming called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. and welcomed the Committee's new member Mr. Peter Tovell.

2. CALL FOR ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

2.a. Chair Tamming Re: Opening Reception at the Gallery

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

4.a Minutes of the Tom Thomson Art Gallery Advisory Committee meeting held on May 5, 2021.

AG-210707-001

Moved by Member Celhoffer

"THAT the minutes of the Tom Thomson Art Gallery Advisory Committee meeting held on May 5, 2021, be received and the recommendations contained therein be approved."

Carried.

5. DEPUTATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

There were no deputations or presentations.

6. PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD

There were no questions from the public.

7. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED FOR WHICH DIRECTION IS REQUIRED

There were no correspondence items presented for consideration.

8. REPORTS OF CITY STAFF

- 8.a Report AG-21-007 from Director and Chief Curator Re: Tom Thomson Art Gallery Strategic Plan 2021-2023

The Director provided an overview of the final draft of the Tom Thomson Art Gallery Strategic Plan, updated to reflect the Tom Thomson Art Gallery Advisory Committee's (TTAGAC) feedback from the May 5, 2021, meeting of the TTAGAC.

AG-210707-002

Moved by Member Burri

"THAT in consideration of Staff Report AG-21-007 respecting Tom Thomson Art Gallery Strategic Plan 2021-2023, the Tom Thomson Art Gallery Advisory Committee recommends that City Council approve the Gallery's Strategic Plan 2021-2023."

Carried.

- 8.b Report AG-21-006 from Director and Chief Curator Re: Tom Thomson Art Gallery Update - July 2021

The Director provided an overview of the report.

The Gallery plans to re-open to the public on June 21, 2021, as the province enters Step 3 of its Roadmap to Reopen.

The Gallery's virtual opening of the current exhibition *The Nature of It: Recent Acquisitions* on June 24 with special guest speaker artist George McLean was very successful and well-attended.

As one of the HVAC units is reaching the end of its life, a temporary replacement is being sourced to ensure that proper temperature and humidity conditions are maintained within the exhibition spaces.

The Director provided an update from the Facility Expansion Ad Hoc Committee's meeting held on July 5, 2021, reporting that the Committee reviewed several of the Gallery's previous plans and feasibility studies, from 2006 and 2008, and they noted that the challenges and opportunities from 15 years ago, are similar to those being faced by the Gallery now. The Committee also participated in a tour of the Gallery site and facility, as they determine next steps in exploring a facility expansion.

AG-210707-003

Moved by Member Devlin

"THAT in consideration of Staff Report AG-21-006 respecting Tom Thomson Art Gallery – July 2021 Update, the Tom Thomson Art Gallery Advisory Committee recommends that City Council receive the report as the Director and Chief Curator's update on the Gallery's Programming and Operations for information purposes."

Carried.

9. REPORTS OF SUB-COMMITTEES

9.a Verbal report from the Chair of the Fundraising Sub-Committee

In Member Alton's absence, the Director provided an update from the Fundraising Sub-Committee on her behalf.

The 2022 Calendar will be printed shortly and be available for sale at the Gallery. There are several pilot retail locations for the calendar this summer to capture summer tourism sales. The "Adopt a Tom" campaign in conjunction with calendar has raised \$12,895 in donations to date. Friends of Jennifer & Michael Milhausen donated more than \$1800 to the project in memory of these very active patrons of the Gallery. This has been a very successful start to a campaign that is projected to raise close to \$30,000 for the Gallery this year.

The Northern Lights Art Show and Sale is slated for September 18 to October 16 this fall, with one-week preview online, a two-week display in the Gallery, and a final week of sales online. The project is estimated to fundraise \$25,000 to \$30,000. There will be cross promotion with the Festival of Northern Lights.

While the Gallery's Membership Program remains in development, the Director reported that there was a very positive meeting with the Owen Sound & North

Grey Union Public Library and Billy Bishop Home & Museum to explore a combined free membership program for these community organizations. A formal report will be forthcoming to the Advisory Committee.

The Chair of the Membership Sub-Committee, Member Celhoffer commented that with a free membership program in place, it would provide more opportunities for a corporate donation and/or sponsorship program.

When asked about a new Cultural Collective group forming, the Director responded that this was an informal group - including the Billy Bishop Home & Museum, the Chamber of Commerce - that is seeking to activate the cultural sector organizations in the City and area, and to pursue funding opportunities from RT07 sources.

10. MATTERS POSTPONED

There were no matters postponed.

11. MOTIONS FOR WHICH NOTICE WAS PREVIOUSLY GIVEN

There were no motions for which notice was previously given.

12. CORRESPONDENCE PROVIDED FOR INFORMATION

There were no correspondence items presented for information.

13. DISCUSSION OF ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

13.a Opening Reception at the Gallery

Chair Tamming inquired about the ability to host an opening reception at the Gallery. The Director noted that while the Gallery will be re-opening to the public on June 21, 2021 as part of the province's Step 3 in its Roadmap to Reopening, it is still unknown as to when a large public gathering will be able to happen at the Gallery.

14. NOTICES OF MOTION

There were no notices of motion.

15. ADJOURNMENT

The business contained on the agenda having been completed, Chair Tamming adjourned the meeting at 2:36 p.m.