
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2022
5:30PM - 8:30PM
Meeting held via Zoom video conference

Board Present:

Jordan Oye, Chair
Caty Liu, Vice Chair
Chaslynn Gillanders
Denise Hui
Nabeel Abrahani
Rachel Ling
Sherine Merhi

Staff Present:

Anne Bechard
Charles Leung
Eva Lu
Shaneena Rahman
Sean Picken

Guests:

None

Friends of the Library:

Betsy Blair, Chair

Linda McPhail, Council Representative

Susan Walters, Chief Librarian and
Secretary to the Board

Regrets:

Diane Cousar

1. Call to Order and Welcome

The meeting was called to order at 5:31pm with J. Oye providing the welcome.

2. Approval of Agenda

MOVED: THAT, the agenda be approved as presented.

S. Merhi/C. Gillanders.....CARRIED

3. Business Section

(a) Approval of Meeting Minutes

MOVED: THAT, the minutes of the regular meeting of July 29, 2022 be approved as presented.

R. Ling/C. Gillanders.....CARRIED

(b) Business Arising

None.

(c) Correspondence

No comments or questions on the correspondence.

4. Presentation

(a) None.

B. Blair joined the meeting at 5:33pm

C. Liu joined the meeting at 5:34pm

D. Hui joined the meeting at 5:35pm

5. Community

(a) Councillor's Report

L. McPhail noted there were numerous UBCM motions for sustainable funding for libraries which were endorsed in the block. Only one of the motions went forward for voting which will be submitted to the Province with Minister responses to the motion expected in early 2023.

Information was shared about the anti-racism arts project collaboration between the City of Richmond and Richmond Multicultural Community Services (RMCS), the annual Culture Days program and the upcoming municipal election on October 15. The City of Richmond grant program is now open for application

L. McPhail also shared an update on the detailed design for the Steveston Community Centre and Branch Library. J. Oye noted that the architects have been asked to present on the project at the November board meeting.

(b) Friends of the Library (FOL) Report

B. Blair noted the building permit is still outstanding, but expects it to be in place shortly. The FOL are in the process of packing up their boxes in anticipation of moving them into City storage for the duration of the renovation.

B. Blair also noted that the last sidewalk sale of 2022 will be held on October 24 at the Cambie Library. Each sidewalk sale has raised close to \$1,000. B. Blair shared her appreciation for R. Ling and J. Oye having helped out. In response to a question from the board, B. Blair confirmed that the regular biannual sale events are tentatively planned for March and October 2023 at Thompson Community Centre.

(c) Summary of Customer Comments

There were no comments or questions.

6. Board – Items for Decision and/or Discussion

(a) 2023 Draft Operating Budget

S. Walters introduced E. Yu, the library's new Manager of Finance and Facilities. J. Oye and C. Liu noted that the Finance Committee has reviewed and supports the 2023 Draft Operating Budget being presented. E. Yu highlighted some of the key drivers in the 2023 budget.

R. Ling asked about the decrease in InterLINK revenue. S. Walters explained that as neighbouring municipalities' public libraries have expanded their collections, there is less non-resident demand for RPL's collections. This is a decrease in revenue as we shift from a lending to borrowing library, but it means our community has greater access to the collections we develop with their needs in mind.

MOVED: THAT, the Richmond Public Library Board approve the submission of the 2023 Draft Operating Budget to the City of Richmond.

D. Hui/C. Liu.....CARRIED.

(b) 2021 Surplus Funding Recommendations

J. Oye noted that the Finance Committee supports the items proposed by staff and appreciates the alignment of risk mitigation with projects. No questions or comments on the report.

MOVED: THAT, the Richmond Public Library Board approve \$410K be moved to Library of Enhancement, \$75K to IT Infrastructure, and that for future projects, \$100K be moved to Library Enhancement, \$100K to IT Infrastructure, and \$100K to Training Provisions; and for \$35K from the Podcast Kits and Sound Booth Project be reallocated to the RPL Green 2 Go Van project.

N. Abrahani/S. Merhi.....CARRIED.

7. Standing Items

(a) Roundtable Discussion

D. Hui thanked L. McPhail. J. Oye noted that we look forward to recognizing Councillor McPhail for the positive impact she has made as our Council Liaison at our October meeting.

N. Abrahani noted his appreciation for the visitor library card program and asked if this is a new initiative and if it is unique to our library. S. Rahman noted this program is longstanding and in response to a follow-up question from N. Abrahani, will provide the number of visitor cardholders after the meeting.

R. Ling noted that she feels it is important that Indigenous Reconciliation be considered as the Steveston Community Centre and Branch Library project progresses. J. Oye noted that he will follow up with the project team to express this shared request from the Library Board as detailed design is about to commence. In response to a question from J. Oye, S. Merhi noted that this is something under consideration for the Public Art Project linked to this new facility. The Committee's last meeting was in August and S. Merhi will continue to update the board as more information becomes available.

J. Oye thanked staff for their excellent organization and acknowledged the presence of City Council and Library Board members who participated in the Summer Reading finale. It was a fun event with good attendance from the public given the weather advisory that day.

(b) Steveston Community Centre and Branch Library

No comments or questions.

(c) InterLINK

Next meeting is September 27, 2022, and an update will be provided at the October meeting.

(d) Finance Committee

No comments or questions.

(e) Fund Development Committee

S. Walters noted that staff are working on correspondence for the committee to review.

(f) Governance Committee

J. Oye noted a meeting will be scheduled.

(g) Trustee Recruitment Committee

J. Oye noted a meeting will be scheduled when applications have been received.

8. Chief Librarian's Report

S. Walters shared an update on the BC Library Partners Open House event held at the Whistler Public Library (WPL) during UBCM. Representatives from ABCPLD, BCLA, BCLTA and BC Co-op joined by the board and staff of WPL and Fraser Valley Regional Library welcomed Minister Nathan Cullen and his staff, guests from municipalities across the province, and numerous other conference attendees to learn more about the value public libraries bring to their communities. Approximately 75 guests attended. It was a very successful advocacy and networking event.

While in Whistler, the library learned of the federal decision to announce September 19 as a statutory holiday for their employees to recognize the Queen's passing. In alignment with the City of Richmond, the library made the decision to recognize the day like a statutory holiday on a one-time basis, scheduling staff to ensure the Brighthouse Library could remain open for partial hours.

S. Walters thanked everyone who attended the Summer Reading Finale event, with special appreciation to staff for being so well-organized. Mayor Brodie and Councillors McPhail, McNulty, Hobbs and Day visibly enjoyed this fun opportunity to connect with children and families.

9. Operations**(a) Collections and Customer Service Delivery**

No comments or questions on this report.

(b) Community Development and Service Design

S. Merhi noted her support for the upcoming Human Library project and how new collections seeing people return to the library to borrow something different.

(c) Innovation and Learning Development

N. Abrahani and D. Hui asked what differs between the laser cutter and the Cricut machine. A. Bechard was not able to respond due to a connectivity issue, but explanation was provided post meeting.

(d) Information Technology Operations

No comments or questions on this report.

(e) Marketing and Public Relations

No comments or questions on this report.

10. Items Included for Information**(a) Covid Relief & Recovery, Emergency Planning and Preparedness Funding Interim Report**

S. Walters noted that regular progress reports will have to be submitted to the province and will be included in the package for board information.

(b) Accessible British Columbia Act Update**11. Other Business**

None.

Next Meeting

The next Regular Board meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, October 26, 2022 at 5:30pm.**

Adjournment

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting adjourned at 6:13pm.

CHAIR



CHIEF LIBRARIAN

