

BURNABY PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD

Minutes of a regular meeting held 2024 July 18 at 19:00h online.

PRESENT: Mandy Yang (Meeting Chair)
Sarah Bartnik
Hakam Bhaloo
Anna Lu
Gene Blishen
Raj Hundal

ALSO PRESENT: Beth Davies (Secretary)
Trish Mau
Heidi Schiller
Elizabeth Davies
Maria Han
Julia Lau
Maja Suzberic
Jamie McCarthy
James McCann
Natalie Chung
Jenni Madison
Patrick Sales (left at 19:45)

REGRETS: Caroline White
Councillor Alison Gu
Sangeeta Subramanian

We would like to recognize we are on the ancestral and unceded homelands of the hən̓q̓əmi̓nəm̓ and Skwxwú7mesh speaking peoples, and to extend appreciation for the opportunity to hold a meeting on this territory.

Jamie McCarthy and James McCann of the Digital Studio presented to the Board. Trustees thanked the Digital Studio team for their efforts in launching the Digital Studio and for sharing information about it with the Board. Trustees asked questions about help available, recording studio capacity, and about tours.

1. Agenda

MOVED by Hakam Bhaloo

"That the agenda be received as presented."

Seconded by Anna Lu

CARRIED

2. Minutes

MOVED by Hakam Bhaloo

“That the minutes of the regular meeting held 2024 June 20 be adopted as circulated.”

Seconded by Sarah Bartnik

CARRIED

3. Reports

i) Board Chair

The meeting chair shared that she and the board co-chair had rowed in the same Dragon Boat at the Dragon Boat Festival!

ii) Council Liaison

No report.

iii) InterLINK Representative

InterLINK representative Gene Blishen reported that there had been no InterLINK meeting since the last Board meeting. There is an executive meeting at the end of the month.

4. Items for Information

i) Strategic Plan Report – Q2 2024

The Chief Librarian spoke to the report. She highlighted the opening of the temporary Cameron location in the Lougheed Mall. The new branch has seen large increases in the number of patrons since moving, and received a visit from city councillors. The Chief Librarian also highlighted the start of extended Sunday hours as of May 26.

ii) Incidents

The Director, Public Service spoke to the report, which was prepared in response to trustee questions at the June meeting. There has been an increase in security incidents at all branches, with a particularly large increase at Metrotown. Although some of the Metrotown increase may be due to the large increase in visitors in 2024 compared to 2023, there has also been a per capita increase.

Trustees commended staff for handling these incidents and asked questions about staff training, counselling and security. Trustees asked if other city facilities were also seeing increases. The Chief Librarian commented that while we don't have incident numbers from other municipal services such as rec centres, City of Burnaby safety staff believe that a WorkSafe violence prevention risk assessment being completed for the library will be useful for other city facilities. The Director of Public Service shared information on training courses focused on interacting with members of the public and techniques surrounding de-escalation.

iii) Retired Employees 2023 January to 2024 January

The Chief Librarian congratulated staff who retired from the library in the past 18 months.

iv) Public Library Grant Award Letter

The Chief Librarian shared information about the annual provincial library grant. In addition to the regular grant, there is an additional \$40,000 one-time library enhancement grant. Staff will be looking at how to allocate this money to support library services.

7. Next Library Board Meeting:

Next meeting will be held on September 19, 2024 at 19:00h at the Temporary Cameron branch.

8. 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 to discuss bans and financial matters.”

Seconded by Raj Hundal

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 20:10

Mandy Yang (Meeting Chair)

Beth Davies (Secretary)