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| TO: | GENERAL COMMITTEE |
| SUBJECT: | PUBLIC ART DONATION |
| WARD: | ALL |
| PREPARED BY AND KEY CONTACT: | A. DYKE, CULTURE DEVELOPMENT OFFICER, EXT 5459 |
| SUBMITTED BY: | K. DUBEAU, DIRECTOR, CREATIVE ECONOMY DEPARTMENT |
| GENERAL MANAGER APPROVAL: | Z. LIFSHIZ, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, INVEST BARRIE |
| CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER APPROVAL: | M. PROWSE, CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER |

RECOMMENDED MOTION

1. That the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized to execute an agreement with the family of the late Mr. Robert Hunter to accept their donation of \$50,000 for a public art project in accordance with the City's Donation Policy with terms and conditions agreed to by the Director of Creative Economy and to the satisfaction of the Director of Finance and Director of Legal Services.
2. That the Barrie Public Art Committee be authorized to fundraise at least \$50,000 in accordance with the City's Donation Policy in matching funds to be used to commission a piece of public art in honour of Mr. Hunter.
3. That the Barrie Public Art Committee be authorized to plan for and promote a call for a commissioned piece of public art to be installed on the existing public art footing at Meridian Place, shown in the drawings attached as Appendix "A" to Staff Report CE002-19.
4. That the Barrie Public Art Committee undertake the call for a commissioned piece of public art for installation in Meridian Place in accordance with the Barrie Public Art Policy.

PURPOSE & BACKGROUND

Report Overview

5. The purpose of this Staff Report is to receive approval to accept the donation of \$50,000 which is being proposed by a private donor with the intent of commissioning a piece of public art to be located in Meridian Place. Acceptance of the funds is being recommended by the Barrie Public Art Committee.

6. In September of 2012, Barrie City Council approved the Public Art Policy with the following motion:

“12-G-252 PUBLIC ART POLICY

1. That the Public Art Policy, attached as Appendix ‘A’ to Staff Report DOC003-12, be adopted in principle with the exception of Section 5.1 and that Section 5.4 be amended to indicate that funds for the Public Art Policy and Reserve are not being provided by the City, at this time.
 2. That the Director of Planning Services be directed to include, as part of the work plan to review community benefit provisions under Section 37 of the Planning Act, recommendations related to developer contributions for public art.
 3. That a Public Art Reserve be created to receive cash contributions from public and private donations, and operated in accordance with Barrie’s financial policies.
 4. That staff be encouraged to seek contributions from private donations in support of the Public Art Policy.
 5. That the Public Art Reserve be used to fund and maintain projects in accordance with the City of Barrie’s Public Art Policy.
 6. That an allocation of \$25,000 to the Public Art Reserve be considered as part of the 2014 Business Plan and the amount be increased annually in future years by 10% for a maximum of ten years. (DOC003-12) (File: A09).”
7. The Barrie Public Art Policy approved by City Council is available for download at www.barrie.ca/PublicArt.
8. In agreement with the Public Art Policy, the Public Art Steering Committee then formulated a Public Art Committee under the leadership of Carolyn Bell Farrell, Executive Director of the MacLaren Art Centre. Ms. Farrell drew on expertise in the Barrie community in acquiring members who had previously demonstrated a commitment to the arts, served on arts boards and committees or through their businesses looked for creative opportunities that would enhance the City of Barrie.
9. In 2015, the annual allocation of \$25,000 for the Public Art Reserve was approved by Council in the overall budget approval process. This funding is incorporated into the base annual operating budget for Creative Economy Department.
10. The Barrie Public Art Committee (BPAC) currently consists of the following individuals:
- Carol-Ann Ryan, Chairperson, Visual Arts Professional
Ted Handy, Vice Chairperson, Local Architect, of Ted Handy and Associates
Marlene Hilton Moore, Visual Artist
John Bell, Landscape Architect
Sean George, Visual Artist, Cultural Animator
Janet Loughheed, Fundraising Consultant and interested community member
Susan Green, Arts supporter and interested community member
Councillors Robert Thompson and Barry Ward
Ex Officio Ted Fullerton, Visual Artist, Former Director of the School of Design and Visual Arts – Georgian College
Staff Liaison, Amanda Dyke, Culture Officer, Development

11. Since the approval of the policy in 2012, the Barrie Public Art Committee has accepted the donation of Ron Baird's Sea Serpent, which is installed in Heritage Park, commissioned a bicycle rack art installation at the downtown branch of the Barrie Public Library, hosted a temporary public art exhibition featuring five pieces of contemporary Canadian art for Canada 150, temporarily installed Ted Fullerton's Conversation at Dodona in the stairway annex at City Hall, and sponsored the return and installation of two pieces of public art to the MacLaren Art Centre's exterior gardens. The committee has been convening monthly, planning for community engagement and education, and creating a long term vision for public art in the City of Barrie.
12. Robert (Bob) Hunter was born 1929 in Barrie and played a significant role in the community. Mr. Hunter was an active member of the Barrie Chamber of Commerce (serving as president in 1968) and the Barrie Rotary Club. He attended Barrie Central Collegiate where he played trumpet with the concert band led by W.A. Fisher. Mr. Hunter developed a lifelong passion for performing music and played in several bands including the Barrie Concert Band, the Baytowne Big Band, the Skyliners and The Bob Hunter Band. He felt strongly that there should be an outdoor facility on Barrie's waterfront where people could gather and enjoy live music. In 1999, shortly before his death, he and architect Millet Salter submitted a proposal to the Trillium Foundation to acquire funding for such a venue. Unfortunately, the project was not realized, but their ideas were quite similar in design and location to the outdoor band shell in Meridian Place.
13. During construction of Meridian Place, the BPAC was consulted regarding placement and size of footings for public art within the space. Three concrete footings were placed in the new space with the expectation that public art will be installed as projects and budgets are realized. Of the three available footings, the one proposed for this project is the only appropriate option within the space based on location, size and intent for the piece. The BPAC acknowledges the Cenotaph as the main focal point of Memorial Square, as well as the purpose behind the stage and canopy in Meridian Place and intend to include reference to both elements in the call for submissions. The call for submissions will note that the commissioned piece must not overshadow the Cenotaph, must be complimentary to the full space, and must have a limited impact on sightlines for the stage. Additionally, the call will require artists to provide stamped engineered drawings for any pieces to be considered based on the weight load and size specifications for the proposed footing.
14. In the summer of 2018, Mr. Hunter's family initiated discussions with the BPAC in regards to the following request: "In Bob's memory, his family would like to contribute to a work of art to be displayed at Meridian Place. We would like it to reflect Bob's love of performing, his commitment to our community, and his vision of Barrie's beautiful waterfront as a place to gather and enjoy." In the fall of 2018, BPAC received a formal proposal from Mr. Hunter's family for review and discussion by BPAC. Please see Appendix "B" for the proposal document provided by Mr. Hunter's daughter, Christine Ough. Ms. Ough has indicated that the family does not want a likeness or monument to Mr. Hunter, but rather a piece of contemporary art that reflects his contributions to the community and vision.
15. The BPAC sees this generous offer from the Hunter family as an opportunity to celebrate Mr. Hunter's legacy and leverage matching funds from interested private donors to commission a unique work of contemporary art for a high profile location. The Committee believes the installation will support the efforts to make Meridian Place a destination for residents and visitors, activated by programming and meaningful public art. BPAC also feel that the work has the potential to generate community pride in Barrie's cultural heritage, and to function as a cornerstone for the potential expansion of public art in Meridian Square in the future.
16. The proposed project builds on an existing partnership between the City and the Downtown Barrie BIA with respect to Meridian Place. The project also represents an opportunity to engage the community and interested citizens in thoughtful conversations about the role of public art and growth, as the official plan is developed.

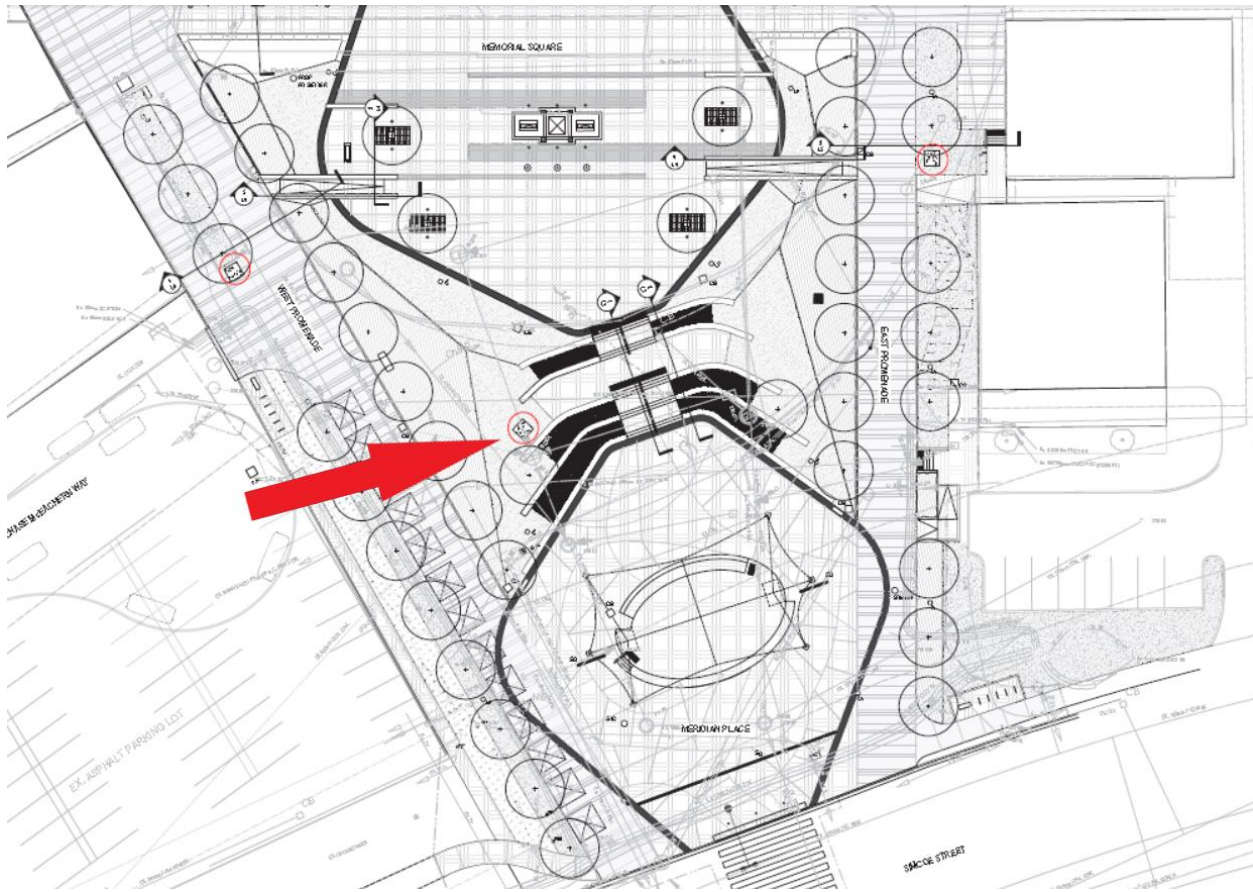
17. On February 26, 2019, representatives from the BPAC made a presentation to the Downtown Barrie BIA asking for their endorsement and support for the project. The Downtown Barrie BIA board unanimously approved the request for support and have indicated their excitement for the project.

ANALYSIS

18. The experts on the BPAC agree that a donation of this calibre is not a common occurrence. It is the first sizeable cash donation offered to the City through the committee and the members of the committee recommend that it be accepted. They believe the donation will serve as a catalyst for additional fundraising and that at least matching funds are achievable based on Mr. Hunter's connection to the community. Should the fundraising goal not be met the committee will supplement from the existing public art reserve or revisit the project's size and scope before proceeding with the project and report back to Council with a recommendation.
19. The funds raised will be used for administrating the call for submissions, the competition process, installation costs, insurance, conservation and maintenance.
- a) Section 3.1 of the City of Barrie Public Art Policy states that "It is the responsibility of the City of Barrie to maintain all permanent works of art within the Public Art Inventory...all public art competitions and donations will include a maintenance fund in the budget for the conservation of the public artwork".
 - b) Further, "Development of the maintenance plan and/or conservation plan is the responsibility of the artist and will be submitted to the City at the time the artwork is installed. The plans will include, but not be limited to, a maintenance dossier, shop drawings, manufacturers' lists, key contacts including the artist, maintenance and/or conservation specifications, and budgets. The City will be responsible for the care and maintenance of the artwork, in accordance with the approved maintenance plan".
20. The commissioning process will consist of:
- a) Formation of a committee to create the call for submissions. This committee will include a member of the Downtown Barrie BIA, members of the BPAC, City staff, and a member of the Hunter family.
 - b) An open call for submissions by artists which will be promoted nation-wide.
 - c) Artist submissions reviewed by a jury panel made up of visual arts professionals not currently sitting on the Barrie Public Art Committee and members of the BIA and Hunter family not sitting on the call for submissions committee.
 - d) The City of Barrie's Executive Management Team will review the jury's shortlist and recommended selection.
 - e) A staff report to Barrie City Council will include results from the selection jury and a recommendation from the Barrie Public Art Committee for an artist/artwork to be selected for commission.
 - f) Upon approval, the City will enter into an agreement with the artist for commissioning of the piece.
21. A commissioned piece of contemporary art will not only visually enhance Meridian Place and the downtown core but the installation of a new piece of public art could become a catalyst for the continuation of the downtown's redevelopment, creation of a cultural corridor and support place making initiatives to drive animation and positive engagement in downtown Barrie.
22. The Spirit Catcher and Sea Serpent sculptures have been powerful contributors to creating a 'sense of place' for Barrie. They are objects of interest and identity that create a unique experience for everyone who sees them. This new piece will only serve to add to that unique Barrie experience.

APPENDIX "A"

Meridian Place Public Art Footings



APPENDIX "B"

Proposal from the Hunter Family

Proposal for Barrie Public Art Committee

Robert "Bob" Hunter was born in Barrie in 1929, and it's here he attended school, married, and together with his wife Josie raised their three children. As dedicated to the community as he was to his family, Bob was an active member of the Barrie Chamber of Commerce (serving as president in 1968) and Barrie Rotary Club. He also had a successful career in business as manager of CKBB and later President of Cooper Group Canada.

While at Central Collegiate he took up the trumpet and was part of the concert band led by W.A. Fisher. This developed into a lifelong passion for performing music, and over the years he played in a number of bands, including the Barrie Concert Band, the Baytowne Big Band, and the Skyliners. He is perhaps best remembered, though, for starting his own dance band, which continued for many years. The Bob Hunter Band gained an enthusiastic following throughout the area, playing at the Minet's Point Pavilion, "the Pav" in Orillia, and at countless other locations and function around Simcoe County and beyond.

As Barrie's waterfront began to be developed, Bob felt strongly that there should be an outdoor facility where people could meet and enjoy what musicians and other artists love to do...perform. He was unflagging in his enthusiasm for this vision and presented several ideas to the city.

In 1999, shortly before his death, he and architect and friend Millet Salter submitted a proposal to the Trillium Foundation in Ottawa to acquire funding for such a venue. Unfortunately the project did not meet their criteria...but as is clear from the sketch attached, their ideas were quite similar in design and location to Meridan Place, completed this year.

In Bob's memory, his family would like to contribute to a work of art to be displayed at Meridan Place. We would like it to reflect Bob's love of performing, his commitment to our community, and his vision of Barrie's beautiful waterfront as a place to gather and enjoy.

Bob Hunter's vision for Memorial Square:

