



Halifax Regional Library Board
Regular Meeting
Boardroom - Alderney Gate Public Library
Monday, October 20 - 12:00 noon

- Present:** Leo McKenna, Chair
Lorna Crawley
Councillor Gary Meade
Councillor Dawn Sloane
Kathrine Sullivan
- Present from Staff:** Judith Hare, CEO
Francisca Goldsmith, Director, Branch Services
Bruce Gorman, Director, Information Technology and Collection Management
Al LeBlanc, Director, Finance and Facilities
Cathy Maddigan, Director, Human Resources
Susan McLean, Director, Public Services / Deputy CEO
Paula Saulnier, Director, Corporate Research and Development
- Guest:** Wayne Anstey, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, Operations,
Halifax Regional Municipality
Kathlene Farrell, Economic Development, Province of Nova Scotia
- Observer:** Rosette MacEwen, NSUPE Local 14
- Regrets:** Councillor Harry McInroy
Jason Ross
Councillor Sue Uteck

1. Call to Order / Approval of Agenda

Moved by Councillor Dawn Sloane and seconded by Lorna Crawley that the Agenda be approved. Motion carried.

2. Motion to Approve Consent Agenda

Moved by Councillor Gary Meade and seconded by Councillor Dawn Sloane that the Consent Agenda, including the minutes from the September 15, 2008 Regular Meeting be approved. Motion carried.

3. **Business Arising**

None.

4. **CEO Report**

.1 **Monthly Report**

The CEO asked Deputy CEO Susan McLean to present the report.

During the recent NSLA/LBANS conference, former Board member Betty Thomas was presented with the 2008 LBANS Honorary Membership Award recognizing distinguished service to public libraries in Nova Scotia. The Chair noted that he had contacted Ms. Thomas to congratulate her on behalf of the Board.

The Phase 1 Report developed from Sackville's Crime Prevention Action Fund Grant through Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness Canada has been published and will be made available to community partners, providing a valuable guide for service development for the branch and larger community.

The Library will be facilitating the first "Podcamp" in Eastern Canada. This is an informal community conference on social software such as blogs, wikis and podcasts. The camp will provide an accessible opportunity for the community to learn about these sources of information sharing. Community volunteers are very excited about the library's participation in this initiative.

Teen Read Week is being planned for November 15-23. This is the first time the Library has launched a regional initiative connecting teens to reading. A range of special events, contests and prizes will be part of the week. It is hoped that this will become an annual event.

The CEO pointed out the partially completed repairs to the third floor deck at Alderney Gate. It had been previously used by staff and programs; however, building management had been in the process of converting it to a roof with no access. The Library voiced concerns about the loss of the resource without being consulted on the change and it is expected that when the work is finished it will again be available for use.

.2 **2008-09 Goals & Objectives Status Report**

The CEO presented an updated version of the document initially presented at the September meeting. Status information is now incorporated and further updates will be provided on a quarterly basis.

5. Financial Report

.1 Financial Statement ending September 30, 2008 (unaudited)

Director, Finance and Facilities Al LeBlanc, presented the financial statements to September 30, 2008. Revenues are slightly below projected levels; this is not a cause for concern. Underspending in terms of salaries was also noted due to ongoing contract negotiations.

Moved by Councillor Dawn Sloane and seconded by Lorna Crawley that the unaudited Financial Statement for the period ending September 30, 2008 be approved. Motion carried.

6. New Business

.1 Province of Nova Scotia "Building Rural High-Speed Internet" Initiative

The Chair welcomed Kathlene Farrell, Community Liaison Officer with Economic Development to the meeting.

Ms. Farrell explained the provincial program, outlining the physical construction required to bring high-speed Internet to the whole of the province. Work is underway to determine the optimum locations for signal towers in areas where wired high-speed access is unavailable. Work is also taking place to organize workshops to show communities how they can utilize the service once it is available.

The Province is looking for library support in terms of raising awareness and determining community contacts.

It was reported that approximately 1,300 residents of HRM do not currently have access to high-speed Internet.

The CEO noted that all Halifax Public Libraries branches currently offer high-speed access via public use computer and wireless services.

.2 Annual Board Christmas Party

The CEO noted that it was time to set a date for the annual Christmas party. The Chair recommended a date early in December be considered, avoiding conflict where possible. It was requested that a proposed date be sent by e-mail to Board members.

7. Other Business

The Chair congratulated Councillor Dawn Sloane on her re-election and Councillor Gary Meade on his retirement from municipal politics.

8. The Board moved into In-Camera Session

Moved by Councillor Gary Meade and seconded by Kathrine Sullivan that the Board move into In-Camera Session. Motion carried.

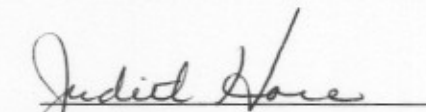
9. Motion to approve Motions from the In Camera Meeting

Moved by Lorna Crawley and seconded by Kathrine Sullivan that the motions from the In Camera Meeting be approved. Motion carried.

10. Adjournment

Moved by Councillor Dawn Sloane that the meeting be adjourned.


Chair


Secretary