

BURNABY PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD

Minutes of a regular meeting held 2021 July 15 at 19:04h via Zoom.

PRESENT: Jeffrey Yu (Chair)
Gene Blishen
Surena Bains
Sarah Bartnik
Chris Dong
Ernie Kashima
Mandy Yang
Councillor Johnston

ALSO PRESENT: Beth Davies (Secretary)
Trish Mau
Elizabeth Davies
Jessica Lee
Sharon Notarrigo
Sarah Bjorknas
Maja Suzberic
Mariah Gastaldo
Ingrid Vick

REGRETS: Matt Foley

We would like to recognize we are on the ancestral and unceded homelands of the hə́nqəmiñə́m and Sk̓wx̓wú7mesh speaking peoples, and to extend appreciation for the opportunity to hold a meeting on this territory.

1. Agenda

MOVED by Surena Bains
Seconded by Chris Dong

"That the agenda be received."

CARRIED

2. Minutes

MOVED by Ernie Kashima

Seconded by Sarah Bartnik

"That the minutes of the regular meeting held 2021 June 17 be adopted as circulated."

CARRIED

3. Reports

i) Board Chair

The Board Chair reported on the Library's 2020 Annual Report presentation to City

ACTION

Council. The Board Chair expressed his gratitude to the Chief Librarian, Trustees, and staff for their hard work and achievements over the course of 2020.

ii) Council Liaison

The Council Liaison reported on the special meeting held earlier today to swear in the two newest members of City Council.

4. Items for Decision

i) Anti-Racism Climate Audit

The Chief Librarian spoke to the report, noting that every staff member will be provided with a print copy of the Anti-Racism Climate Audit and given the opportunity to read it.

The Chief Librarian spoke to the recommendation of closing the library to maximize the number of staff who can attend a facilitated session in order to prioritize actions arising from the audit.

MOVED by Sarah Bartnik

“That the Library Board approve a closure of all library branches for up to 3 hours to facilitate conversations about the Climate Audit report.”

Seconded by Chris Dong

CARRIED

The Chief Librarian noted that although there will be some immediate action items, this work will be ongoing.

ii) Library Opening Hours

The Chief Librarian noted an error in the report – the Library is currently open to 5:00 pm on Fridays, not 6:00 pm as indicated.

The Chief Librarian asked for Board guidance for staff to determine regular hours once the province enters Step 4 of the restart plan. The Board discussed the considerations listed in the report and recommended that staff allow for flexibility in opening hours in order to respond to changing demand.

5. Items for Information

i) City Support for Community Anti-Racism Initiatives

The Chief Librarian spoke to the report. Trustee Bartnik suggested that the Library’s anti-racism activities be reported to the Social Planning Committee. The Chief Librarian agreed to follow up, noting that she had already shared the Anti-Racism Climate Audit with City Management.

ii) Burnaby Festival of Learning

The Chief Librarian reported on the Festival and the innovative ways that organizers found to provide virtual events, including new offerings such as pre-festival events and community stories.

iii) Strategic Plan Report: Second Quarter 2021

The Chief Librarian reported on the following highlights:

- A Community Librarian was able to livestream playoff hockey games at the food hub, greatly improving relations with a community that the Library has been trying to connect with.
- Birding Backpacks – part of the Curiosity Collection – are proving very popular.
- Providing lendable Wi-Fi hotspots to those who need them continues to be a priority.
- Storytimes for newcomer families through MOSAIC’s Family Centre have been very successful, helped by the diversity of BIPOC representation in BPL’s collection.
- Librarians completed a 12-week in-house Community Development Institute that provided them with a grounding in community work through an equity, diversity and inclusion lens.

6. Other Business

i) In-Person Library Board Meetings

The Board Chair asked Trustees about the potential for holding an in-person meeting in the fall. It was agreed to see how the next step in the restart plan goes, but there was general consensus that an in-person meeting prior to year end would be welcome.

7. Adjournment

MOVED by Sarah Bartnik

“That the regular meeting adjourn and that the Board resolve itself into an in camera meeting from which the public is excluded in order to consider financial matters.”

Seconded by Chris Dong

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 19:58h.

Jeffrey Yu (Chair)

Beth Davies (Secretary)

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