



**PUBLIC AGENDA
PUBLIC ART ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**Friday, March 18, 2016, 1:30 p.m.
Committee Room B, Second Floor, City Hall
Members**

**Ms. J. Borsa, Chair
Mr. I. Grove, Vice-Chair
Ms. A. Falihi
Ms. A. McElroy
Mr. J. Morgan
Ms. B. Stehwien
Ms. G. Hagblom**

Pages

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

Recommendation

That the agenda be confirmed as presented.

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

5. COMMUNICATIONS

6. REPORTS FROM ADMINISTRATION

6.1 Purchase of Open Book Sculpture (Files CK. 4040-1 and RS. 5675-046)

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Recommendation

That the Public Art Advisory Committee approve the purchase of the sculpture, Open Book, by artist Paul Reimer for the City of Saskatoon's permanent public art collection.

6.2 Report of Culture Consultant (Files CK. 4040-1)

Verbal Update - Alejandro Romero

Recommendation

That the information be received.

6.3 Report of Senior Planner (Files CK. 4040-1)

Verbal Update - Genevieve Russell

Recommendation

That the information be received.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Purchase of Open Book Sculpture

Recommendation

That the Public Art Advisory Committee approve the purchase of the sculpture, Open Book, by artist Paul Reimer for the City of Saskatoon's permanent public art collection.

Topic and Purpose

As per Public Art Policy No. C10-025, the Public Art Advisory Committee adjudicates and approves works of art, for which funding has already been approved, according to criteria outlined in the policy. Artist Paul Reimer has offered to sell the sculpture to the City of Saskatoon, and the Administration is interested in acquiring the piece for the City of Saskatoon's permanent collection for display in front of the Mayfair Public Library. The Administration is recommending that the Public Art Advisory Committee approve the purchase of the sculpture Open Book for the City of Saskatoon's permanent collection.

Report Highlights

1. Open Book, by Paul Reimer, is currently being leased by the City of Saskatoon (City) as part of the Placemaker Program.
2. Open Book is a popular artwork currently on display in front of the Mayfair Public Library (Mayfair Library) at 602 33rd Street West.
3. The Administration recommends the purchase of the artwork, at a cost of \$7,420, for the City's permanent collection.

Strategic Goal

This report supports the Strategic Goal of Quality of Life and the long-term strategy of implementing the Municipal Culture Plan.

Background

The City's first ever Municipal Culture Plan was adopted by City Council in September 2011, while the new Public Art Policy No. C10-025 (Public Art Policy) was adopted by City Council in March 2014. Both the Municipal Culture Plan and the Public Art Policy articulate and promote the role public art can play in contributing to placemaking in Saskatoon neighbourhoods by transforming public spaces into focal points for community gatherings or into spaces for quiet contemplation.

Report

Open Book, by Paul Reimer, is Currently Leased as Part of the Placemaker Program
Paul was born in Calgary, Alberta, on April 25, 1974. At the age of 6, his family moved to the picturesque community of Crawford Bay, British Columbia. At the age of 15, Paul began his blacksmithing apprenticeship at the Kootenay Forge under the mentorship of John Smith. When Paul was 20 years old, he became the head blacksmith at Fort Steele Heritage Town, just outside of Cranbrook, British Columbia. In 2001, he

Purchase of Open Book Sculpture

started his own blacksmith business with six employees. He currently lives in Cranbrook with his wife and two children.

The Open Book public art (functional art) was installed in front of the Mayfair Library in October 2013, as part of the temporary art Placemaker Program.

Open Book is a Popular Functional Artwork Displayed Near Mayfair Library on 33rd Street

Located in front of the Mayfair Library at 602 33rd Street West, Open Book has proven to be a popular functional artwork. The piece serves pedestrians and library patrons as a bench. According to the artist:

“the inspiration for Open Book came from my love of reading, which began at a young age. It facilitated discovery and exploration growing up on an isolated farm. The books I read opened me up to a whole new world and took me to places I had never experienced. This sculpture is attempting to recapture some of that larger than life imagination sparked by those stories read long ago.”

The Open Book sculpture is of unique and original design; made out of sheet metal and hand-forged iron, and fabricated with a faux-leather finish (see Attachment 1). Its dimensions are 2.1 metres high, 2.1 metres wide, and 1.8 metres deep. It weighs 1,500 pounds.

The Administration Recommends the Purchase of the Artwork

The parties previously agreed that if the City does purchase the artwork, the purchase price shall be calculated at \$10,000 minus \$2,580, paid in advance to address the costs associated with the removal of the artwork.

Artist Paul Reimer has offered to sell the sculpture to the City, and the Administration is interested in acquiring the piece for the City’s permanent collection for display in front of the Mayfair Library. The agreed-upon purchase price is \$7,420. After acquiring the artwork, the City would retain the right to move the sculpture to another location.

Options to the Recommendation

An option to the recommendation would be to not purchase the sculpture and to continue leasing it until the agreement expires in 2016. At that time, the lease could be extended or the artwork would be removed.

Public and/or Stakeholder Involvement

If the Public Art Advisory Committee accepts the sculpture into the City’s permanent collection, the Saskatoon Public Library, the 33rd Street Business Improvement District, and the Hudson Bay Park/Mayfair/Kelsey Woodlawn Community Association will all be informed.

Communication Plan

If the recommendation outlined in this report is approved, the Administration will include Open Book on its interactive public art map application (iMap) located on the City's website.

Policy Implications

This report is in compliance with the Public Art Policy.

Financial Implications

The cost to purchase the sculpture, Open Book, from Paul Reimer is \$7,420. The funding source is the Public Art Reserve, and the ongoing operating impact of owning the piece is estimated at \$150 per year.

Safety/Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED)

As with all public art acquisitions, Open Book, will be subject to a CPTED review.

Other Considerations/Implications

There are no environmental or privacy implications or considerations.

Due Date for Follow-up and/or Project Completion

Should the Public Art Advisory Committee decide to accept the sculpture into the City's permanent collection, the Administration would prepare and finalize a purchase agreement with the artist.

Public Notice

Public notice, pursuant to Section 3 of Public Notice Policy No. C01-021, is not required.

Attachment

1. Open Book

Report Approval

Written by: Alejandro Romero, Arts and Culture Consultant, Recreation and Community Development
Reviewed by: Kevin Kitchen, Community Development Manager, Recreation and Community Development
Approved by: Lynne Lacroix, Director of Recreation and Community Development

S/Reports/2016/RCD/PAAC – Purchase of Open Book Sculpture/lc

Open Book

