

# SECHELT PUBLIC LIBRARY ASSOCIATION BOARD MEETING MINUTES

**February 27, 2021**

Via Zoom Teleconferencing due to COVID-19 restrictions

*Our library is a vital part of the community and a welcoming gateway to ideas, knowledge and information for life-long learning and enjoyment.*

**Present:** Ann Hopkins (Vice Chair), Beverly Shimazaki (Treasurer), Susan Eggerman, Jack Young, Garry Nohr, Rhian Piprell, Lori Pratt (SCRD Rep), Janice Kuester (DoS Rep), Leianne Emery (Director).

Regrets: Pat Harvey (Chair), Ruth Moore

**Guest:** Bernadette Richards, recorder.

**1. Call to order:**

Ann Hopkins, Vice Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Ann acknowledged that we are meeting on the unceded ancestral and traditional lands of the shíshálh Nation and thanked them for their generosity.

**2. Approval of the Agenda**

**Rhian Piprell/Lori Pratt: That the agenda be adopted. CARRIED**

**3. Business arising:** None.

**4. Library Director's Report: February 2021**

Leianne Emery answered questions board members had about her full written report.

Because of union protocols, volunteers typically will only shelve books, put new covers on books and clean CDs. In 2019, volunteers worked 1820 hours, the equivalent of one full-time job. Two volunteers are now working on Saturdays to help out as they can.

On March 4, Leianne will be meeting with SCRD directors, and on March 10, she will be meeting with the District of Sechelt.

Spring Break Programming is in full swing and an incredible array of programming is being developed for two weeks of children's activities. Free volunteer income tax services are also starting and we're getting booked up quickly.

Provincial Grant Report now completed: was an onerous report to complete but a necessary one. Leianne is in the middle of 3-4 grant applications.

Updated lists of committee members, current liaison representatives and a tenure document are included in the package for Board members information.

STEM: a ukulele kit and music are being purchased from a donation earmarked for music.

Highlight of the week was creating an info poster with a staff members dog wearing masks incorrectly and correctly. Very funny!

**Beverly Shimazaki/Rhian Piprell: Move to accept the Director's report.**

**CARRIED**

**Rhian Piprell/Lori Pratt: Move to adopt the grant report. CARRIED**

**5. New Business:**

**Nominations Package.** Leianne Emery walked the Board through the package for potential trustees.

--Leianne Emery will print packages off.

--Change last item to Societies.

**Janice Kuester/Rhian Piprell: Move to adopt new package. CARRIED**

**Board of Trustees' Tenure Document.**

**6. Committee Reports: None.**

**7. Liaison Reports:**

**Interlink:** Rhian Piprell has agreed to be the 2021 Interlink Representative.

**8. Business**

**8.1 Approval of January 30, 2021 Minutes**

Date for the AGM has been changed to Saturday March 27, 2021.

**Rhian Piprell/Janice Kuester: That the minutes of January 30, 2021, be approved as amended. CARRIED**

**8.2 Sunshine Coast Regional District (SCRD) Report: Lori Pratt**

SCRD is in the midst of budgets, which have to be passed, legislatively, by the end of March. This year, budget information sessions are being done on Zoom and are director-led. All budget information is on the website and the SCRD YouTube channel.

Zoom has removed some barriers to help people attend SCRD open meetings. Because of the pandemic, directors had chosen to deplete the reserves and deferred some costs in the 2020 budget rather than raise taxes that year. However, there are a number of projects that need to be done, some dam safety audits, landfill issues as it approaches capacity; environmental implements of closing the landfill—and monitoring it for 25 years after it's closed; expanding groundwater investigation to provide a more sustainable water supply.

Monthly meetings with the minister of municipal affairs, Josie Osborne, have been fruitful. She was the mayor of Tofino and understands local government.

The Sunshine Coast has a high level of opioid overdoses; we are just below the downtown East Side. Great news article on CBC with Darnelda Siegers interviewed.

The pandemic has highlighted the other pandemic of the opioid issue. More work is needed at all levels of government to take the stigma away from mental health issues and addictions.

Lori is aware of the rising stress level—she sees the community stress level has really elevated. Everyone is frustrated with no outlets. People are pushing out through a keyboard, which is hard to read and listen. We need to acknowledge that mental health is a part of our health.

Lori encouraged the Board to encourage the other funders to sit on the Board, especially the Sechelt Indian Government District (SIGD), whether that be a member of their council or a staff person.

**Lori Pratt/Susan Egerman: To send letter to SIGD inviting them to have a representative on the SPL Board. CARRIED**

**Leianne Emery and Pat Harvey** will write the letter, email and mail it to SIGD.

**Garry Nohr**, board liaison to SIGD, will refer to it when talking with Warren Paul about how important it is to have them at the table.

### **8.3 District of Sechelt (DoS) Report: Janice Kuester**

The DoS is still in the early stages of the budget process. Many things were put on hold because of COVID last year, but there are many infrastructure issues which need to be dealt with. Several new key staff have been recently hired.

Rockwood Centre has received a \$234K grant for unique heritage structures to upgrade its commercial kitchen and accessible washrooms.

Jake's Construction awarded the airport runway expansion. When it is completed, emergency services will be able to fly in there.

The Sunshine Coast Housing Advisory Committee is looking at how to allow community members to put in secondary suites. A meeting of 20 not-for-profit organizations has been called for March 1 to brainstorm how to deal with the housing rental shortage.

The BC Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MOTI) presented their findings to DoS about the Sunshine Coast highway corridor study and went over the dangerous turns and intersections. MOTI is doing a separate bypass study—which is in its early stages.

#### **8.4 Treasurer's Report**

Beverly Shimazaki walked the Board through various line items from the January 2021 financial statements.

**Beverly Shimazaki/Janice Kuester: To accept the January Financial Statements as reported. CARRIED**

#### **9. Action Items**

**5.** Leianne Emery will print Nomination Packages.

Change last item to Societies.

**8.2 Leianne Emery and Pat Harvey** to write a letter, email and mail it to SIGD, inviting them to have a representative on the Library board.

**Garry Nohr**, liaison to SIGD, will refer to this letter when talking with Warren Paul.

**Garry Nohr** to set up an invitation for Leianne Emery to attend SIGD meeting.

#### **Closing Notes:**

Ann Hopkins thanked Susan Eggerman, as it is her last meeting on the Library Board. Susan's math and accounting wizardry has been very much appreciated.

Leianne Emery said she would like to go to an SIGD meeting, which Garry Nohr will set up.

Leianne celebrated her one-year anniversary at the library—staff gave her a lovely bouquet, card, and cake. She continues to sing the praises of our terrific library staff.

#### **10. Lori Pratt/Garry Nohr: Motion to adjourn. CARRIED**

**Adjourned at 10:15 a.m.**

**Next Meeting: AGM, Saturday, March 27, 2021, 9:00 a.m. with short board meeting to follow.**