

Minutes of the Powell River Public Library Board meeting held in the First Credit Union Community Room, Public Library, 100-6975 Alberni St. at 4:00 pm.

Trustees Present:

Rod Wiebe, Chair
Amanda Zaikow, Vice Chair
Myta Blacklaws
Clay Brander
Trina Isakson
Selina Smith
Paddy Treavor

Trustees Absent:

Earl Almeida
Lauren Diemer
Amanda Price

Also Present: **R. Burbank, Chief Librarian**

Territorial acknowledgement offered by the Chair.

1. Election of the Chair

Rod Wiebe nominated himself for the role of Chair, there were no other nominations. Rod Wiebe was elected by acclamation.

2. Adoption of Agenda: Moved and seconded that the agenda for the January 16, 2023 meeting be adopted with one addition.

- **New Business d) Strategic plan**

CARRIED

4:05

3. Consent Agenda: Moved and seconded that the Board adopt the consent agenda.

CARRIED

- a) Board Meeting Minutes, November 14, 2022
- b) Income statement and cash flow statement to December 31, 2022
- c) Performance Measures, December 2022
- d) Events and Programs, November and December 2022

4. Correspondence - NONE

5. Reports

a) Chief Librarian's Report – Rebecca Burbank

4:10

Presented on November and December activities, projects and news for information. Note the revised report in the consent agenda of the regular package, the goal being to provide the Board with more insight into the success of the programs offered by the library. Start of 2023 has seen an increase in the afterschool programs that staff offer.

Foot traffic continues to increase since the August 2021 when the library restored full hours following the flood.

Work on the 2022 audit began last year and is underway. The preliminary work shifted earlier in the fiscal cycle which may take some pressure off the start of 2023.

6. New Business

a) Election of the Vice Chair – Rod Wiebe

4:14

Amanda Zaikow nominated herself for the role of Vice Chair, there were no other nominations. Amanda Zaikow was elected by acclamation.

b) Committee Appointments – Rod Wiebe

General discussion around the work and composition of the committees and the IslandLink representative role. Chair appoints the committees as per Board Policy.

Moved and seconded to appoint Earl Almeida, Myta Blacklaws, Amanda Price and Rod Wiebe to the Finance Committee.

Moved and seconded to appoint Lauren Diemer, Selina Smith and Rod Wiebe to the Policy Committee.

Moved and seconded to appoint Clay Brander and Rod Wiebe to the Human Resources Committee.

c) Local government support for provincial funding – Rebecca Burbank

Through the Association of Vancouver Island Coastal Communities Convention (AVICC), local governments are able to communicate important issues, including underfunding of public libraries, to the Province.

Moved and Seconded to request that the City of Powell River and the qathet Regional District endorse the following resolution and submit it to the Association of Vancouver Island Coastal Communities.

Restoring Provincial Support for Public Libraries

WHEREAS libraries in British Columbia are largely financed by levies paid by local governments, and where provincial library funding has remained stagnant for the past 10 years;

AND WHEREAS public libraries are central to communities, providing equitable access to vital resources including Internet, computers, digital tools and in-person services from expert staff;

AND WHEREAS public libraries provide British Columbians with low-barrier services that support job seekers and small businesses, that increase literacy in communities, that advance reconciliation with Indigenous peoples, and that promote equity and inclusion;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the [City of Powell River OR qathet Regional District] urge the Government of British Columbia to provide long-term sustainable funding for public libraries in BC:

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Province ensure that BC Libraries will henceforth receive regular increases to Provincial Government funding in subsequent years.

CARRIED

4:25

d) Strategic Plan – Rebecca Burbank

Verbal update presented for information, history of the current strategic plan, initiated at the start of 2020, was provided. Revision of current plan is needed; it is not the understanding of staff that a full new plan is required.

7. Old Business – NONE

8. Motion to go In Camera: Moved by Trustee Selina Smith, seconded by Trustee Paddy Treavor that following adjournment of this regular meeting, the Board move in camera and that the meeting is closed to the public on the grounds that the subject matter to be considered relates to matters covered by the Community Charter under Section 90(1)(c) labour relations or other employee relations.

4:27

9. Questions from the Public – NONE

Meeting Adjourned

5:20 pm

Date of Next Regular Meeting: Monday, February 13th, 2023 at 4:00 pm.

Prepared by: Rebecca Burbank, Chief Librarian