

# Community Development Report

**Committee Consideration – 14 April 2020**  
**Council Resolution – 28 April 2020**

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<b>Committee</b>	14 April 2020
<b>Council</b>	28 April 2020
<b>Applicant</b>	City of Nedlands
<b>Employee Disclosure under section 5.70 Local Government Act 1995</b>	Nil.
<b>Director</b>	Lorraine Driscoll – Director Corporate and Strategy
<b>Attachments</b>	Attachment 1 – Proposed Amended Terms of Reference for Public Art Committee

## Executive Summary

On 18 November 2019 the Arts Committee recommended that its Terms of Reference should be amended to:

- change the name of the Committee and
- specify the process for appointing its chairperson.

These changes are now being presented to Council for consideration.

## Recommendation to Committee

**That Council amends the Arts Committee Terms of Reference to:**

- 1. change its name to the Public Art Committee and;**
- 2. specify the process for appointing the Committee’s chairperson.**

## Discussion/Overview

### Proposed Change of Committee’s Name

The Committee recommended changing its name from the Arts Committee to the Public Art Committee to more accurately reflect its role and purpose.

Public art can be defined as artwork that is:

- located in a public place;
- is highly visible and available to the public; and
- has a strong impact on the surrounding physical and cultural landscape.

Public art may be differentiated from other forms of art that impact at an individual, small group or community level. For example, many of the activities held at Tresillian, such as art classes and art exhibitions - while very important - are not generally regarded as public art. However, the collection of major, large-scale artworks owned by Council and permanently installed in highly visible public places throughout the City are generally regarded as public artworks, because of their public locations, prominence, intended permanence, strong presence and high level of impact on the public domain. The Committee's role to date has been to focus on adding to and maintaining Council's impressive public art collection. This focus is on public art is expressed throughout the Committee's Terms of Reference, except in the Committee's name.

The Arts Committee's current Terms of Reference state that the Committee's aim is "To ensure that the City of Nedlands includes artworks of a high standard in the public domain". The Committee's scope is to "Initiate, consider and decide on proposals for public artworks and to:

1. Oversee the implementation of public artworks.
2. Consider external proposals for public artworks to be donated to the City of Nedlands.
3. Promote awareness of the City's existing public artworks.
4. Review the City's art collection and make recommendations to Council on its conservation.
5. Review Council's Public Art Policy as required and make recommendations to Council on any proposed changes.
6. Develop a draft Percent for Art Policy and make recommendations to Council on its adoption."

Public art generally involves significant expenditure and has a strong presence and long-term impact on the public domain. Therefore, it is appropriate that the Committee's focus is on public art, rather than other types of art practice that are not primarily aimed at impacting the public domain.

In keeping with the Committee's already-established focus on public art and strategic direction, it is recommended that Council approves the Committee's recommendation to change its name from the Arts Committee to the Public Art Committee, as reflected in Attachment 1 – Proposed Amended Terms of Reference for Public Art Committee.

### **Appointing Committee Chairperson**

Currently the Committee's Terms of Reference do not specify how its chairperson is to be appointed. Therefore, the Committee has recommended amending its Terms of Reference to make this process explicit. On this basis, it is recommended that a new section is added to the Terms of Reference to clarify this process. The recommended addition can be seen at Attachment 1 – Proposed Amended Terms of Reference for Public Art Committee.

## **Key Relevant Previous Council Decisions:**

10 December 2013 – CM11.13 Arts Committee and Terms of Reference  
27 October 2015 – 14.6 Arts Committee and Terms of Reference  
23 February 2016 – CM01.16 Appointment Community Members Arts Committee  
24 October 2017– Arts Committee Terms of Reference  
23 April 2019 – 14.1 Notice of Motion - Arts Committee Terms of Reference  
5 November 2019 – Item 5.3 Special Council Meeting

## **Consultation**

Arts Committee Meeting 18 November 2019

## **Budget/Financial Implications**

Nil.

## **Conclusion**

It is recommended that Council approves the recommendation made by what is currently the Arts Committee, by amending its Terms of Reference in the following ways:

- firstly, changing its name to the Public Art Committee, to more accurately reflect its public and strategic focus; and
- secondly, by specifying the process for the Committee's appointment of its chairperson.

These are positive changes recommended by the Committee and will contribute to greater clarity of purpose and process.

## **Public Arts Committee**

### **Purpose**

The Public Arts Committee will be established under the Local Government Act 1995 to implement public art projects within the City of Nedlands.

### **Aim**

To ensure that the City of Nedlands includes artworks of a high standard in the public domain.

### **Scope**

The Committee will undertake the following within the City of Nedlands:

1. Initiate, consider and decide on proposals for public artworks.
2. Oversee the implementation of public artworks.
3. Consider external proposals for public artworks to be donated to the City of Nedlands.
4. Promote awareness of the City's existing public artworks.
5. Review the City's art collection and make recommendations to Council on its conservation.
6. Review Council's Public Art Policy as required and make recommendations to Council on any proposed changes.
7. Develop a draft Percent for Art Policy and make recommendation to Council on its adoption.

### **Procedure**

After adoption of the City's budget by Council each year and before commencing its work for the ensuing year the Committee shall:

- Consider the budget and any other available funds for art works to be acquired in the ensuing year.
- Formulate a plan of priorities and objectives for the year including the proposed siting of any public art works.
- Present that plan for review and amendment or approval by the Council.

## Delegated Authority

The Committee has delegated authority to implement public artworks of not more than \$10,000 each to the value of up to, in all, the budget allocation approved by Council within the current financial year's budget. Artworks over \$10,000 shall be recommended to Council for approval.

## Membership

1. Mayor and four (4) Councillors (one from each Ward) with the Councillors being determined by nomination and if necessary, a ballot conducted at a Council Meeting
2. Two community representatives with professional expertise in public art, who are residents of the City.
3. One youth representative with an interest in public art, aged 12 – 25 years, who is a resident of the City.
4. Non-residents of the City of Nedlands may be appointed as non-voting members.

## Meetings

1. The Council Committee operates under the Council's Standing Orders Local Law.
2. The quorum for a meeting will be 50% of the offices of the Arts Committee as per section 5.19 of the Local Government Act 1995.
3. Meetings are open to community and Councillors.
4. Voting members are listed under Membership above.
5. Non-voting members may participate in all aspects of the meeting other than voting.
6. Non-voting attendees (as distinct from non-voting members) will have observer status.
7. The presiding member will be elected by the members of the Committee.
8. Election of the presiding member will take place at the first meeting of the Committee following its reconstitution after each ordinary Council election.
9. The Mayor is eligible to vote for a presiding member but is not eligible to sit as the presiding member of the Committee.

10. The term of the presiding member expires with the expiry of the Committee immediately before the next ordinary Council election.

6.11. If the presiding member will not be present at a meeting of the Committee then a temporary presiding member shall be elected by the members of the Committee attending the meeting.

7.12. Meetings with be held quarterly or as required.

## **Staff**

The following staff will attend meetings to provide support and advice:

- Manager Community Development, as required.
- Tresillian Arts Centre Coordinator, as required.
- Any other officer, as required.

## **Terms of Reference**

The Terms of Reference will be reviewed annually.

## **Approved / Reviewed**

10 December 2013 – CM11.13 Arts Committee and Terms of Reference  
27 October 2015 – 14.6 Arts Committee and Terms of Reference  
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