

**SECHELT PUBLIC LIBRARY ASSOCIATION  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES - MEETING MINUTES****Wednesday February 22, 2023****Via Zoom due to Inclement Weather (Snow)**

Present: Patricia (Pat) Harvey – Chair Rhian Piprell – Secretary/Treasurer  
Leianne Emery – Library Director Ruth Moore – Board Vice Chair (arrived late)  
Ann Hopkins – Board Member Garry Nohr – Board Member  
Dixie Meagher – Board Member Jack Young – Board Member  
Paula Selmayr – Board Member Adam Shepherd – District of Sechelt Representative  
Justine Gabias – SCR D Representative

Regrets: None

Minutes: Jessica Kraus – Library Administrative Assistant

**1. Call to Order**

Pat Harvey called the meeting to order at 9:03 am. We acknowledge that we are meeting on the unceded ancestral and traditional lands of the shishàh Nation and thank them for their generosity.

**2. Approval of Agenda**

Anne requested the opportunity to present a short report on public relations in the Committee Reports section.

Rhian requested a discussion regarding Board Nominations be made under Committee Reports.

Agenda approved as amended.

**3. New Business**

No new business to discuss.

**4. Business Arising from previous Board Minutes**

Motion to approve the minutes as presented.

**Motion:** Rhian Piprell

**Second:** Ann Hopkins

**Carried**

**5. Library Director's Report**

Leianne provided a detailed written Director's Report prior to the meeting for review. Regarding the Freedom to Read Week and lists of Challenged Books, Jack inquired if our patrons have ever had problems with books in our collection. Leianne indicated that there have been some complaints over the past year and that they had all been properly handled through our formal complaint process. She reminded us of the quote from librarian Jo Godwin: "A truly great library contains something in it to offend everyone" and reiterated that every library continues to strive towards having content that

represents all sides and opinions and represents the thoughts and viewpoints of everyone in our community.

Paula noted the Libraries 101 section of the report was a good idea. Once all the “lessons” have been put together, Leianne is planning to make a stand-alone document that could be included with the Board nomination package.

Jack mentioned that in the past the Board and Library had looked to moving from a Public Association to a Municipal type library. In discussion however, it was agreed that it is not a good time to consider this change. Leianne noted, that among many other things, this move would mean the loss of the Library’s non-profit status which is how we qualify to receive various grants for library one-time purchases. Being absorbed into Municipal operations with separate union affiliations could also create difficulties with employee wages.

## 6. Committee Reports

### **Public Relations:**

After attending a recent Board meeting at the Sunshine Coast Elder College, Ann, their Past Chair, noted they were quite upset at the huge frustrations that both libraries were having to experience in regards to their budget requests. For the first time ever, Elder College executive were willing to use their 1500+ mailing list to let all members know about the current library funding and budgetary concerns and would encourage them to send messages to the funders of both libraries. Ann also noted that she would advise a carefully worded letter.

Rhian wondered about the possibility of a monthly Library information column in the Coast Reporter, put together by a Board member. Leianne will contact the newspaper to discuss different options but noted there may not be room in the budget for this type of ongoing advertising – nor time available to undertake this ongoing writing obligation.

### **Board Nominations:**

The Library Board AGM will be March 29, 2023 with a regular meeting to follow. There is one Board position available so nominations are open. Rhian mentioned she thought the best way to inform any new potential board nominee was to have them read the excellent Board Reports the Library Director writes each month. As the reports are posted on the Library website, they are free for anyone to review.

## 7. Liaison Reports

**Friends of the Library (Ruth Moore):** The book sale last weekend netted over \$2000!

**Sechelt Indian Government District (Garry Nohr):** Garry suggested the newly elected Chief, Lenora Joe be invited to the library to familiarize herself with its operations. Leianne will reach out with the invitation.

## 8. Business

### 8.1 District of Sechelt, Adam Shepherd:

Adam reported the District will be having a special Committee of the Whole meeting on Friday the 24<sup>th</sup> to discuss the current year's budget with a focus on global trends. He advised that the Library immediately put together a document outlining, in bullet point and bold format, what would happen if the library does not get its requested funding.

### 8.2 Sunshine Coast Regional District, Justine Gabias:

Welcome to Justine, the new SCRD Area Director of Halfmoon Bay. After introductions she noted that the directors all support the library and are very impressed with the services offered. She is looking into other funding opportunities available including a recently announced one-time payment from the Province of BC to municipalities. She also noted the SCRD Grant-in-Aid application deadline is March 31, 2023.

### 8.3 Treasurer, Rhian Piprell:

Rhian noted the difficulty in operating without a set budget when large lump sum payments for memberships and online databases are due at the beginning of the year, as can be seen on the January Financial Statements.

January 2023 Financial Statements

Motion to accept January 2023 Financial Statements

**Motion:** Rhian Piprell

**Second:** Ann Hopkins

**Carried**

## 9. Action Items

- Coast Reporter monthly article: Leianne to check into options.
- Introduction and library tour with new SIGD Chief Lenora Joe: Leianne to reach out and set up.

## 10. Next Meeting

- AGM to be held in person at the Library Community Room, 9:00am, Wed. March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2023 with the March Board Meeting to follow.

## 11. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn.

**Motion:** Rhian Piprell

**Second:** Ann Hopkins

**Carried**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:57 am.