
EDMONTON PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD

Tuesday, December 10, 2019

Aspen Conference Centre

ATTENDANCE:

Board: Dr. Fern Snart
Mrs. Kenna Houncaren
Mr. James Crossman
Dr. Brian Heidecker
Councillor Ben Henderson
Ms. Jennifer Huntley (by phone)
Ms. Sandra Marin
Mrs. Zainul Mawji (by phone)
Ms. Aaida Peerani
Ms. Jill Scheyk

Staff: Ms. Pilar Martinez, Chief Executive Office
Mr. Gastone Monai, Chief Financial Officer
Mr. Mike Lewis, Director, Human Resources

Guests: Ms. Joan Hertz, QC and Dr. Diana Davidson, Public Library Services Branch

Recording Secretary: Ms. Lisette Lalchan

1. CALL TO ORDER/PRESENTATION

Chair, Dr. Fern Snart, called the meeting to order at 5:14 p.m. Jennifer Huntley and Zainul Mawji joined the meeting by phone. Dr. Snart then welcomed guests, Joan Hertz and Dr. Diana Davidson.

Aaida Peerani joined the meeting at 6:21 p.m.

Ms. Hertz presented on Duties of Directors, Corporate Governance in Practice. She focused on the fundamentals of governance and the two performance standards for directors; fiduciary duty and duty of care.

Ms. Hertz left the meeting at 6:06 p.m.

Dr. Davidson provided an update on the responsibilities and functions of the Government of Alberta's Public Library Services Branch. She outlined the history, Libraries Act, current state and general operations of the Branch. She shared information on library per capita and other grants and support provided to libraries across Alberta. . She concluded with a brief update on the 2019 Budget.

Dr. Davidson left the meeting at 6:43 p.m.

A generative conversation followed both presentations, with Board Members sharing their appreciation for and interest in the topics covered.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOTION: That the Board accept the agenda as circulated with the following amendment:

The addition of item 6b) Capital Budget Update and Discussion from Councillor Henderson.

Moved by Brian Heidecker. Seconded by Jill Scheyk.

CARRIED

3. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There were no conflicts of interest identified.

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

MOTION: That the Board approve the November 12, 2019 meeting minutes.
Moved by Kenna Houncaren. Seconded by Aaida Peerani.

CARRIED

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There were no outstanding items identified.

6. NEW BUSINESS

6a) Governance and Nomination Committee

Committee Chair, Aaida Peerani, referenced the Committee Report that was provided in the meeting package. She provided an overview of the activities undertaken at the November 19, 2019 meeting, including the trustee self-evaluation and the trustee skills matrix.

A discussion followed regarding the logistics and timelines for public presentations at board meetings, along with questions about members of the public who wish to observe meetings..

MOTION: That the Board approve the Presentations at Board Meetings Policy (B-2030) and Speaker Request Form.

Moved by Aaida Peerani. Seconded by James Crossman.

CARRIED

MOTION: That the Board approve the updated Skills Matrix.

Moved by Aaida Peerani. Seconded by Sandra Marin.

CARRIED

MOTION: That the Board receive the November 19, 2019, Governance and Nomination Committee Report as information.

Moved by Aaida Peerani. Seconded by James Crossman.

CARRIED

6b) Capital Budget Update and Discussion

Councillor Henderson provided the Board with an update on the status of the 2019 Fall Supplemental Capital Project Budget Adjustment deliberations at City Council. Currently, the Lewis Farms Recreation Centre and Library and the Heritage Valley Recreation Centre and Library design are slated to be deferred to the next budget cycle. The Board discussed the Capital Priorities Plan and agreed that the Riverbend Library Branch and Woodcroft Branch continue to be top priorities for EPL. The Board confirmed their agreement that Riverbend is EPL's first priority, and that Ben would move that the Riverbend design funding be reconsidered for design funding.

7. CONSENT ITEMS

MOTION: That all consent items be received as information.

Moved by Brian Heidecker. Seconded by Kenna Houncaren.

CARRIED

8. IN CAMERA

MOTION: That the Board move the meeting in camera to discuss the Milner Library Revitalization.

Moved by Aaida Peerani. Seconded by Jill Scheyk.

CARRIED

8a) Milner Library Revitalization

MOTION: That the Board move the meeting out of camera.

Moved by Kenna Houncaren. Seconded by Jill Scheyk.

CARRIED

9. NEW INQUIRIES

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.