

I have only a couple of weeks until the paint & carpet project I've been managing, and my time on Council is over.

I am writing to express my concern about the status of work of the décor committee. To date we have had no recommendations of plans from the committee about what to do with all the art on furniture in the guest suite.

They have had almost 3 months (since the AGM) to come up with a proposal to replace 7 chairs. (Their minutes refer to 8 chairs but I can't figure out where the 8th one goes.) Regardless, the criteria for all of these chairs is the same – that they are comfortable to sit in (which generally means upholstered backs as well as seats) and they are not too low to get in & out of (in acknowledgement of the relative age of our owner population. (This largely rules out the cane chairs which meet neither of these criteria. They should be disposed of.)

Five of the chairs have more less the same requirements: the front lobby (2), side lobby (1) and library (2) chairs are not occupied for extensive periods of time, while the two in the 6th floor look out are chairs that people settle into to watch the sunrise, sunset, read, relax, etc.

I know from my first conversation with Carrie last summer about décor that she feels the existing upholstered chairs are simply wrong for our space, that the big over-stuffed kind of design does not suit the area, and I don't disagree with her. So maybe 5 of the chairs are the same, and the 2 for the 6th floor get a different solution.

How difficult can it be to bring a proposal with prices for 7 chairs? Bring Council a short list of options with pricing. Determine how Council & Owners will be consulted. Council makes a decision and we place an order. How long will it be before there is furniture in the building again?

With regard to the art, the committee has had 2 months since it was moved into the guest suite to review, edit and propose a solution. The Floor Captains identified each piece of art with it's floor & location, so there is no question about where things came from. Now the committee is talking about cataloguing all of it and finding a place to store it! Why?

This is not a complex project. Review what was on each floor. Come up with a short list. Determine how Council & Owners will be consulted. Start hanging the art. I realize that there may be some acquisitions required for large public spaces like the 2 lobbies, but that does not mean all the rest of the walls should be left vacant as they are now.

The committee has proposed a communication/survey with owners and Eleanor has already offered to set this up through StrataPress. When is this happening?

This, frankly, is my biggest concern with all of this – communications. In the time I've been on Council we have worked long & hard to clearly communicate with the entire community about

what is going on. Many people have commented to me on how much they appreciate this. Now I have people asking when we will have solutions to furniture and art now that the paint & carpet are done. Given the amount of time that has elapsed, saying that we have no idea feels like a less-than-acceptable response.

When I read the minutes of the meetings I see what is generally referred to as “analysis paralysis” in my experience. Why would we put the old furniture back? Why would we put the art in storage? When are we going to communicate with people?

We have set a deadline for the guest suite reopening. It is almost 2 months away. Is Council going to set deadline expectations for the committee that do not include putting anything in storage? If not, why not?