

HALIFAX REGIONAL LIBRARY BOARD

Regular Meeting

Boardroom - Alderney Gate Public Library

Monday February 19, 2006 - 12:00 noon

- Present: Leo McKenna, Chair
Councillor Debbie Hum, Vice-Chair
Shawn Cleary
Lorna Crawley
Councillor Harry McInroy
Jason Ross
Kathrine Sullivan
Betty Thomas
Deputy Mayor Sue Uteck
- Present from Staff: Judith Hare, Chief Executive Officer
Susan McLean, Director, Public Services / Deputy CEO
Bruce Gorman, Director, Information Technology and Collection Management
Al LeBlanc, Director, Finance and Facilities
Paula Saulnier, Director, Corporate Research and Development
- Visitoras: Rosette MacEwen, Union Observer
Carrie Mueller, Union Observer
- Regrets: Councillor Steve Streach

1. Call to Order / Introductions / Approval of Agenda

Moved by Shawn Cleary and seconded by Jason Ross that the Agenda be approved. Motion carried.

2. Motion to Approve the Consent Agenda (including the Regular Minutes of November 20, 2006)

Moved by Shawn Cleary and seconded by Jason Ross that the Consent Agenda be approved. Motion carried.

3. Unfinished Business

.1 Service Level Agreement between HRM and the Halifax Regional Library Board for GroupWise Support

Bruce Gorman, Director, Information Technology and Collection Management, informed the Board that GroupWise was the e-mail solution of choice for the Library and that a beneficial support agreement had been negotiated with HRM's IT department. It was requested that the Board approve the presented Service Level Agreement with the HRM for the provision of GroupWise e-mail service.

Moved by Councillor Harry McInroy and seconded by Betty Thomas that the Service Level Agreement be approved. Motion carried.

4. CEO Report

.1 Monthly Report

Judith Hare, CEO, highlighted key points from her monthly report.

The Captain William Spry Community Centre will be undergoing renovations over the next two years; the program will be run by HRM's Recreation, Tourism & Culture Department. The Library has requested capital funds for 2007-08 in the amount of \$375,000 to upgrade the Captain William Spry branch and has begun discussions with a designer. Patrons will see the results right away as the first area to be upgraded will be the branch's program room. These upgrades have long been anticipated.

The Shatford Trust has provided \$33,000 US which will allow for a new roof and the installation of a much-requested disabled-access door for the J.D. Shatford Library in Hubbards.

Changes have been made to the operations of the Sackville Library as a result of clashes between youth and older patrons. There is now space set aside specifically for each group to use and the changes appear to be working well.

.2 Central Library Update

The CEO reported that the report on the Spring Garden Road / Queen Street Area Public Lands Plan and the Grand Parade / Province House Joint Public Lands Plan will be presented to Council on February 27. The report does recommend that the corner of Spring Garden and Queen be designated for a new Central Library. It was noted that this recommendation does not guarantee the space as land transfer negotiations are required and no funds have been allocated as yet to build a new library.

Before a building can be built, a building program must be in place - the Library has requested \$500,000 in the 2007-08 capital budget for this purpose.

5. LBANS Report

Shawn Cleary reported that the LBANS Executive did meet with Provincial Education Minister Karen Casey and Senior Executive Director for Higher Education Wayne Doggett on separate occasions regarding funding for libraries. It was noted that for the Department of Education, the current emphasis is on the P-12 system, which leaves public libraries on the periphery. As well, the question of placing public libraries in school continues to come up with the Department; it is believed that this is an attempt to put more things into schools to offset declining enrollment. Documents regarding this issue will be distributed in the next Board package.

The Executive has also reviewed the Standards for Libraries with the Jennifer Evans from the Provincial Library; this should provide a good case for a possible 3-year funding agreement with the Province.

6. Financial Report

.1 Unaudited Statement ending January 31, 2007.

Al LeBlanc, Director, Finance and Facilities, reported that currently the Library is a little under on revenue and a little over on expenses but the Library will have a balanced budget at fiscal year-end.

It was noted that budgeted revenue for 2006-07 was increased in order to balance the budget to the envelope and the anticipated revenue has not fully materialized. Staff will monitor the situation to see if this is a trend.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Sue Uteck and seconded by Betty Thomas that the unaudited Financial Statement for the period ending January 31, 2007 be approved. Motion carried.

7. New Business

.1 Annual Staff Recognition Reception

CEO Judith Hare noted that this year's Staff Recognition reception will be taking place on Friday, April 20, 2007 from 2:00 - 4:30 pm at the Alderney Gate Library. Over 60 long-service awards will be presented, including one for 35 years of service. Board members are encouraged to attend and will receive a formal invitation in the near future.

8. **Other Business**

.1 **Board Meeting Dates and Times**

At the request of the Chair, staff will conduct a survey of Board members by e-mail to determine if the existing meeting schedule is suitable.

9. **Motion to Move In-Camera**

Moved by Betty Thomas and seconded by Councillor Debbie Hum that the meeting move to the In Camera session. Motion carried.


10. **Motion to Approve Motions from the In Camera Session**

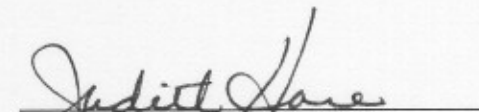
Moved by Lorna Crawley and seconded by Betty Thomas that the motion from the In Camera session be approved. Motion carried.

11. **Date of Next Meeting: March 19, 2007.**

12. **Adjournment**

Moved by Betty Thomas and seconded by Deputy Mayor Sue Uteck that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried.


Chair


Secretary