

CULTURE SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Thursday, April 7, 2022

A Regular Meeting of the Culture Services Advisory Committee convened on Thursday, April 7, 2022 at 7:05 p.m. in Council Chambers, City Hall, 3000 Guildford Way, Coquitlam, BC with the following persons present:

- COMMITTEE MEMBERS:** Councillor Dennis Marsden, Chair
Candrina Bailey, Coquitlam Heritage Society Board (arrived at 7:40 p.m.)
Todd Gnissios, Coquitlam Public Library Board
Philip Hartwick, Evergreen Cultural Centre Society Board
Kim Hockey
Megan Leslie
Janice Mazon
Philip Mulder
Jackie Weinkam, Festival Planners Network
- REGRETS:** Councillor Trish Mandewo, Vice Chair
Will Davis, Artistic Community Representative
Marie Del Cid-Luque
Joan McCauley, Place des Arts Society Board
- GUESTS:** Anthea Goffe, Coquitlam Public Library Director (arrived at 7:57 p.m.)
Ryan Jamieson, Coquitlam Public Library Director
- STAFF:** Andre Isakov, Manager Economic Development
Tiina Mack, Manager Recreation and Cultural Facility Planning
Karen Basi, Cultural Services Manager
Narita Ico, Research Assistant
Jeri Hohn, Committee Clerk

CALL TO ORDER

The Chair acknowledged that the City operates on the traditional, ancestral and unceded territory of the kwikwəłəm (Kwkwetlem First Nation) and the Coast Salish peoples.

The Chair noted that the Executive Director, Coquitlam Heritage Society, would be joining the meeting a little later in the evening.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

1. Minutes of the Culture Services Advisory Committee Meeting held on Thursday, February 10, 2022

The Minutes of the Culture Services Advisory Committee Meeting held on Thursday, February 10, 2022, were approved.

NEW BUSINESS**2. Committee Orientation**

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

- 2022 Advisory Committee Orientation Session
- 2022 Advisory and Statutory Committees
- Coquitlam City Council
- 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
- COVID-19 Measures
- Connect With Us
- Questions?

In response to a question from a Committee member, the Committee Clerk spoke to the potential for hybrid advisory committee meetings to continue in the future.

3. Economic Development Strategy/Creative Industries Grant Opportunity

The Chair noted that the Economic Development Strategy portion of the item had been deferred to a future meeting. He introduced the Manager Economic Development and welcomed him to the meeting.

The Manager Economic Development provided an on-screen presentation, utilizing slides titled as follows:

- Creative Industries Initiative
- Leveraging Coquitlam's Creative Industries to Support Economic Growth
- Creative Industries – Beyond the Arts
- Creative Industries Sectors
- Cultural Industries Value – Employment
- Cultural Industries Value – GDP
- Creative Industries Value
- Job Creation
- Creative Industries Initiative
- Arts, Culture and Heritage Strategic Plan
- Local Cultural Resources

- Connecting Assets
- Developing Assets
- Growth
- Toronto
- Lublin, Poland
- Bristol, United Kingdom
- Questions

The Manager Economic Development previewed three videos for the Committee, titled “Portals into downtown businesses”, “‘Portal’ built between Lithuanian and Polish cities - BBC News”, and “URBANIMALS | People and Cities | Playable City | Watershed”, which demonstrated how interactive, accessible, and fun arts and culture portals and creative technologies could be utilized to animate and activate spaces and serve as tools to engage and educate citizens and visitors to explore cities in a different way, build cultural awareness, and support economic regeneration in neighbourhoods.

The Manager Economic Development invited the Committee to consider cultural initiatives and the idea of connecting culture to the value of the economy.

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- The definition of placemaking within Coquitlam’s context
- “Cloud Gate” in Chicago as an example of an interactive piece of art installed in a large public setting
- The understanding that the creative technologies industry is a growth industry for Canada, and the meaning of growth industry within the Coquitlam context
- The work underway to define growth industries in Coquitlam as part of the Economic Development Strategy process, and examples of how Coquitlam’s unique assets could be developed and enhanced to encourage and support economic growth
- Whether the City would be utilizing (creative industries) development grants to determine Coquitlam’s identity within the creative technologies industry
- How to identify and recruit new businesses to Coquitlam in advance of knowing what creative industries the City wished to encourage
- The intent of the grant, should the City be a successful applicant, to partner with existing business communities and to remain open and flexible to proponents’ ideas for creative and innovative animations that would support public visits and access
- Support for the City’s initiative to leverage Coquitlam’s creative Industries to increase economic growth
- Information regarding the local Tricelerate innovation hub supported by the Coquitlam Public Library
- That (public) interactivity with creative technologies is prevalent at many public libraries in Europe
- The belief that Coquitlam’s new Northeast Community Centre could offer numerous opportunities for use of creative technologies and act as a show piece of animated and activated public space

The Chair thanked the Manager Economic Development for his presentation. He spoke to Council's support for local economic development, the desire to establish a unique Coquitlam identity, the leveraging of technology to enhance the growth of the city through asset development, the promotion of local talent, job creation, and building new employment spaces within the community.

At this time (7:57 p.m.), the Chair welcomed the Executive Director, Coquitlam Heritage Society, to the meeting and invited her to introduce herself.

4. Library Services Study

The Manager Recreation and Cultural Facility Planning provided opening remarks, noting that the project was a partnership between the City and the Coquitlam Public Library (CPL). She noted the availability of staff, the Executive Director CPL, and CPL Directors to answer questions from the Committee.

The Research Assistant provided an on-screen presentation, utilizing slides titled as follows:

- Library Services and Spaces Study
- Strategic Goal
- Background
- Why is this Necessary?
- Services Levels and Population Growth
- Coquitlam Growth Area Numbers 2016-2046
- Existing Libraries
- Intention of Study
- Major Sections of Study
- Timeline
- Discussion Questions
- Thank You

At the invitation of the Manager Recreation and Cultural Facility Planning, the Executive Director CPL spoke to his enthusiasm for the joint Study, Coquitlam's growth, goals and objectives outlined by Council, and the creative technologies of the previous presentation. He noted his belief in the importance of answering overarching questions such as "What kind of library services does Coquitlam need?", "What does the City want?", and "How does the Library become a part of that?"

The Chair noted that he was a current Trustee on the Coquitlam Public Library Board and spoke to his understanding regarding the robust scope of what libraries had become over time relative to the roles they serve in communities.

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- Whether the CPL would be able to offer more interactive "maker spaces" for the community
- The desire that the Study would reveal what "maker spaces" in Coquitlam should be for both local community centres and libraries
- Belief in the value of "maker spaces" for local citizens living in smaller residences or

quarters that do not typically include workshop-type spaces

In response to a question from the Chair, the Manager Recreation and Cultural Facility Planning spoke to the increasing use of the term “maker space” in cities across North America. She noted the possibility that such a space could be tested as a future pilot program in the City.

Discussion continued relative to the following:

- That “maker spaces” can also be known as “creation spaces” or “innovation hubs” and include learning and community aspects, i.e. where citizens are exposed to new technologies and learn new skillsets
- Support for the advancement of the Study and appreciation for the services provided by Coquitlam’s public libraries

The Chair invited Committee members to provide further input to the discussion questions directly to staff and, at his request, the Committee Clerk undertook to circulate a copy of the presentation by email. The Chair also asked members to please watch for the opportunity to provide input as part of the upcoming stakeholder engagement survey.

The Chair spoke to the exceptional level of services provided to citizens by the CPL throughout the COVID-19 pandemic and during the summer 2021 heat dome, and thanked the leadership team at the CPL for their service to the community.

5. Facility Updates (Standing Agenda Item)

The Cultural Services Manager spoke to the detailed update provided during the previous meeting and noted that although there was nothing new to report, Sheffield Park and the Centennial Turf Field projects were proceeding quickly and she expected to provide an update regarding their official opening during the June meeting.

The Chair spoke to the City’s recent acquisition of twenty-two acres of land for future establishment of parks.

6. Civic Facility Visual Arts Display Program Sub-Committee Update

The Sub-Committee Leader shared that the group had met to discuss a possible scope for the Project and were in the midst of conducting preliminary research work. She noted that as the group’s work proceeded, the Sub-Committee looked forward to presenting a proposed scope and further details to the Committee for discussion during upcoming meetings.

7. Cultural Communities Emerging Issues/Updates (Standing Agenda Item)

The Committee members were invited to share details regarding upcoming events or emerging issues in their communities. The following information was shared:

- The future replacement of CPL’s Library Link vehicle
- Observations regarding the current housing market and the tangible (negative) impacts that vacant new builds and houses for sale in neighbourhoods can have on the culture of neighbourhoods

- The belief in the importance of neighbourhood leaders to ensure that neighbourhoods gel and neighbours come together socially
- That a new full-time Arts Education Coordinator had recently been hired by Evergreen Cultural Centre
- That Coquitlam Heritage Society was gearing up for a very busy spring and summer program that included “Eat Food”, “Music in the Square”, a fashion show in July at Place des Arts (PDA), and an exhibit currently on display at PDA called “Extractions”, a showcase of artists’ visions about how the Earth is being used
- The understanding that Festival du Bois was held over the past weekend and was a big success
- That Festival Planners Network would host the “Teddy Bear Picnic” and “Fishing Derby” in the coming months, with some limitations over past years’ events

In response to a question from the Chair, the Cultural Services Manager spoke to the robust community uptake of community events of all sizes returning. She noted that, in some instances, events were being modified due to vendor supply-chain issues and volunteering and staffing shortages coming out of the COVID-19 pandemic. She further noted that staff would have more information to share with the Committee regarding upcoming City-hosted events during the June meeting.

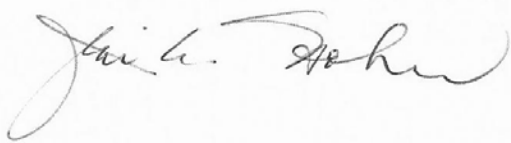
OTHER BUSINESS

NEXT MEETING DATE – Thursday, June 9, 2022

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:41 p.m.

MINUTES CERTIFIED CORRECT



Jeri Hohn
Committee Clerk

CHAIR