



STAFF REPORT ACTION REPORT

Results of RFI for the Sale or Disposal of the Warren Platner Chairs

Date:	May 22, 2015
To:	Government Management Committee
From:	Chief Corporate Officer
Wards:	Ward 27, Toronto Centre - Rosedale
Reference Number:	P:\2015\Internal Services\FAC\Gm15010fac (AFS # 19692)

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the practicality of the sale or disposal of the Warren Platner chairs.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Chief Corporate Officer recommends that:

1. The Government Management Committee receives this report for information.

Financial Impact

There is no financial impact resulting from the receipt of this report.

The Deputy City Manager & Chief Financial Officer has reviewed this report and agrees with the financial impact information.

DECISION HISTORY

At its meeting on May 12, 2014, the Government Management Committee requested the Chief Corporate Officer and the Acting Director, Purchasing and Materials Management, to issue a Request for Information (RFI), for the sale or disposal of the Warren Platner chairs and report the results back to the Government Management Committee.

This report is available on line at:

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2014.GM30.15>

At its meeting on November 21, 2013, Government Management Committee requested the Chief Corporate Officer to develop a process for dealing with maintenance and State of Good Repair decisions affecting the heritage designated building components in Toronto City Hall and to report back to the Government Management Committee in the first quarter of 2014.

This report is available on line at:

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2013.GM26.3>

COMMENTS

There are 28 low back and 7 high back original Warren Platner chairs in storage.

Request for Information (RFI) No. 1002-14-3124:

On June 16, 2014, Request for Information (RFI) No. 1002-14-3124 was issued for the Sale or Disposal of Original Warren Platner Chairs from Toronto City Hall Members Lounge, by the Purchasing and Materials Management Division.

One response was received from Platinum Liquidations Inc. This response indicated that an online auction could be used to sell the chairs. Platinum Liquidations Inc. would manage the auction for a commission of 20% of the sale proceeds.

Based on Platinum Liquidations Inc. proposal to hold an online auction with a management/commission fee of 20%, it is anticipated that the total value that would be recovered from the auction of the chairs would be \$224,000.

28 low back chairs valued at approximately \$3,000 per chair	\$ 84,000
7 high back chairs valued at approximately \$6,000 per chair	<u>\$ 42,000</u>
Total approximate value of chairs	\$ 280,000
Less 20% auction fee	<u>56,000</u>
Total proceeds:	\$ 224,000

Note: 2 low back chairs have been removed from the inventory. They are being held as heritage / museum pieces.

Restoration of the Warren Platner Chairs

In 2012 an RFQ was issued and a competitive bid was obtained to restore the Warren Platner chairs. This RFQ was subsequently cancelled.

30 low back chairs valued at approximately \$2,400 per chair	\$ 72,000
7 high back chairs valued at approximately \$3,000 per chair	<u>\$ 21,000</u>
Total approximate restoration cost	\$ 93,000

In May 2015, an updated informal estimate to restore the Warren Platner chairs was obtained from a vendor specializing in office furniture refurbishing.

28 low back chairs valued at approximately \$3,000 per chair	\$ 84,000
7 high back chairs valued at approximately \$3,500 per chair	\$ 24,500
Total approximate restoration cost	\$ 108,500

Heritage Component of City Hall:

The Platner Chairs were a component of the winning competition entry in 1965 for the new Toronto City Hall. The original design included "specially commissioned Knoll furniture" and these Platner chairs are examples of this furniture.

Although these chairs were not custom designed and fabricated they were specified for their classic design and fabrication.

It should be noted that the chairs are in an advanced state of disrepair and have been repaired multiple times over their life. Therefore, they are no longer "original" pieces.

Facilities Management consulted with City Planning, Heritage Preservation Services. Facilities Management and Heritage Preservation Services do not support the sale of the chairs by auction. The chairs are classic in design and made with robust components that can be refurbished. Therefore, the chairs should continue to be stored for possible restoration in the future, if funding is available.

CONCLUSION

In the interest of heritage preservation the General Manager, Facilities Management will store the Warren Platner Chairs until such time there is funding available to restore the chairs to their original condition. No additional expense will be incurred at this time.

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SIGNATURE

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