

**MINUTES OF THE THIRTEENTH MEETING OF
THE GREATER SUDBURY PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD**

April 23rd, 2020
Webex Meeting

Commencement: 4:36 p.m.
Adjournment: 6:18 p.m.

PRESENT

M. Bellmore, Councillor M. Signoretti, S. Belanger, C. Zuliani,
S. Townend, M. Lalonde, B. Brisco

REGRETS

None

CITY STAFF

Mette Krüger – Interim CEO
Ian Wood – Executive Director of Strategic Initiatives, Communications
and Citizen Services
Patricia Cote – Administrative Assistant in Strategic Initiatives,
Communications and Citizen Services
Rick Clouthier – Manager of Citizen Services

Meeting was called to order.

AGENDA

The following motion was presented:

2020-12 Councillor M. Signoretti / M. Lalonde

THAT the agenda of the Thirteenth meeting of the Greater Sudbury
Public Library Board be adopted.

CARRIED

**DECLARATIONS OF
CONFLICT OF INTEREST
AND GENERAL NATURE
THEREOF**

None declared

MINUTES

The following motion was presented:

2020-13 S. Belanger / C. Zuliani

THAT the minutes of the Twelfth Meeting of the Greater Sudbury Public
Library Board held on February 27, 2020 be adopted.

CARRIED

BOARD ORIENTATION

None

POLICY REVIEW

None

PRESENTATION

Junction East Update

Ian Wood, Executive Director, Strategic Initiatives, Communications and Citizen Services advised the Board that the project is indeed moving forward. As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic the project has experienced some delays. This is a direct result of the necessary diversion of resources. In light of the current circumstances, I. Wood assured the Board there has been advancement in the project. The evaluation design for the RFP will be wrapping up within the next few weeks. The property acquisition piece is on schedule. There are a few questions surrounding the public engagement piece and how this will look moving forward.

COVID-19 and City of Greater Sudbury Response Affecting GSPL

I. Wood updated the Board on the closures to all public buildings within the City of Greater Sudbury due to the COVID pandemic. All non-essential facilities closed to the public on March 16th. On March 24th the Province advised non-essential workplaces would need to also close to employees. Employees who are able to do their work from home are doing so, with some city staff – including those who work in libraries - redeployed to areas in need of assistance in order to continue to operate under the guidelines of the Provincial Government. The Mayor has declared a state of emergency which matched the Province of Ontario's emergency declaration. This will remain in effect until early May 2020. An internal working group has been established to help determine what restoring services will look like after the pandemic.

REPORTS

Chair's Report

M. Bellmore advised the Board that prior to the lockdown surrounding the pandemic he and Councillor M. Signoretti were able to meet with the Mayor in relation to the Junction East Project. Both members felt the meeting was positive with healthy discussions around who will be the face of the project when the time comes.

CEO's Report

M. Krüger advised the Board on March 9th there was some water damage at the South End Library. It is believed this was a result of failed roof drain assembly which resulted in damage to a portion of the Library's collection.

M. Krüger continues to work on MBNCan stats. As well as the annual Survey of Public Libraries which is a requirement in order to continue receiving the Public Library Operating Grant. This report is normally submitted in June but due to COVID-19 the deadline has been extended to August 15, 2020. Prior to submission to the Ministry the data collected

will be provided to the Board for viewing.

The project to upgrade all public computers in all 13 branches continues. The original deadline for completion was March 31st. Due to the uncontrollable circumstances this date has been extended to June 30th.

Report from the Interim CEO regarding Recruitment

Since the last Board meeting, one permanent full time vacancy has been filled as well as four permanent part-time vacancies. There are still two permanent full time vacancies and four part-time vacancies. Due to COVID-19 recruitment has been placed on hold.

Report from the Interim CEO regarding Library's response to COVID-19

M. Krüger provided the Board an update on actions taken during this time. With the closure of public libraries on March 16th, GSPL immediately turned its attention to online services, programs, and promotion of existing digital content. Employees working from home continue to offer services via phone and online. Statistics are being gathered daily to monitor demand for services. More than 26,000 patrons interacted with online services since the closure. Reference staff have responded to almost 200 requests for information and assistance with library accounts and technology. Use of online collection platforms such as CloudLibrary has doubled compared to this time last year. Almost 50% of the visits made to the library's website are new users. More than 5,000 people have engaged with the 40 online programs that we have offered. Eight Chromebooks have been distributed to Pioneer Manor to help support residents stay connected to their families during this difficult time. A lengthy discussion took place surrounding the return of the employees to work and what that will look.

CORRESPONDENCE

None

OTHER BUSINESS

The following motion was presented:

2020-14 C. Zuliani / M. Lalonde

THAT the Greater Sudbury Public Library Board moves into a closed meeting to discuss a Board Matter.

CARRIED

OTHER BUSINESS

The following motion was presented:

2020-15 M. Signoretti / M. Lalonde

THAT the Greater Sudbury Public Library Board affirms the following resolution of the committee of the whole board: 2020-04-23-2.

CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT

The following motion was presented:

2019-16 C. Zuliani / S. Belanger

THAT this meeting does now adjourn. Time: 6:18 p.m.

CARRIED

Mette Krüger, Secretary

Michael Bellmore, Chair