

Committee Minutes

Committee on the Jean F Watson Bequest

Edinburgh, 30 November 2007

Present:- Councillors Brock, Buchan, Child (substituting), Dawe, McIvor and Thomas

1 Appointment of Convener

Decision

To appoint Councillor Brock as Convener of the Committee on the Jean F Watson Bequest.

2 Minute

The minute of the meeting of 12 October 2006 was approved as a correct record.

3 Appointment of External Members

Decision

To authorise the officials, in consultation with the Convener, to appoint two external members to the Committee. The appointments would be reported to the next meeting.

4 Financial Statement – Funds Available for 2007/2008

The balance available on the Jean F Watson Bequest for 2007-2008 was currently £73,338.12 including an estimate for fees, as the actual fees had not been charged.

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Decision

To note the financial statement.

(Reference – Financial Statement by the Director of Finance, 30 November 2007, submitted.)

5 Acquisitions for the City's Fine Art Collection

Description	Price	Decision
5.1 Group of Works by Peter Howson (1958)		
Study for the Proconsul	£960	Not to proceed with the purchase.
Study for Backstreet Crucifixion	£8,700	1) To approve the purchase. 2) To apply for grant aid from the National Fund for Acquisitions.
Andrew	£1,200	1) To approve the purchase. 2) To apply for grant aid from the National Fund for Acquisitions.
Greece	£7,000	Not to proceed with the purchase.
St Andrew in Middle Age	£520	1) To approve the purchase. 2) To apply for grant aid from the National Fund for Acquisitions.

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Description	Price	Decision
<p>5.2 Painting by Alexander Legget (1828-1884) Sale of Bait – Arrival of The Mussel Boats, Newhaven</p>	£4,500	<p>1) To approve the purchase.</p> <p>2) To apply for grant aid from the National Fund for Acquisitions.</p>
<p>5.3 Painting by J H Ross (1848) Waverley Station, Edinburgh</p>	£4,200	<p>1) To approve the purchase.</p> <p>2) To apply for grant aid from the National Fund for Acquisitions.</p>
<p>5.4 Watercolour by T M Richardson (1813-1890) Old Edinburgh</p>	£6,500	<p>1) To approve the purchase.</p> <p>2) To apply for grant aid from the National Fund for Acquisitions.</p>
<p>5.5 Group of Works by D J White (1946)</p> <p>Glenglye and Leven</p>	£300	<p>1) To approve the purchase.</p> <p>2) To apply for grant aid from the National Fund for Acquisitions.</p> <p>1) To approve the purchase.</p> <p>2) To apply for grant aid from the National Fund for Acquisitions.</p>

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Description	Price	Decision
George Square	£300	1) To approve the purchase. 2) To apply for grant aid from the National Fund for Acquisitions.
Haymarket Station	£200	1) To approve the purchase. 2) To apply for grant aid from the National Fund for Acquisitions.
Haymarket Station, Platform	£300	1) To approve the purchase. 2) To apply for grant aid from the National Fund for Acquisitions.
Tollcross, Edinburgh	£450	1) To approve the purchase. 2) To apply for grant aid from the National Fund for Acquisitions.
5.6 Painting by Francis McCracken (1897-1959) Blackford Quarry, Edinburgh	£23,810	1) To approve the purchase. 2) To apply for grant aid from the National Fund for Acquisitions, and also to the Art Fund.

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Description	Price	Decision
5.7 Paintings by Victoria Crowe (1945)		
Snowbound Cottages	£10,000	Not to proceed with the purchase.
Private View with Plastic Tulips	£10,000	Not to proceed with the purchase.
Last Portrait of Jenny Armstrong	£10,000	1) To approve the purchase 2) To apply for grant aid from the National Fund for Acquisitions, and also the Friends of the City Art Centre.
Italian Reflections*	£9,500	1) To approve the purchase 2) To apply for grant aid from the National Fund for Acquisitions, and also the Friends of the City Art Centre.
Learning Italian	£9,500	Not to proceed with the purchase.
Dancer and Graffiti	£12,000	Not to proceed with the purchase.

*The decision to purchase "Italian Reflections" was approved on the casting vote of the Convener, there being 3 votes in favour of purchase, and 3 in favour of alternatively purchasing "Snowbound Cottages" for £10,000.

(References – reports by the Director of Corporate Services, 22 November 2007 submitted (7)).

6 National Collecting Scheme for Scotland – Continuation

The Committee at its meeting of 29 August 2003 agreed to participate in the National Collecting Scheme for Scotland. Approval of the Committee was sought to continue in the Scheme and commit up to £4,000 from the Jean F Watson Bequest in the current financial year. This would enable the City Art Centre to apply for between £8,000 and £10,000 from Scottish Arts Council funds, while also applying for grant aid from the National Fund for Acquisitions and also, possibly, the Art Fund. This should enable a total funding package of £18,000 to £24,000 to be assembled for the acquisition of contemporary art in the next few months.

Details were provided of:

- the conditions of the previous Scheme and the new Scheme;
- the works acquired by the City Art Centre through membership of the Scheme
- the total cost of the works acquired.

The deadline for applications for this funding to the Scottish Arts Council was 14 December 2007.

Decision

To approve the City Art Centre's continuing participation in the National Collecting Scheme for Scotland.

(References – Committee on the Jean F Watson Bequest 29 August 2003 (item 5); report by the Director of Corporate Services, 22 November 2007, submitted.)