

- Present: Leo McKenna, Chair
Councillor Sue Uteck, Vice Chair
Paul Bennett
Lorna Crawley
Roswell James
Councillor Peter Lund
Philip Moscovitch
Kate Sullivan
Councillor Jennifer Watts
- Present from Staff: Judith Hare, CEO
Bruce Gorman, Director, Information Technology and Collection Management
Cathy Maddigan, Director, Human Resources
Susan McLean, Director, Public Services / Deputy CEO
Paula Saulnier, Director, Corporate Research and Development
Shawn West, Director, Finance and Facilities
- Observer: Rosette MacEwen, NSUPE Local 14
- Regrets: Councillor Jackie Barkhouse

1. Call to Order / Approval of Agenda

The Chair welcomed Dr. Paul Bennett to the Board as a citizen representative of the Province.

Councillor Lund requested that items 5 - Performance Measures, 6 - Grants & Donations Status Report, and 9 - Borrow Anywhere Return Anywhere Pilot Third Quarter Report be brought forward from the Consent Agenda to be discussed under Other Business.

Moved by Kate Sullivan and seconded by Councillor Jennifer Watts that the Agenda be approved as amended. Motion carried.

2. Motion to Approve Consent Agenda

Philip Moscovitch requested a correction be made to Item 5.2 in the Regular Minutes from June 28, 2010; it was the Deputy Minister that attended the LBANS meeting as opposed to the Minister.

Moved by Councillor Peter Lund and seconded by Philip Moscovitch that the Consent Agenda, including the minutes from the May 17 and June 28, 2010 Regular Meetings be approved as amended. Motion carried.

3. Business Arising

.1 LBANS Update

LBANS was erroneously omitted from the agenda; it will be discussed at the Board's October meeting.

4. CEO Report

.1 Monthly Report

The CEO highlighted upcoming events involving the Library, including the annual Word on the Street Festival on September 26 at Victoria Park and Fusion Halifax's Viva City: Downtown Symposium on September 29 which features Central Library architect Morten Schmidt as a guest speaker.

Volunteers opportunities with the Library are growing with more and more hours donated by HRM residents. Volunteers assist with programs such as language tutoring, home delivery and reading support. Volunteers are recognized for their efforts each April during Volunteer Week, with appreciation events held at the branch level. Staff will endeavour to inform Board members and HRM Councillors when these events are taking place.

Laurel Tarulli, Collection Management Librarian, was awarded the 2010 Distinguished Alumni Award from the University of Alberta's School of Library and Information Studies. Laurel is the first to receive this award outside the Province of Alberta. The Chair requested a letter of congratulations be prepared for Laurel.

A question was raised regarding programming for older adults. It was noted that IT programs were targeted at Alderney Gate, Keshen Goodman, Bedford and Woodlawn over the summer due to public demand and staff availability. It was further noted that IT classes are offered year-round at all branches that are open to all.

The heat wave in August resulted in a number of branch closures, primarily at Spring Garden Road, which does not have air conditioning. Captain William Spry and Keshen Goodman also closed due to problems with air conditioning systems. The Board requested a report be prepared for the next meeting which outlines outlet closures over the last 5 years.

5. Financial Report

.1 Draft Financial Statements ending August, 2010

Shawn West, Director, Finance and Facilities reported that expenses are currently under budget with revenues slightly over budget.

The Library is currently awaiting the release of funds from HRM to cover increased operating expenses for the newly expanded Woodlawn branch.

Moved by Councillor Peter Lund and seconded by Councillor Sue Uteck that the unaudited draft Financial Statement for the period ending August 31, 2010 be approved. Motion carried.

6. New Business

1. Central Library Design - Presentation by George Cotaras, Fowler Bauld & Mitchell Architects

Details regarding the Central Library site were reviewed for Board members. All aspects are being taken into consideration in the building design, including setbacks, viewplanes, sunlight and shadows, surrounding buildings and open spaces and pedestrian traffic flow.

An integrated design philosophy is being used, with public spaces melded with the shelving and the various departments intermingled. This will allow for a more explorative experience for patrons. There will also be an atrium to draw natural light into the building and interconnect the floors.

This integration is also carried out in the layout of materials; there will be 'bubbles' of adult reading materials in the children's area and vice versa; the idea is to enable parents to enjoy reading adult materials while in the children's area and to enable children to have easy access to children's materials while their parents are browsing. The Board requested that a future report on the project provide the percentage increase in the Central Library collection size from the existing Spring Garden Road collection.

This open, interconnected design does present challenges in terms of sound carrying from area to area and floor to floor; the architects are aware of this and will ensure the design provides ample quiet spaces. An acoustic specialist is part of the design team.

The current design has the building coming to the edge of the property line adjacent to Dalhousie University. As a result, building codes would require the Library have no windows on that side of the building. Negotiations are currently underway between HRM and Dalhousie for HRM to acquire a small strip of land along the edge of the Dalhousie property. If successful, this would allow the Central Library to have windows on all sides. As these negotiations do not involve Library staff, the Board requested that the Central Library Steering Committee keep abreast of the situation.

The auditorium portion of the library has evolved into an open performance space to be located on the ground level. There will be no fixed seating and the space can be opened into the proposed plaza on the southern exterior of the building. This will allow the space to have a wide variety of uses and be functional even when not in use.

The first floor, in addition to the performance space, will house the café, an information desk and seating areas. The second floor will be for children and teens and will also house the multimedia centre. The third floor will be the learning centre with the adult materials housed on the fourth floor. The fifth floor will be public space with access to an outdoor terrace.

The requirement for retail space on the first floor has been removed. The intention of the retail was to animate the street level views; the current design takes this into consideration and will place engaging features on the first level visible to the outside.

In addition, the design will include 100 mandated parking spaces on one underground level, with the parking entrance on the south side of the building. The desire to make the building green means the design is not focusing on patrons coming to the Library via their cars; in addition, adding a second level of parking would increase costs. Bicycle racks will be available and the exterior will be integrated with existing pedestrian traffic flows.

A discussion followed regarding the final design approval process. It is believed that once the Library Board approves a design, it will go to HRM by Design for approval. It is thought that HRM Council, in approving the project and its funding, does not have a say in the design. Councillor Sue Uteck will confirm the process and report back to the Board. There is also some question regarding the approval requirements, if any, from the other funding partners.

.2 Goals and Objective 2010-11

Deferred to the Board's October meeting.

.3 Meeting Room Policy

Deferred to the Board's October meeting.

.4 Keshen Goodman Library Café Lease Renewal

Deferred to the Board's October meeting.

7. Other Business

In the interest of time, items to be brought forward from the Consent Agenda will be discussed at the Board's October meeting.

8. The Board moved into In-Camera Session

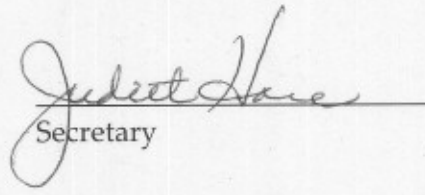
Moved by Councillor Sue Uteck and seconded by Lorna Crawley that the Board move into In-Camera Session. Motion carried.

9. Motion to approve Motions from the In Camera Meeting

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

10. Adjournment


Chair


Secretary