



Minutes of the VPL Board Community Relations, Planning & Development Committee Regular Meeting held on Monday, April 15, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. in the Level 7 Boardroom at 350 West Georgia Street, Vancouver, B.C.

Present: Kurt Heinrich – Chair
John Schaub
Harlan Pruden

Absent: Jennifer Chan
Rebecca Jules
Abeer Yusuf

Management

Present: Christina de Castell – Chief Librarian
Julie Iannacone – Director, Neighbourhood & Youth Services
Carol Nelson – Director, Planning & Communications

Guest: Kari Scott-Whyte – President, CUPE 391

Recording Secretary: Chrysalyn Tolentino – Executive Assistant

ADMINISTRATION:

1. Approval of the Agenda

Moved by John Schaub and seconded by Harlan Pruden

THAT the Committee approve the regular meeting agenda as received.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. Minutes

The Chief Librarian presented the draft minutes of the Regular Meeting held February 19, 2019 for approval by the Committee.

Moved by John Schaub and seconded by Harlan Pruden

THAT the draft minutes of Regular Meeting held February 19, 2019 be approved as received.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

3. Meeting Room Policy Communication

Chief Librarian Christina de Castell noted that the Board, at its March 2019 meeting, asked the Committee to discuss communication about the Policy review. Christina added that the intention is to bring the draft to specific staff groups and then move on to external stakeholder feedback, reaching out to specific organizations that have approached us and have expressed concerns. The Committee asked staff to create documentation in advance.

4. VPL-VSB Board Relationship

Julie Iannacone, Director of Neighbourhood & Youth Services, presented a report that provides an overview of the relationship between Vancouver Public Library and the Vancouver School Board, and collaboration between the organizations, in response to trustees' inquiry at the February 2019 Board meeting. Julie noted that VPL has a long history of successful collaboration and partnership with the Vancouver School Board (VSB) and identified current challenges. The Committee discussed the relationship and asked staff about opportunities to increase communication between organizations. The Chief Librarian identified opportunities for staff liaison as well as between the Board Chairs, and asking the VSB Trustee liaison to the Library Board for their perspective on what we could do to facilitate a stronger Board to Board relationship. The Board Chair noted that reaching out to the VSB Board Chair should be noted as needed when either chair changes.

PLANNING

5. Strategic Plan Update

Carol Nelson, Director of Planning & Communications, reported that we have interviewed shortlisted firms and we are now in the process of checking references. Staff will provide an update at the April 24 Library Board meeting.

6. Branch Redevelopment Overview

Julie Iannacone, Director of Neighbourhood & Youth Services, presented for review and comment a report that provides an update on the redevelopment plans for the Britannia, Marpole, Oakridge, and Joe Fortes branches, the potential redevelopment of the Collingwood branch in the Joyce Collingwood neighbourhood, and library participation in discussions about East Fraser Lands and Jericho Lands developments.

NEW BUSINESS

7. City Sponsorship Policy

Chief Librarian Christina de Castell reported that City Council discussed a City Sponsorship Policy at its April 2, 2019 meeting and Council referred the policy to staff seeking feedback.

The Library normally aligns with City policy where appropriate. The Committee discussed the eligibility categories and asked staff to draft a letter on behalf of the Board to City Council referring to VPL sponsorship and donor recognition policies and the Library's approach.

Moved by Harlan Pruden and seconded by John Schaub

THAT the Committee recommends that the Board Chair send a letter to City Council providing our concerns and considerations about the City's draft sponsorship policy.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

8. Provincial Grant

The Chief Librarian reported that the Library has received the Provincial Library Grant funds, however, the funding received is lower than anticipated. She added that we need to strengthen our funding advocacy at the provincial level, and this could be started by proposing a resolution at the Union of BC Municipalities. We can also raise this issue through InterLINK.

Moved by Harlan Pruden and seconded by John Schaub

THAT the Committee recommend that the Board direct the Chief Librarian to draft a proposed resolution intended for the Union of BC Municipalities, for Council consideration, requesting that the Province of British Columbia increase funding to public libraries, and discuss this with InterLINK federation members.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9. Government Relations Key Messages

The Committee discussed the need to have standard messaging that Trustees can use during their one-on-one meetings with their Council and MLA liaisons. The Committee directed staff to draft these messages that should include basic asks at the provincial and municipal levels as well as examples of existing programs that relate to Council or Provincial priorities.

ADJOURN

Moved by John Schaub and seconded by Harlan Pruden

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting adjourned at 6:38 p.m.

Kurt Heinrich, Chair

Christina de Castell, Secretary