

MINUTES – BOARD



Britannia Board Meeting January 10, 2024

Via Zoom and Conference Room

PRESENT: Ama Birch, Tom Chang, Susanne Dahlin, Pamela Dudas, Ariela Friedmann, Farren Gillaspie, Pat Hogan, Vera Jones, Sam Quastel, Nicki Simpson, Terumi Squibb, Andrea Galbraith (VPL), Rose MacKenzie (VSB)

STAFF: Cynthia Low, Peter Odynsky, Jeremy Shier, Suzette Amaya, Kathy Whittam (Recording)

REGRETS: John Flipse, Craig Ollenberger, Oliver Tennant, Naina Varshney, Jacky Hughes, Laura Christensen (VPB)

Call to Order

Chair Pamela Dudas called the meeting to order at 6:09PM.

Welcome and Land Acknowledgement

Vera shared thoughts, gratitude and acknowledgement of the unceded ancestral lands of the x^wməθkwəyəm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and Səlílwəta? (Tseil-Waututh) Peoples.

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Add Communications to New Business

MOTION TO APPROVE AGENDA WITH ADDITION

Susanne Dahlin/ Vera Jones

CARRIED

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF DECEMBER 13, 2023.

Susanne Dahlin/ Nicki Simpson

CARRIED

3. NEW BUSINESS

a. Executive (C. Low)

- Cynthia's responsibility to call for nominations for vacant Executive positions
- Nicki nominated Ariela as Executive Member at Large
- Ariela elected as Member at Large
- Susanne and Vera nominated Pamela as President
- Pamela elected as President, resumes Chair of meeting
- Nicki & Susanne nominate Craig as Vice President and he has submitted in writing that he would accept the nomination
- Craig elected as Vice President

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b. Policies (J. Shier)

- Policies to approve were distributed at the meeting
- Jeremy provided context for changes
- Fall of 2022 COV internal audit on Britannia operations and they are putting pressure on staff to get these implemented
- Policy recommendations were within their audit
- Some current policies need update and also policies that are new
- These draft policies are consistent with City expectations
- Jeremy uses COV templates but flexed to meet Britannia specific needs
- We are following best practices for them but need employees to read and review
- Process of decolonization includes on policies from the Reconciliation in Action Committee and Manager of Organizational Change, Suzette Amaya, she has experience with policy changes and development at organization level that is helpful. She is also a member of the City Urban Indigenous Peoples Advisory Committee.
- Policies need consideration for practices for those who don't feel safe with institutions and institutional processes

ACTION – Jeremy will resend with changes highlighted by end of the week

c. Communications

- Social media focus is important
- Our team have been doing reels and posts over the holidays
- WCT registrants often see new programs on Instagram etc
- Want more strategy to put us on the map with branding
- Increase in support for communications team
- Discussion and agreement of importance of increasing communication team
- Renewal brand is COV
- Recommendation for Communications Committee
- 2024 budget includes money for web site overhaul
- No budget to hire more communication staff
- Maybe shift allocated money for contract or auxiliary hours
- Student groups that work with non-profits to help with communications as well

ACTION: Management team to bring to executive meeting in 2 weeks to shape something for Board to review next meeting

4. OLD BUSINESS

a. Child Care

- Big piece of work, plan on p.9-10
- Course of action, bring on consultant to support the work
- Child care societies already informed and engaged

b. 5 Year Reconciliation Plan

- Kyatchen Pole is complete and looking to organize a pole raising ceremony
- Partnerships are being built
- Learn about instructors, are they building safe space for participants
- Process to establishing an Elders in Residence
- Cecilia, from the First Nations and Indigenous Studies at UBC is here to share the plan for helping us establish what this role will look like here
- Phase one of research is looking at EIR programs that already exist in the lower mainland, and regionally like in Washington state

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- Project has been approved by the UBC ethics committee
- Cici will run 3 sharing circles and present the case study to the Board when complete
- 2 new murals were completed at the pool by Coast Salish artist Charlene Johnny
- Jacobi is focusing on spring programs and learning about how to get knowledge keepers here
- Ruth and Victoria working with people on Indigenous Food sovereignty connections

c. Renewal

- City to provide plan for the Renewal and the remaining budget which may be used on maintenance of site
- After motion passed to advance the Renewal we will continue to push forward and pressure, talk to all levels of government for potential funds
- Strategy will be brought to the Board

5. PARTNERS' REPORTS

a. Vancouver Park Board

- CRC Report p.11-12
- January is a lot of prep for programs starting, looking ahead to spring program
- Performance reviews coming up
- Pool and fitness centre opened on time except the steam room
- In service with pool staff, pool programmer leading the team
- Rink was so busy over the holidays, one day we had to turn people away one day

b. Vancouver Public Library

- Holiday break very busy with families here to read and play
- Community puzzle table for casual progression and participation
- Over 2200 questions answered, 18000 items checked out
- Over 20,000 through the door last month, approx. 80 people per hour
- New season of programs going now
- 50 people for baby story time, 25 youth in the teen area
- ESL conversation practice so good they stayed to keep talking after facilitator left
- Fri Tech help
- Connecting Kith and Kin meeting yesterday, one to one sessions start next week
- New Acting Branch Head next month

c. Vancouver School Board

- Student council ran a holiday give back week before winter break, great youth skate
- Daily activities and theme days
- First newsletter out and spring edition under way

6. ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

a. Executive Director

- Report on p.13
- Applying for grants for Anti Racism Anti Oppression events
- Recent tension around an event cancelled by East Side Family Place

b. Manager of Administrative Services

- Report p.14
- CUPE 15 retroactive pay done on Dec 28

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- Year end planning and closing out all of 2023
- Update 2024 payroll
- Funding to put in cooling trailer near šxwqweləwən as conduit for energy
- KPMG plan for 2023 audit in March
- HR finalized for Office Administrator starting on Jan 22
- Ruth Elizabeth is now full time position as Food Security Coordinator

c. Manager of Child Care

- Report on p.15

d. Manager of Organizational Change

- Report on p.16
- Haida Family Services on Sunday doing cultural workshops
- Vancouver Aboriginal Centre taking on the Mothers Day Pow Wow
- Meetings at Cedar Cottage Neighbourhood House
- Great for the event to be in the hands of Indigenous organization

7. CONSENT ITEMS

- GWFC Committee needs a Board liaison, please contact Ruth Elizabeth

MOTION TO ACCEPT THE CONSENT ITEMS AS PRESENTED
Pamela Dudas/ Sam Quastel

9. MEETING ADJOURNMENT AT 8:40PM

MOTION TO ADJOURN
Susanne Dahlin