



REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
OF THE
NEW WESTMINSTER PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD

Plaskett Room
6:00 p.m. Tuesday
January 31, 2024

TRUSTEES PRESENT:

Iris Cheng	-	Vice-Chair
Carol Neuman	-	
Elaine Su	-	Chairperson
Deb Thomas	-	
Vanessa Woznow	-	

ABSENT:

Samita Manhas
Nadine Nakagawa - City Council Representative

STAFF:

Susan Buss	- Chief Librarian (Acting)
Sandy Shein	- Note taker

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

- E. Su

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 6:08pm

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOVED AND SECONDED

CARRIED.

CONSENT AGENDA

- Approval of Minutes - November
- Approval of Minutes - October
- InterLINK 2024 Budget FAQ's
- InterLINK 2024 Provincial Budget

MOVED AND SECONDED

CARRIED.

OATH of Office

Delayed until February meeting.

BOARD ELECTIONS

The Chair was passed to S. Buss

Chairperson

Elaine Su was nominated as Chairperson

Vice Chair

Iris Cheng was nominated as Chairperson

InterLINK

Representative: D. Thomas

Alternate: V. Woznow

Public Art Committee

C. Neuman

E. Su made a few recommendations for committee structure and priorities for this year:

- Limit the number of members for each committee to 2-3 board members and one staff
- The Board Chair or Vice-Chair do not need to be on every committee
- Each committee elect a chair for that committee
- The priority for committee work for 2024 should be:
 - Finance,
 - Policy,
 - Board Development - this may include a review of board composition
 - Evaluations and PR & Advocacy

S. Buss added that if there was a need for additional work, such as facilities, that an ad hoc committee could be created when needed.

CNW Accessibility Committee

S. Buss and I. Cheng discussed the need for a board member to sit on the city accessibility committee. S. Buss has raised the question with legislative services. Since the library currently has an active staff member on this committee, there may not be a need for a library board representative to participate in this city committee.

MEETING DAYS and TIMES FOR 2024

Board members agreed to continue meeting on the third Wednesday of the month. The board retreat scheduled for Sunday February 25th at the library is in addition to the monthly public meetings. Members also felt the meetings should now be in person except for special circumstances, and that a virtual/hybrid option continue for those who can't make it to the library for the meeting.

2023-2025 PROVINCIAL GRANT

S. Buss reported on the grant funding for 2023-2025. This 2nd grant of \$409,560 from the province is also one-time funding and over a 3 year period. S. Buss gave a broad overview of the plan and scope for this funding that focuses on service delivery on the 2nd floor. The plan touches on many aspects of the strategic plan.

S. Buss provided some background to previous renovations and what was specifically done on the 2nd floor in the 2017-2019 renovation. The amount of the current grant does not allow for any major structural changes. E. Su recommended a design plan developed by a consultant.

PRIORITIES FOR SPECIAL MEETING (RETREAT)

Delayed

REPORTS - InterLINK

Carol attended the meeting and introductions were given - November 24 on behalf of Norah

REPORTS - BOARD CHAIR

Nothing to Report

REPORTS - CHIEF LIBRARIAN

S. Buss provided a few staff updates. Two new positions have now been filled: Logan Shea is the new Community Librarian and Hans Ongsansoy is the new Digital Branch Librarian. S. Buss also noted that the vacant Librarian II position has been filled by Kelly Thoreson.

S. Buss reported that task chairs on the second floor were replaced and 3 new tables added increasing the seating on the second floor by 8. S. Buss reassured the board that staff were monitoring the transit strike and how it would impact staff ability to attend either locations. Finally, S. Buss reported that the Medicine Wheel Workshop (offered through Spirit of the Children) that ran last week was a tremendous success with many attendees and staff commenting that it was the best library program ever run.


QUESTIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS


BCLA conference is being held April 24 - 25 at the Pinnacle Harbour in Vancouver, trustees are encouraged to attend. On Feb 27 BCLTA is offering a session on Board Essentials.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING at 6:00pm (in-person)
February 21, 2024

ADJOURNMENT

ON MOTION, the meeting was adjourned at 8.04pm



S. Buss (Secretary)

I. Cheng (Co-Chair) or E. Su (Co-Chair)