

# MINUTES – BOARD



## Britannia Board Meeting April 13, 2022

### Via Zoom and Conference Room

- PRESENT:** Annie Danilko, Pamela Dudas, John Flipse, Vera Jones, Naina Varshney, Susanne Dahlin, Ariela Friedmann, Pat Hogan, Ingrid Kolsteren, Sonia Massaro, Craig Ollenberger, Ashki Shkur, Khai Truong, Emily Vickery, Meggan Ye, Randy Gatley
- STAFF:** Cynthia Low, Peter Odynsky, Jeremy Shier, Jacky Hughes, Kathy Whittam (recording)
- REGRETS:** Farren Gillaspie, Carmen Cho, Stuart MacKinnon

Annie called meeting to order at 6:08pm

Welcome and honouring the land

#### 1. Approval of Agenda

**MOTION TO APPROVE AGENDA AS AMENDED**  
John Flipse/ Ashki Shkur

**CARRIED**

#### 2. Approval of Minutes of Mar 9, 2022

**MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES AS PRESENTED**  
Craig Ollenberger/ Ingrid Kolsteren

**CARRIED**

Introductions with Randy Gatley, new Branch Head Librarian at Britannia Branch Library.

- Third week into new position here
- Has been at branch before Acting on behalf of Noreen Ma
- Excited to be here full time now
- Great to be in this community hub

#### 3. New Business

Special Events (Cynthia)

- Working group to look at events to explore if relevant or not as we move forward
- How do we make decisions on events we host
- Compatible with program principles, what's around us, resources we have, ie space, staff, etc
- 6 month agenda to see what we want to do
- In May the Pow Wow, back since 2018
- Traditional Stone Soup, not this year
- June has Elders Abuse Awareness Day, Italian Days, Indigenous Day and Juneteenth
- How do we do July 1<sup>st</sup> this year?
- July has Honk festival which is a busking festival, we partner with Open Air Orchestra
- Want more partnership events with people from the community
- Less spectator events with lots of staff planning, running, etc
- How to support Ramadan, Passover, Easter (easter bunny focus?)

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- Halloween is important time with fun volunteer events for youth
- Celtic traditions to incorporate, less focus on candy
- View through lens of our priorities
- Avoid commercialization of things and educate on how things came to be the way they are now
- Explore intention of events and holidays
- People enquiring why things are changing
- Next newsletter will inform membership of a survey
- Program team is amazing and can do it all, but how to become support for community rather than do it all
- Events can be smaller but more impactful
- Do things in a mindful way, reflect on better ways to do things
- Currently Ramadan is time to reflect on gratitude, supporting others

## Mother's Day Pow Wow (Cynthia)

- Driven by community members
- 2017 came to Britannia to bring the event back to life
- In the gym for 2018, back at Trout Lake in 2019, 2 year covid break
- This year on May 7<sup>th</sup> from 10am-10pm at Trout Lake arena
- We're supporting with Trout Lake and Cedar Cottage Neighbourhood house
- There will be 100 vendors
- Dancers and the whole pow wow community
- Board will have a table to share Renewal info, etc
- Let 55+ know so Elders can have a table
- Board table can share with Quirk-e, etc
- City wide grant transition back to Trout Lake Community Association to step up, supported by us with Park Board and other groups
- Not a single coordinator like previous with Teka
- Strathcona staff supporting vending, Britannia staff supporting AV, etc
- Everyone doing a part of the work

## Annual General Meeting (Cynthia)

- Will run Wed May 25 as a hybrid in-person/online
- Memberships updated by May 11<sup>th</sup> for anyone who wants to vote/run
- More people running than seats available
- Board Development meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> to finalize electable
- Craig, Ingrid, John, Sonia, Meggan, Annie and Naina are up for re-election
- Also Ashki and Khai are graduating so we need youth reps
- Haven't had an election in a long time, maybe this
- Action – Kathy will look up Board membership status and follow up with those who need to renew membership by May 11<sup>th</sup>

## 4. Old Business

### Britannia Renewal (Susanne)

- May 16 and 26 will be public open houses for Pool
- Info on what's happening on site
- Still don't have all the details on housing, etc
- Building 1, a lot more detail to come on what it will look like
- Encourage all to come have a say at these open house events

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- Pool & fitness, planning & development committee, also have arranged with City, VPL, VSB, VPB for field trips to other pool ideas that we may be interested to incorporate within our pool facilities
- Eye opener to see possibilities in person
- Somethings sound good in theory until you see with your own eyes
- Craig has been experiencing other pools with his kids who give good feedback
- Get in touch if you want in on the tours
- Whole lot of info and knowledge
- Black out of public consults for 5 months coming up prior to fall election
- Meetings with City staff will continue
- Want sneak peeks to get to the 2 public sessions in May

## 5 Year Reconciliation Plan (Cynthia)

- Briefing note p.22
- Previous discussions brought to RIA and Finance committees
- Strategy endorsed by RIA who will develop depth of plan
- Look at levels of work, review job description, goals we hope to achieve, funding
- Finance discussed request for money commitment
- Sent out as briefing note
- Surplus funds annual policy passed in 2016
- Intention, mindful of why we have policy
- Source of funds to draw from in light of loss of money experienced a bit with šx<sup>w</sup>q<sup>w</sup>eləwən ct
- Support activities of society, \$66,000 donation from Foundation
- Strategic importance as approved by Board
- Intention of CEWS was to keep people employed
- Opportunity to use surpluses towards strategic plans of the Board
- Funds committed may be for too narrow of a community is concern of some Board members
- Are supporting most vulnerable of our community
- Concerns are more about structure of program
- Challenge to deconstruct for structural change
- Equity requires more resources to lift all up
- Reconciliation needs more than lip service
- Defining what it looks like for our community will take time
- We're like a blended family learning new ways of being together
- Boat analogy – hard to build a boat and plan and sail, rowing in right direction not adrift
- If we wait for all plans we'll never start
- Reconciliation is not a narrow focus – huge and involves all of us
- Opportunity to do something good and it's long overdue
- Our responsibility to think about so not just Indigenous people doing the work
- We're focusing in a good way, engaging community

**MOTION TO APPROVE FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION TO ALLOCATE UP TO \$290,000 FOR THE 5 YEAR RECONCILIATION PLAN.**

**AND THAT THIS FUND IS TO BE SPENT WHEN FUNDING FOR 2024 FOR THE 5 YEAR RECONCILIATION HAS BEEN CONFIRMED.**

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Susanne Dahlin/ Vera Jones

CARRIED

## Foundations for Social Change (Cynthia)

- Cynthia discussed with them partnership for this neighbourhood
- Research project to give money directly to those in need
- Better outcome long term
- Pilot started about 1 ½ years ago
- Up to \$8500 for individuals
- Soft launch end of this month
- We are acting as connection with homeless on site
- Library and pool staff interact with these people (seeking shelter in library, showers at pool)
- Point people will receive training

## 2022 Priorities Update (Cynthia)

- Keep putting on agenda but not a lot of movement on most items
- Focus on 5 year reconciliation plan and communications redesign of web site as big projects right now

## 5. Partner Reports

### Vancouver Park Board

- p.23-28

### Vancouver Park Board (Peter Odynsky)

- p.29-31
- spring registration was fantastic
- summer camps filled in 5 minutes
- community back out in full force
- Shine Fest was good even with rainy weather
- Playgrounds and camps looking for staff

### Vancouver Public Library (Randy Gatley)

- Adjusting to mask change and no vaccination checks
- Break in children's programming, new session begins April 26
- Back to drop in like it was prior to covid
- No more registration, come when you can
- Online zoom story times still an option
- Coming up is launch event for Early Learning Space – Wed Apr 20 at 9:00am
- Connecting Kith & Kin starting up for another season with IRSSS, will still be on zoom
- Looking at in-person options to bring back
- New show in the art gallery this month
- Indigenous Storyteller in Residence will be Cree artist Eden Fine Day
- Adjusting to new space and new organization of collection in the space and how people use it

### Vancouver School Board

- No VSB update this month

## 7. Management Reports

Executive Director (Cynthia Low)

- p.32
- exciting to work on fund development
- committed to making sure the \$290,000 isn't needs other than to support fund raising
- Pow Wow taking up a lot of time right now

Manager of Administrative Services (Jeremy Shier)

- p.33-50
- early in the year so numbers are not always reflective of what's to come
- City budget fairly close to actual amount at this time
- Recreation looks good right now with surplus YTD
- Not as high as planned but still good to see
- main focus right now is the audit, which is almost done
- expect the final statements in the next couple of weeks or so

Manager of Child Care Services (Jacky Hughes)

- p.51
- \$10/day child care announcement is official now
- Grandview Terrace and Eagles OSC, Britannia Preschool & OSC are all now \$10/day sites
- Got rid of prototype label and just calling it \$10/day program now
- A lot of work to change accounts, and all other info for new pricing – thanks Jeremy and team!
- Next steps aligning budgets, and other things so all programs have same details
- Announcement to families was amazing! They feel like they've won the lottery, don't have to sell home to leave city, and can even start savings for kids future
- Subsidized families now pay zero
- Wage enhancement from \$2 to \$4 per hour, change for staff
- Ministry home for child care is now under Ministry of Education and Child Care
- Means nothing yet, but a good transition for child care portfolio
- Child care in general is in crisis due to lack of educators
- Mental health issues and staff catching up on vacation time missed through covid times
- No applicants for job postings
- Looking at what we can do to recruit
- Preschool had to close for 3 Mondays in March due to lack of staff
- Auxiliary filling in for regular staff
- Lorraine and team are doing amazing job, stressful situation for all and she's doing all she can!
- Province is aware of what's going on but all programs are struggling with same issues
- Priorities and good work happening despite the challenges
- Thanks to Jacky for her advocacy!

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## 8. Consent Items

- p.52-61

**MOTION TO ACCEPT CONSENT ITEMS AS PRESENTED**

**Craig Ollenberger/ Vera Jones**

**CARRIED**

**MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING at 8:40pm**

**Vera Jones/ Ingrid Kolsteren**

**CARRIED**