NOTE OF THE SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT ART GROUP MEETING ON WEDNESDAY 1 NOVEMBER 2006

Present: Jamie Stone MSP, Chair
        Jamie McGrigor MSP
        Ken Macintosh MSP
        Linda Fabiani MSP
        Richard Calvocoressi
        Alison Watt
        Fiona McDougall, Art Curator

In attendance: Stuart Todd, PA to the Director of Access and Information (Minutes)

Apologies: Robin Harper MSP
          Liz Lochhead

1. Presentation by Art Curator on Commission Proposals

   1. The Art Curator provided a presentation on a number of artists and commission proposals for the collection. Themes were considered against the three underlying themes previously used to establish the collection (the importance of our relationship to the sea, our relationship to the land and identity) and included artists interested in exploring the relationship between nature and urbanization, the identity of individuals and personal histories, explorations of nationality and race through sport and literature, the exploration of forgotten or invisible structures.

   The group considered the proposals and discussed.

   2. Proposals for the MSP and staff areas and Members’ Restaurant were also presented.

   3. The Group considered the timescale, funding and planning of the proposals for the next 3 years.

2. Update on Ian Hamilton Finlay Acquisition

   4. It was agreed to provide an update to the group by correspondence.

   Action: Art Curator

3. Discussion of Proposals

   5. The Group considered a number of the proposals and offered its own suggestions.
Window on the Parliament

6. It was agreed to either offer a commission for the Window on the Parliament or purchase an existing work. An artist would be approached to explore possibilities once the use of the Window was confirmed.

Art in the Landscape

7. It was agreed to invite expressions of interest from five artists for permanent or temporary enhancement of the Parliament landscape and public entrance area using sculpture, sound and light. The Group felt that the art may be used as a focal point to the public entrance to enhance the experience of visitors.

Window on the Parliament

8. An artist would be approached to explore possibilities once the use of the Window was confirmed.

Further acquisitions

9. It was agreed the group should recommend to the SPCB that two artists be approached with a view to acquiring existing works or exploring commission costs.

Members’ Restaurant

10. It was agreed to advise the SPCB of interest from building users of commissioning a textile work for the Members’ Members Restaurant.

Dovecot Tapestry

11. It was agreed to arrange a visit to the Dovecot Studio to look at existing works, with a view to recommending the purchase of an existing work or accepting the donation offer from the Studio.

2009 Burns Year of Homecoming

12. It was agreed to propose the commissioning of an artwork for the 2009 Burns Year of Homecoming.

Purchases for the Permanent Collection

13. The group noted a number of artists whose work they would like to consider for future acquisitions.
Purchase of Limited Edition Prints

14. It was agreed to recommend the establishing of a collection of limited edition prints for display in pass-holder areas of the building.

Portraiture and Caricatures

15. It was agreed to the commissioning of photographic portraits and caricatures of key office holders.

4. Proposals for Presentation to SPCB

16. It was agreed that a summary of proposals for acquisitions in 2006-09 should be finalised and discussed with Directors prior to presentation to the SPCB.

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5. AOB

17. None.

6. Date of next meeting

18. To be confirmed.

Access and Information Directorate
November 2006