

Neil Peart Commemorative Task Force

Minutes

Thursday, March 18, 2021

Electronic Participation at 5:00pm

Attendance:

Chair, David DeRocco, Arts and Cultural Advisory Committee Member
Vice-Chair, Meghan Symyk
Mayor Walter Sendzik
Councillor Carlos Garcia
Councillor Bruce Williamson
John Howe
Tony McLaughlin
Christopher O'Connor

Absent:

Mark Hoerd, Heritage Advisory Committee Member
Stephen Remus, Public Art Advisory Committee Member

Staff Liaison:

Phil Cristi, Director of Community, Recreation and Culture Services
Eric Lamothe, Manager of Strategic and Business Services
Kathleen Powell, Supervisor of Historical Services

1. Call meeting to order (Chair DeRocco)

Chair DeRocco called the meeting to order at 5:07 p.m.

2. Recognition of Traditional Territories

Chair DeRocco acknowledged that the land on which the Neil Peart Commemorative Task Force meets today is the traditional territory of the Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabe peoples, many of whom continue to live and work here today. This territory is covered by the Upper Canada Treaties and is within the land protected by the Dish with One Spoon Wampum agreement. Today this gathering place is home to many First Nations, Metis, and Inuit Peoples. Acknowledging this is a reminder that our great standard of living is directly related to the resources and friendship of Indigenous people.

3. **Amendments to the Agenda**

There were none.

4. **Motion to approve the agenda**

Moved by: Mayor Sendzik

That the March 18, 2021 agenda of the Neil Peart Commemorative Task Force be approved.

CARRIED

5. **Declarations of Interest**

None were declared.

6. **Motion to adopt the minutes of the previous meeting**

Moved by: Councillor Williamson

That the February 18, 2020 minutes of the Neil Peart Commemorative Task Force be approved.

CARRIED

7. **Business**

Note: Agenda Item 7.2 was presented before Agenda Item 7.1

7.1 Fundraising Sub-Committee Update

Fundraising Sub-Committee Chair M. Symsyk provided an overall update to the Task Force:

The Fundraising Sub-Committee has been meeting regularly to prepare for the official fundraising launch. The Fundraising Sub-Committee has started conversations with potential upper level sponsors – in the \$100,000 range – and would like to secure 1 or 2 of these sponsors prior to the launch of the online donation page to ensure those sponsors receive full recognition for their contributions. As the sponsors conversations are happening, the Fundraising Sub-Committee is also in the midst of finalizing the Sponsors & Donors Recognition Levels. The Fundraising Sub-Committee has also discussed an “Unveiling Event” that would work collaboratively with the fundraising efforts. From a Fundraising standpoint, the Unveiling Event could provide forms of recognition for sponsors, for example, a speaking opportunity or VIP access for sponsors that are a certain level. The Fundraising Sub-Committee also presented a motion for a \$1 Million goal as it aligns with the Request for Pre-Qualification budget of \$500,000 to \$1 Million and would also allow for funds to be directed to the on-going maintenance of the memorial. In the

event the Task Force raises more than \$1 Million, the Task Force could review ways to honour Neil at that time.

Motion to approve a fundraising goal for the Neil Peart Commemorative Task Force

Moved by: Meghan Symczyk

That the Neil Peart Commemorative Task Force fundraising goal be established at \$1 Million.

CARRIED

Councillor Williamson noted that consideration could be given for roll down doors for the Neil Peart Pavilion should the fundraising efforts exceed \$1 Million. P. Cristi presented the idea of a “Neil Peart Legacy Fund” should the fundraising efforts exceed \$1 Million which, as an example, could include projects such as Councillor Williamson’s suggestion. In the event a “Neil Peart Legacy Fund” is developed by the Task Force, M. Symczyk noted that the online donation page should properly reflect if the \$1 Million goal has been achieved so that donors are aware they are now giving to the fund and not specifically to the memorial. The Task Force requested that the potential “Neil Peart Legacy Fund” be added as an agenda item for a future meeting. Mayor Sendzik requested that a potential “Unveiling Event” be added to a future meeting for discussions including event details and establishing a budget. Mayor Sendzik noted that in the past, the City has assisted in funding these types of events and consideration should be made for adding the expense into the City’s 2022 Operating Budget. K. Powell shared that as the fundraising goal has now been set, it is important to establish a budget amount for the Request for Proposal and on-going maintenance.

Motion to approve the art installation and on-going art maintenance budgets

Moved by: John Howe

That the Neil Peart Commemorative Task Force set a budget of \$800,000 for the Request for Proposal for the art installation; and

That the Neil Peart Commemorative Task Force set a budget of \$200,000 that will be included in a reserve for the on-going maintenance of the art.

CARRIED

7.2 Request for Pre-Qualification & RFP Update

K. Powell provided an update that the Request for Pre-Qualification (RFPQ) process continues to be open for submission until March 29, 2021. Staff have received questions and an addendum will be issued shortly. K. Powell informed the Task Force that with art installation, the key is quality candidates not quantity. The Request for Proposal (RFP) is currently being developed and it is anticipated the Task Force will be able to review in April. The RFP will provide more detail including theming and park amenities. The artists will have approximately 5 months to prepare their submissions which will include items such as engineered drawings and costing.

Motion to receive the information

Moved by: Christopher O'Connor

That the information for Agenda Item 7.2 be received for information purposes.

CARRIED

7. Date of next meetings

April 15th, 2021

May 27th, 2021

June 24th, 2021

July 29th, 2021

August 26th, 2021

September 30th, 2021

October 28th, 2021

November 25th, 2021

All Meeting times scheduled for 5:00pm to 7:00pm

8. Motion to Adjourn

Moved by: Mayor Sendzik

That the meeting of the Neil Peart Commemorative Task Force be adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

CARRIED