

# SECHELT PUBLIC LIBRARY ASSOCIATION BOARD MEETING MINUTES

**April 24, 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:** Pat Harvey, Ann Hopkins, Beverly Shimazaki, Jack Young, Ruth Moore, Garry Nohr, Rhian Piprell, Lori Pratt (SCRD Rep), Janice Kuester (DoS Rep), Leianne Emery (Director).

**Guest:** Bernadette Richards, recorder.

## **1. Call to order:**

Pat Harvey, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Pat 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**

Add 5.2 Trustee meet-up report.

**Rhian Piprell/Beverly Shimazaki: That the agenda be adopted as amended.**

**CARRIED**

## **3. Business arising:**

**Pat Harvey** let the Board know that SPL has not received a response from the Sechelt Indian Government District (SIGD) about having one of their members sitting on the SPL Board; Garry Nohr has not heard anything either. Garry attends their meetings and will discuss as he is able.

**Pat Harvey** has sent a thank you card to Carmen Sombrowski for her offer to provide legal advice on small matters.

**Leianne Emery** will work with MJ and set up new accounts at the BMO. If additional Board signatures are required they will advise.

## **4. Library Director's Report: April 2021**

Leianne Emery answered questions Board members had about her full written report and also had further comments. The 5-year funding agreement signing process is experiencing some small hiccups. **Lori Pratt** will follow up with the Sechelt Indian Government District.

Frustration was expressed about the lack of adequate provincial funding of libraries, but the Board is pleased to have libraries under the Ministry of Municipal Affairs now, which is led by Tara Fagnalio, an advocate of small towns and libraries. Strategies of writing to MLAs and submitting motions to the September AGM of the Union of BC Municipalities were discussed. **Lori Pratt** will talk further with Leianne Emery, Pat

Harvey, and submit a motion through Team Sunshine Coast.

Leianne Emery will be applying to Revenue Canada for two more months of COVID relief. The library is using the equivalent of two extra full-time persons to provide safe pandemic practices in the library without the use of volunteers.

**Ruth Moore/Ann Hopkins: Move to accept the Director's report. CARRIED**

## **5. New Business:**

### **5.1 Committee Assignments**

Ann Hopkins noted that she had been "appointed" chair of the fundraising committee, and she would like all committees (except for the finance committee which is chaired by the treasurer) to decide who is chair.

**Committee minutes:** Where do board committee minutes go? Internal documentation stays with the committee. When committee changes over, documents are given to new committee. Otherwise, the comprehensive reports to the board should suffice.

**Policy committee:** Given that there are three on the policy committee, Beverly Shimazaki stepped off that committee; happy to be a consultant to the committee.

**Lori Pratt:** missed submitting what committee to be on. Happy to be on the fundraising or HR committee.

**Janice Kuester:** will be on building and facilities committee; the lease agreement is the biggest thing coming up.

**All:** Pat Harvey asked all committees to get together, set out what needs to be done this year as we hopefully become more active, and report back to the next meeting.

Ruth Moore/Ann Hopkins: Move to approve committee members. CARRIED

### **5.2 Trustee meet-up report: Bev Shimazaki**

While the board usually acknowledges the land on which we meet, a discussion was had about ensuring we are using appropriate wording. Leianne reported that the wording we use was developed from what other agencies on the Sunshine Coast say. Ideas of different board members volunteering to give the acknowledgement, and placing the acknowledgement on the website and at the top of all board minutes was discussed.

It was agreed to consider this issue again at the next meeting. Does board want a separate committee to focus on reconciliation? **Garry Nohr** is talking with the Chief about this. **Rhian Piprell** is attending the InterLink workshop on reconciliation on May 20 and will bring information to the next meeting.

## **6. Committee Reports: None.**

## **7. Liaison Reports: None**

## **8. Business**

### **8.1 Approval of March 27, 2021, Minutes**

**Lori Pratt/Ann Hopkins: That the minutes of March 27, 2021, be approved as amended. CARRIED**

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

Lori suggested the District of Sechelt rep go first next month.

BC Ferries consulted with the governments on the Sunshine Coast but not the people in deciding to trial a 95 percent reservation system. While the SCRD endorsed the proposal, they had concerns and made suggestions to BC Ferries. Lori fielded questions and responses about this, but suggested people send their comments and complaints to the BC Ferry Advisory Committee, on which she and Garry Nohr sit.

The budget was passed in March and SCRD council and staff will be debriefing the process and starting the budget 2022 process shortly.

Appreciation was expressed by Lori Pratt for the library's willingness to host the Zoom AGM for the Vaucroft Improvement District. This is just another example of something beyond books that libraries do for their community.

SCRD launched an engagement platform on its website to engage the public. It's a great place to find out information about projects and have your say.

The poverty reduction forum focusing on rural areas continues on April 26. Let's Talk Water webinar is also slated for April 26. Links are on [www.scrd.ca](http://www.scrd.ca). --Let's Talk Water webinar Apr. 26—continuation of other series we've done in the past. 6pm. Link is on SCRD.ca.

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

Janice reported that BC Ferries also made a presentation to DoS which, in theory, they agreed to the trial, albeit with some reservations.

Council completed its final budget numbers and Sechelt residents will see a 9.7% tax increase this year. For reference, the director of finance explained to Council that a one percent increase in taxes means a \$96,000 increase in funds and equates to a \$15 increase in property taxes.

DoS is looking to hire more staff to carry out the work involved in all the projects for which grants came through. As well, the Community Investment Program (CIP) gave out \$47,500 in grants to 16 recipients.

DoS is looking at what events they can safely program this summer; the patio license is going ahead; the Canada Day parade and movie nights are being looked at.

The second Emergency Housing meeting was attended by about 46 people; there is now a steering committee to move ahead with initiatives.

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

Beverly Shimazaki walked board members through the March 2021 Financial

Statement. None of the SIGD funding had come in by the end of March.

The Canada Wage subsidy of \$65,000 (Line 31) which came in March was the tail end of 2020 grants. We are not assured of getting 2021 grants and, if any, we expect it to be fairly small.

**Beverly Shimazaki/Garry Nohr: To accept the March Financial Statements as reported. CARRIED**

**9. Action Items:**

**3. Lori Pratt**—will follow up with SIGD on signing the five-year funding agreement.

**3. Leianne Emery** along with MJ will call the Bank of Montreal to set up an appointment for the new signing officers if necessary.

**4. Lori Pratt**, with Leianne Emery and Pat Harvey, will submit a motion through Team Sunshine Coast about library funding to the Union of BC Municipalities.

**5.** Pat Harvey asked **all committees** to get together, set out what needs to be done this year as we hopefully become more active, and report back to the next meeting.

**5.2 Rhian Piprell** to report on the Interlink reconciliation workshop at May meeting.

**5.2 Leianne** to add Reconciliation conversation to May's board agenda.

**10. Adjournment:**

**Ann Hopkins/Lori Pratt: Move to adjourn.**

**CARRIED**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

**Next Meeting:** Saturday, May 29, 2021, 9:00 a.m.