

Winnipeg Public Library Board Meeting

Tuesday, November 3, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.

Conference Call

Minutes

	<u>Present</u> <u>Regret</u> <u>Absent</u>				<u>Present</u> <u>Regret</u> <u>Absent</u>		
Michael Wenezs (Chair)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Dean Scaletta	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
David Robinson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Laila Yesmin	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Jaideep Johar	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Morley Walker	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ed Cuddy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Judith Littleford	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Councillor Rollins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Melanie Bidzinski	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Councillor Schreyer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Stephen Kennedy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Trevor Surgenor	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Kim Coss	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Carla Epp	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Karon Chester	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Guests: George Prochner, Ian Keenan, Lucille Eustache, Elizabeth Redston, Monique Woroniak

1. Call to order, welcome, housekeeping

The meeting was called to order at 5:02 p.m.

2. Acknowledgment of Indigenous Territory and Homeland – *Michael Wenezs*

I would like to acknowledge that we are in Treaty #1 Territory, the traditional lands of the Anishinaabe, Cree, Oji-Cree, Dakota, Dene Peoples and the homeland of the Métis Nation.

3. Guest: Monique Woroniak

See Appendix A for highlights

4. Approval of agenda and of the previous meeting minutes

See Appendix C for motions

5. Manager's Report – Ed Cuddy

See Appendix B for report

6. Chair's Report – Michael Wenezs

Item	Description	Action
Application Statistics	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Facebook Ad and application submission statistics circulated● Need to improve recruitment for the LACs	
Regulations Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Phase 2 review will be issued out with feedback form● Comments are due Tuesday, November 17	
Executive Committee 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Anyone who is interested in being part of the Executive Committee is to submit their name to the Assistant by Tuesday, November 17● Assistant will send out a job description / time commitment document	
December Meeting and Dinner	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Annual in-person dinner is cancelled● Next meeting gift card will be provided● Board has agreed to start meeting at 6:00 p.m.	
Executive Committee Updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Assistant will be proceeding to evergreen the Board's equipment and will be providing current equipment to Accountant● Strat plan year-end/2021 report will be available for the next Board meeting	

Continued ...

Item	Description	Action
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A holiday ad will be placed in the community newspapers on behalf of the Board and LACs • <i>See appendix C for motion re: Assistant contract</i> 	

7. Vice-Chair’s Report - Morley Walker

- Thanks to Dean and Karon for assisting with reviewing the applications
- 58 applications received to fill 6 vacancies
- Short-list has been submitted to the Executive Committee to review and put forward to City Clerk’s department for Council consideration

8. Treasurer’s Report – Stephen Kennedy

No report

9. LAC Updates

Item	Description	Action
Assiniboia LAC <i>Morley Walker</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting held on November 2 • Still discussing on what to do with the remaining budget 	
City Centre LAC	<i>No report</i>	
East Kildonan-Transcona <i>Lucille Eustache</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Still trying to set-up, a meeting • Working to spend out budget 	
Lord Selkirk-West Kildonan LAC	<i>No report</i>	

Item	Description	Action
Riel LAC <i>George Prochner</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Meeting planned for November 9 ● Will be discussing spending budget 	

10. Other Business

Library Fines Council Presentation – Dean Scaletta & David Robinson

- Thanks to Dean and David who appeared at the October 29, 2020 Council meeting in support of Councillor Rollin’s motion to eliminate fines at WPL
- Thanks given to Ed for assisting with materials for presentation
- Councillor Rollins has indicated she will continue to advocate to remove the barrier within WPL through the budget process
- City budget will hear delegations in December
- The Board will need to appear in delegation re: annual grant applications
- If the Board is interested in advocating on any topic related to WPL can talk to Ed

11. New Business

None

12. Date and Location of Next meeting

Tuesday, December 1, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.
 MS Teams Meeting

13. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned 6:31 p.m.

1st Michael Wenezs

2nd Judith Littleford

Appendix A

Guest Highlights November 3, 2020

- The Winnipeg Public Library Board welcomes Monique Woroniak, WPL Information Librarian
- Career Highlights
 - A librarian with Winnipeg Public Library since 2007.
 - A frequent presenter in the areas of community development and anti-racist approaches to service delivery—specifically, the ways non-Indigenous organizations can responsibly learn and take direction from Indigenous peoples.
 - She serves on the Indigenous Matters Committee of the Canadian Federation of Library Associations
 - Was named the Dalhousie Horrocks National Leadership Lecturer for 2017.
 - In 2015 Monique co-founded groundworkforchange.org - a website designed to educate non-Indigenous peoples about Indigenous-related topics with the goal of building relationships rooted in solidarity and justice. The site has been shared widely across the country.
 - In 2016 she received a CBC Manitoba Future 40 Award that recognized her as one of “the province’s next generation of leaders, builders, and change-makers under the age of 40.”
- Presentation focuses on the broad questions an organization should ask themselves before heading down the path of reconciliation
- It is important that the Board grounds all work within its mandate and operate within the City of Winnipeg structure
- The Board has a unique relationship with the City of Winnipeg and Winnipeg Public Library as an advisory board
- Recommend to not over-promise and following phases can overlap

Phase 1: Self Educate	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Continuously learn about issues➤ Develop an understanding of settler colonialism as a structure (not as events)➤ Develop an understanding of meaningful allyship and critiques of “surface-level” allyship➤ Indigenous communities are aware of surface-level allyship➤ General organizations have good intentions but must be willing to go deeper in their perceptions and actions when it comes with Indigenous issues➤ Important that Indigenous and non-Indigenous have meaningful dialogue between groups➤ WPL has many resources to help
------------------------------	---

Phase 2: Taking Direction, Building Relationships, Shifting Decision-Making Power	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Reach out, listen and take direction from Indigenous peoples before acting or planning (besides self-education)➤ It becomes more meaningful when Indigenous groups are engaged at the beginning especially in the planning process
--	---

Phase 3: Acting	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Be willing to act on plan
------------------------	---

- Possible short-term ideas
 - Provide funding to support a service/initiative that has been developed by Winnipeg Public Library staff in partnership with Indigenous community members or organizations
 - Provide funding to enable or augment participation by Winnipeg Public Library in a City of Winnipeg Indigenous-focused initiative (e.g. [Welcoming Winnipeg](#))

- Possible mid-term ideas
 - Review Board membership and structure with an eye to increasing Indigenous members
 - Fund and undertake a campaign that advocates a transformation of Winnipeg Public Library operations and services. Would need to be done as part of a coalition to have impact. Potential coalition members:
 - ❖ Manitoba Library Association
 - ❖ First Nations' education authorities (start with Treaty 1 signatory nations?)
 - ❖ larger Indigenous organizations in Winnipeg
 - ❖ Manitoba Aboriginal Head Start
 - ❖ then layer in others – e.g., Indigenous curatorial community, endorsements from local Indigenous writers
- Discussion
 - Board has struck a committee to look into TRC calls to action and review Board's operations
 - Recommended that the Board actively connect with the community rather than waiting for organizations to contact them; will building connections but also help with self-education
 - Issues and challenges that Indigenous people's face can seem ambiguous at first, but there is literature, resources and organizations that will be willing to help navigate
 - Recommend that the Board consider signing onto the Indigenous accord and hold themselves accountable by creating goals, posting goals and reporting back the public

Appendix B

Manager's Report November 3, 2020

1. FACILITIES UPDATE

a) Cornish Library

- Due to a few delays, we anticipate re-opening the library in January 2021.

b) Bill & Helen Norrie Library

- The completion date is estimated for year-end 2020 with the library opening to the public in early 2021.

c) Community Connections space – Millennium Library

- Estimated timeline for completion: early 2021

d) Munroe Library interior renovation

- Project to update service desk, paint, flooring in this neighbourhood branch
- Completion date still TBA.

2. CITY OF WINNIPEG RESPONSE TO CODE RED

In response to the Winnipeg region's elevation to Code Red on the Province's pandemic response system, all Winnipeg Public Library branches and Check it Out stops closed on October 31 until further notice:

- All library branches and Check it Out stops are **closed** until further notice.
- In-person services are **not available**, including holds pickup and returns, until further notice.
- Online collections, programs and services are **available** during the closure
- WPL will continue to offer telephone reference and e-answer services after this weekend

The City of Winnipeg also suspended all recreation and leisure programs and services, including Leisure Guide programming and closed all City-owned and operated recreation facilities, gyms, indoor pools, and arenas on Saturday, October 31 until further notice.

https://winnipeg.ca/cao/media/news/nr_2020/nr_20201030.stm#3

Winnipeg Public Library will plan to restore in-person services when advised that it is safe to do so.

3. FINE FREE MOTION UPDATE

Winnipeg City Council adopted Councillor Rollin's library fines motion at their October 29 meeting. Here is the full text of the motion:

STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On October 20, 2020, the Executive Policy Committee concurred in the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Protection, Community Services and Parks and submitted the following to Council:

1. That the Winnipeg Public Service be directed to waive overdue fines for outstanding library materials and DVD/Blu-Ray account balances to December 31, 2020.
2. That the permanent elimination of fines on overdue library materials be referred to the 2021 Budget Process.
3. That the Proper Officers of the City be authorized to do all things necessary to implement the intent of the foregoing.

The adoption of this motion extends the current waiver of overdue fines and DVD/Blu-Ray fees and account balances to December 31, 2020. The permanent elimination of overdue fines is now referred to the 2021 Budget Process.

We gratefully acknowledge Councillor Rollins for bringing this motion forward as well as the Library Board, Dean Scaletta and David Robinson for their passionate advocacy on this issue. This is a positive step toward to a more equitable library service for the citizens of Winnipeg.

4. WINNIPEG WORDS PROJECT

WPL is hosting the Winnipeg Arts Council project "Winnipeg Words" at nine library branches across the city (list below). The Winnipeg Words project is "a celebration of contemporary Winnipeg poetry. As a reflection on our city, its people, neighbourhoods, and meanings, the project is a recognition of the power of words to establish the meaning of place."

A complete list of the poets, the selected poems and the WPL branch locations is available on the Winnipeg Arts Council website here:

<http://winnipegarts.ca/wac/artwork/winnipeg-words>

5. WPL BOARD SCREENING PROJECT UPDATE

The next steps for the Library Board screening review have been delayed to some extent by the escalation of pandemic response measures in Winnipeg to Orange restricted and now Code Red. We have a shortlist of working group members and are working with the consultant on setting up the next meeting (likely to be a virtual meeting).

Appendix C

November 3, 2020 Motions

MOTION	1ST	2ND	DISPOSITION
That the agenda be approved as distributed	David Robinson	Michael Wenezs	Carried
That the September 8, 2020 minutes be approved as distributed	Michael Wenezs	Dean Scaletta	Carried
That the assistant's contract be renewed for one (1) year ending December 31, 2021	Michael Wenezs	Jaideep Johar	Carried