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## ATTENDING

Chairperson Councillor Wendy Elliott, Mayor Jeff Cantwell, Crystal Tanner, Sara Lee Lewis, Jessie Foreman, Manager of Economic Development Marianne Gates & Recording Secretary James Collicutt

## LATE ARRIVAL

Dr. Laurie Dalton

## CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM.

### 1. AGENDA APPROVAL

Councillor Elliott's slideshow presentation was moved to item #4 on the agenda.

**MOTION: IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE AGENDA BE APPROVED AS AMENDED.**

**CARRIED**

### 2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

The minutes of June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2016 were adopted as circulated.

### 3. QUESTION PERIOD

No questions.

### 4. SLIDESHOW

**Slide 1** – An installation from the 2017 Uncommon Common Art season. The library staff asked the artist's permission to adopt the piece and it will be returning next summer.

**Slide 2** – Mona Parsons statue.

**Slide 3** – Elm tree sculpture with native/Irish influences and several other Pat Moore garden sculptures, which was opened to the public last summer.

**Slide 4** – Remnant of public artwork (wall mural) that is over 25 years old, painted by Matthew Cupido for the Town's centennial.

**Slide 5** – Unknown Soldier; Town-owned and erected by public subscription in early 1920, primarily by returned veterans of WW1.

**Slide 6** – More on the disrepair of the Unknown Soldier.

**Slide 7** – Artist Nistal Prem de Boer sculpting an old elm on his property on Main Street.

**Slide 8** – Sculpture on the corner of the Wolfville nursing home property, purchased by William Reagan (owner of Babbling Brook Dairy) for his daughter Della, who brought it with her to the Wolfville nursing home.

**Slide 9** – Sculpture of Princess Patricia on Main Street. Elm tree sculpture honouring the anniversary of WW1.

**Slide 10** – One of many "stick people" that showed up in Wolfville. The beginnings of the Uncommon Common Art project.

**Slide 11** – "Stick Person" On Main Street.

**Slide 12** – One of the many ephemeral "stick people".



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**Slide 13** – Sculpture of Vernon T. Smith, gifted to the Town by Dr. Allen Eaves stands beside the railway line that his grandfather engineered. There will be another statue commissioned of Abraham Gesner (Chipman’s Corner is the favourite choice for location currently) by artist Ruth Abernethy.

**5. DRAFT COMMITTEE POLICY DISCUSSION**

A meeting in December of a few Committee members indicated that the Committee should become more active. Staff divided the Committee Policy and Public Art Policy for consideration.

Public Art Policy – The major change was to remove the jury process in-lieu of the Committee acting as jury with the ability to bring in expertise whenever necessary.

Committee Policy – Outlines the roles of the Committee in making recommendations to Council on art-related projects. Council will commit \$2,500 annually to the public art reserve for maintenance of existing works, and an additional \$2,500 to on-going Committee commitments to groups or individual works of art.

The Community Partnership Program (CPP) is already in-place and looks at Wolfville-based events and programs. Staff sought feedback on possibly allocating APSC funds to CPP applications. It was proposed that these types of applications would come to the Committee for consideration.

**Committee Discussion:**

The Committee agreed that their fundamental goal should be to focus on commissioning significant works of public art and not on funding small art projects organized by community groups. The Committee further agreed that \$2,500 on an annual basis is not likely to be enough funding to realize any projects of excellence. Staff noted that the current reserve is approximately \$25,000.

The Committee cautioned that the Town should be mindful of over-crowding parks with public art pieces and that \$5000/year isn’t enough to cover major projects such as the Mona Parsons statue. It was suggested that partnerships will have to be formed to afford them.

*Staff asked:*

If the funding is not to be allocated for numerous smaller projects, should the Committee convene only when there is a proposal to address?

The Committee members believe that the intention of the APSC is to select and pursue major art projects and regular meetings are necessary to pursuing such a goal. There may be a way to fund some community recreational/art projects and the Committee will hear proposals from artists, possibly working with community groups.

*Staff asked:*

Should the Committee should initiate or put out a call for projects?

The Committee noted that it is difficult to initiate or put out a call without first having a concept for a project and that they should re-visit examples of public art projects being commissioned in similar communities at the next meeting. Reviewing the RFPs for other projects would allow the Committee to present a widely-themed idea to Council that would then be used to formulate an RFP for actual approval. Committee members will bring some examples to the next meeting.

Staff noted that the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of incorporation the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the creation of grape nut ice cream are coming this March.

*Staff asked:*

If the Committee is prepared to act as a jury for vetting public art proposals.

The Committee agreed to act in this capacity and will bring in specific expertise as necessary on larger projects. The Committee asked Staff to elaborate on the CPP at the next meeting and would like to be clear on which projects they will be tasked with as a jury.

The documents presented by Staff will be mulled over by the Committee and discussed at the April meeting. The Committee noted that the policy states the installation of public art will come from the Committee's reserve fund and that this cost can often be significant.

**6. APPROVAL OF QUARTERLY MEETING SCHEDULE**

Committee accepted the schedule.

**7. UPDATE ON MONA PARSONS & FAMILY DAY HOLIDAY**

Provincial Heritage Day (February 19<sup>th</sup>) has been designated Mona Darsons Day this year. The Women of Wolfville have worked with government departments (culture and heritage) to organize events throughout the valley and HRM. The Wolfville component of the festivities will occur on February 17<sup>th</sup> – Mona's birthday. A booth at the Farmers' Market will act as a pro-active information piece with a gathering of public figures at the Mona Parsons statue to take place afterwards, followed by events at the Irving Building.

Staff are working towards possibly leasing the Mona Parsons statue site and were able to secure an agreement for a small planting around the statue last fall. A landscape plan has been completed; however, the lease needs to be in place before work can begin.

**8. TOWN WAR MEMORIAL & UNKNOWN SOLDIER DISCUSSION**

The condition of the statue is a concern; however, a Veterans Affairs grant program is available to pay for half the required repair work. The Town is exploring options for assisting with the remaining costs. It is currently unclear as to whether permission is required from Canada Post to undertake the required repair work and if the land it is sited on must be owned by the applicant to receive the

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Veterans Affairs grant. The ownership of the land immediately beneath the statue's cairn is still unclear.

The maintenance of the statue is not yet in the budget for this coming year (2018/19). Ideally, the Town would lease the land, apply for the Veterans Affairs grant and make-up the other costs as budgetary items. There may be the amount required within the existing budget, the Committee's Councillors will explore this option further.

**9. ADJOURNMENT OF THE ART IN PUBLIC SPACES COMMITTEE MEETING**

**MOTION: IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE ART IN PUBLIC SPACES COMMITTEE MEETING BE ADJOURNED AT 10:22 AM.**

**CARRIED**

**Approved at the Art in Public Spaces Committee Meeting Day of Week, Month DD, YYYY (date of meeting)**

**As recorded by James Collicutt, AA Community Development**

DRAFT