

Committee Minutes

Committee on the Jean F Watson Bequest

Edinburgh, 12 October 2006

Present:- Councillors Anderson (Convener), Attridge, Mrs Aitken, Dawe, Hunter, Longstaff; Marshall, M Thomas and Mrs Wright.

1 Appointment of Convener

Decision

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

2 Minute

The minute of the meeting of 28 June 2005 was approved as a correct record.

3 Financial Statement – Funds Available for 2006-2007

The balance available on the Jean F Watson Bequest for 2006-2007 was currently £67,894.62 including an estimate for fees, as the actual fees had not been charged.

Decision

To note the financial statement.

(Reference – financial statement by the Director of Finance, submitted).

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4 Acquisitions for the City's Fine Art Collection

4.1 Commission of a Portrait by David Mach

The Committee had previously agreed to authorise negotiations with David Mach on the proposal to commission a portrait of Aung San Suu Kyi, explore external avenues of funding and report back to the Committee.

The Committee was informed that the artist had offered to undertake the portrait at cost price as he very much supported the action taken by the Council. Following consultation between the Director of Culture and Leisure and the Convener of the Committee the decision was taken to proceed with the portrait at a cost of £5,000 plus approximately £500 for framing. It was hoped to find a suitable site for the portrait within the new Council headquarters.

Decision

To note the completion of the commissioned portrait by David Mach.

(References – minute of meeting of the Committee on the Jean F Watson Bequest 28 June 2005 (item 7); report by the Director of Culture and Leisure, submitted).

Description	Price	Decision
4.2 Drawing by Ernest Lumsden (1926) A room in Brodie's Close	£300	To approve the purchase.
Etching by William Walcot (1874-1943) Holyrood	£295	To approve the purchase.
Ink and Watercolour by Carola Gordon House on Dean Bridge	£150	To approve the purchase.
4.3 Drawing by Elizabeth Blackadder (1931) View Over North Bridge	£1,200	To approve the purchase.

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Description	Price	Decision
4.4 Watercolour by Alexander Nasmyth (1758-1840) Edinburgh from the East	£7,500	1. To approve the purchase. 2. To apply for grant aid from the Friends of the City Art Centre and Museum.
4.5 Photographic Diptych by Wendy McMurdo (1965) Computer Class I & II	£8,850	1. To approve the purchase. 2. To apply for grant aid from the National Funds for Acquisitions in 2007-08.
4.6 Painting by Louise Hopkins (1965) Black White White Black, 2005	£5,570	Not to proceed with the purchase.
Relief (739) 2005	£20,000	1. To approve the purchase. 2. To apply for grant aid from the National Funds for Acquisitions in 2007-08.
<p>The Convener ruled items 4.7 (a) and 4.7 (c), notice of which had been given at the start of the meeting, urgent in order that they be considered timeously.</p>		
4.7 (a) Photographs by Albert Watson (1942) Standing Stones; The Orkneys, Scotland (1991)	£1,600	To approve the purchase.
(b) Pestle	£1,600	To approve the purchase.
(c) Mortar	£1,600	To approve the purchase.

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<p>4.8 Prints by Victoria Crowe (1945) and John McLean (1938) The Healing Herb, Viola South Bridge</p>	<p>£295 £295</p>	<p>To approve the purchase. To approve the purchase</p>
<p>The Convener ruled items 4.9 and 4.10, notice of which had been given at the start of the meeting, urgent in order that they be considered timeously.</p>		
<p>4.9 Print by Hazel Restall Work in Progress II</p>	<p>£400</p>	<p>To approve the purchase.</p>
<p>Councillors Mrs Aitken and Hunter, as members of the Conservative Party, declared a non-financial interest in the following item and took no part in the discussion and decision.</p>		
<p>4.10 Watercolour by Ian Garland Gilded Balloon Building</p>	<p>£100</p>	<p>To approve the purchase.</p>

(References – reports by the Director of Culture and Leisure, submitted (7), tabled (1) and oral (1).

5 National Collection Scheme for Scotland (Update)

The Committee had previously agreed to participate in the National Collection Scheme for Scotland. An update was provided on the works purchased through the scheme. A number of additional works were in the process of being purchased. All the works purchased through the scheme would be shown in an exhibition entitled “Living in the Modern World” that would be exhibited in the City Art Centre over the winter period.

It was anticipated that a final report on the completion of the initial three-year phase of the National Collection Scheme for Scotland would be provided to the next meeting of the Committee.

Decision

To note the progress of the National Collection Scheme for Scotland.

(Reference – report by the Director of Culture and Leisure, tabled).