
EDMONTON PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD

Tuesday, June 8, 2021
MS Teams Virtual Meeting

ATTENDANCE:

Board: Kenna Houncaren
James Crossman
Raman Deol
Tina Faiz
Janet Hancock
Councillor Andrew Knack
Sandra Marin
Aaida Peerani
Rosalie Russnak
Chad Schulz

Staff: Pilar Martinez, Chief Executive Officer
Corrina Chetley-Irwin, Director, Human Resources
Mike Lewis, Director, Human Resources
Deborah Rhodes, Executive Director, Shared Services & CFO
Tina Thomas, Executive Director, Customer Experience

Guests: Holly Arnason, Associate Manager, Makerspace, Digital Initiatives
Anna Alfonso, Director, Marketing, Communications & Fund
Development
Patti McIntosh, Chair, Friends of the Edmonton Public Library
Liam Stone, Vice-Chair, Friends of the Edmonton Public Library

Recording Secretary: Lisette Lalchan

1. CALL TO ORDER/PRESENTATION

Board Chair, Kenna Houncaren, called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m. She thanked trustees for their one-on-one meetings with her over the past few weeks. Based on the feedback received, Pilar will be scheduling presentations on topics of interest at upcoming board meetings. Kenna also reviewed the voting procedures and expectations with trustees.

She then welcomed to the meeting guests Patti McIntosh and Liam Stone from the Friends of Edmonton Public Library (FEPL).

Pilar Martinez welcomed Holly Arnason, Associate Manager, Makerspace, Digital Initiatives, who presented the board with an update on virtual Makerspace services during EPL's temporary closure.

Holly's presentation was very well received by the Board, and several members shared their enthusiasm and appreciation for the innovative ways the library has been reaching customers despite the pandemic.

Holly Arnason left the meeting at 5:32 pm. Anna Alfonso joined the meeting at 5:32 pm.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOTION: That the Board adopt the agenda as circulated.
Moved by Kenna Houncaren. Seconded by Janet Hancock.

CARRIED

3. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There were no conflicts of interest identified.

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

MOTION: That the Board approve the May 11, 2021 meeting minutes as amended.
Moved by Kenna Houncaren. Seconded by Aida Peerani.

CARRIED

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There were no outstanding items identified.

6. NEW BUSINESS

6a) Governance & Nomination Committee Meeting Report

Committee Chair, James Crossman provided a brief overview of the committee's activities. He thanked Kenna for chairing the May 25 meeting in his absence.

Pilar Martinez then provided the Board with an overview of advocacy. She shared that advocacy is a sustained, planned activity to develop understanding and support over time. Effective advocacy relies on relationships and trust, so people we know and can influence are often the best sources. Pilar noted that EPL's advocacy plan facilitates a range of comfort levels in approach from asking questions of candidates and attending mayoral and candidate forums, to displaying a lawn sign to talking with friends.

Tina Thomas introduced the Advocacy Plan, highlighting objectives, and then Anna Alfonso presented the Municipal Election Strategy. Trustees were enthusiastic in

their support and offered to assist where possible. Pilar and Tina responded to questions.

Kenna shared that questions were raised during her one on one meetings with trustees regarding trustee participation in the upcoming municipal election. She will be sending guiding principles to trustees following the meeting. Ultimately, trustees need to keep in mind that EPL is agnostic to all candidates when engaging in the upcoming election. She asked that trustees refrain from political activity that may impair or be perceived to impair their ability to serve the interests of EPL.

6b) Friends of EPL Update

Patti McIntosh presented the board with an overview of the Friends of EPL. She shared the history, highlights of their Strategic Plan, fundraising activities and the MOU.

Anna, Patti and Liam left the meeting at 6:18 pm.

7. CONSENT ITEMS

- 7a) CEO Report
- 7b) ALTA Report

MOTION: That all consent items be received as information.
Moved by Kenna Houncaren. Seconded by Sandra Marin.

CARRIED

MOTION: That the meeting move *IN CAMERA*.
Moved by Kenna Houncaren. Seconded by Raman Deol.

CARRIED

The meeting moved in camera at 6:20 pm.

- 8a) Collective Bargaining

Councillor Knack left the meeting at 6:26 pm.

MOTION: That the meeting move *OUT OF CAMERA*.
Moved by Kenna Houncaren. Seconded by James Crossman.

CARRIED

The meeting moved out of camera at 6:28 pm.

MOTION: To rescind the Board's May 11, 2021 motion regarding collective bargaining.
Moved by Kenna Houncaren. Seconded by Tina Faiz.

CARRIED

9. NEW INQUIRIES

There were no new inquiries.

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:32 pm.