



Halifax Regional Library Board Regular Agenda

Boardroom - Halifax Central Library
Thursday, June 23, 2016 ~ 3:30 pm

Present: Paul Bennett, Chair
Councillor Waye Mason, Vice-Chair
Stephanie Clark
Tara Gault
Lorraine Glendenning
Rany Ibrahim
Leah Hamilton
Janet Newton
G. Douglas Vaisey
Councillor Matt Whitman

Present from Staff: Åsa Kachan, Chief Librarian / CEO
Mairead Barry, Director of Strategy
Cathy Maddigan, Director, Human Resources
Debbie LeBel, Director, Access
Kathleen Peverill, Director, Public Services
Alison Lucio, Executive Assistant to the CEO
Dion Phillips, Manager of Finance

Observers: Claudia MacFarlane, NSUPE Local 14

1. Call to Order / Approval of Agenda

*Moved by Waye Mason and seconded by Tara Gault the Agenda be approved with the addition of 8.1 Public Forum for 2017 Annual General Meeting.
Motion carried.*

2. Motion to approve Minutes of May 26, 2016

*Moved by Leah Hamilton and seconded by Lorraine Glendenning that the Minutes of May 26 be approved as circulated.
Motion carried.*

3. Business Arising

3.1 Strategic Plan Update

Åsa Kachan, CEO, provided an update to the Board of Directors. Branch pop-up consultations are completed, and one community consultation has been held at Sunnyside Mall with others scheduled. To date there have been approximately 1,500 responses to the survey, and community consultations with stakeholders being scheduled. Ms. Kachan reported that it is expected that the Board will meet in July regarding the final results.

3.2 Chief Librarian and CEO Evaluation Update

The Board Chair reported that the survey has been administered, and 10 responses have been received to date. A reminder will be sent to all participants to complete the survey. Next steps will include the Board Chair and Vice Chair meeting with the CEO to discuss results, and then final results will be reported to the Board.

Some board members commented that they experienced difficulties with the survey tool. The Board of Directors agreed that an improved, more robust tool should be explored.

3.3 Board Development Survey Report (*included*)

Tara Gault led a discussion regarding the Board development survey that was completed last month. The Report was included in the Board package for review. Ms. Gault reported that the Executive Committee reviewed the results in depth, and everything seems satisfactory.

Looking forward to next year, best practices will be reviewed and presented to the Board. It was suggested that exploring holding some board meetings in other locations could be explored, as it would be beneficial to see other branches and communities.

Draft Macro

A draft Macro Agenda was circulated to the Board of Directors for discussion as a concept. The purpose of the Macro Agenda would be to map out the year's activities for the Board and ensure that the Board meets objectives. The Board agreed that it is a tool that has great utility and would allow the Board to have annual reports on key areas and issues.

4. Chief Librarian and CEO Report

4.1 Monthly Report (*included*)

Åsa Kachan spoke to the CEO report that was circulated with the Board package.

Highlights included:

- HPL is sponsoring the APLA conference
- Floating collections evolving
- Rainbow bookshelf – has had great press and has been highlighted in Metro
- Publication from one of our Halifax North customers was published in the CEO report; this excerpt highlights the impact the Library has on a community.
- There are some branch manager changes as we are celebrating some retirements (Elaine Murray, and Denise Somers) and hiring new branch managers.
- It was announced that Central Library has been named as a recipient of the Governor General's Award in Architecture.

The Board thanked the CEO for her thorough report.

5. Board Committee Reports

5.1 Executive Committee (included)

The Committee included a report from their last meeting in the Board package. There were no questions.

6. New Business

6.1 Library Room Booking Policy (for information, attached)

The updated Room Booking Policy was circulated with the Board package. The policy changes are the renaming of Directors to reflect changes in titles.

The Board accepted the policy for information.

6.2 Board Service Recognition

The Board Chair thanked the Doug Vaisey and Leah Hamilton for their contributions to the Halifax Regional Library Board of Directors, as their terms are now complete. The contributions of both members through their tenure was impactful.

7. Motion to Move In Camera

The Halifax Regional Library Board may go into a private In Camera session, in accordance with the Rules of Procedure in its By-laws, for the purpose of dealing with the following:

7.1 In Camera Session

An in-camera session was held.

8. Other Business

The Board discussed the possibility of opening up next year's AGM to include more of a Public Forum.

The CEO shared that discussions have already taken place to this effect and next year's event will look completely different, with more of a celebration with the meeting.

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00pm.



Chair