



WHISTLER PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD
OF TRUSTEES MEETING
Wednesday, December 6th 2023
Formal Meeting 5 to 7 p.m.
Hybrid Meeting – Community Room & via Zoom

MINUTES

Attending:

Mike Walsh (Chair)
Ali Blancher
Bevin Heath Ansley
Gail Banning
Josie Chuback
Karen Laughland
Ralph Forsyth
Sarene Bourdages
Sheilagh Martin
Thomas Sikora
Mikale Fenton

Regrets:

Tina Young

050. Call to Order

Mike introduced the new trustees—Patricia Dagg, Jesse Morden, and Cara Burrow—who were in attendance. Mechthild Fecundo was unable to attend. Subsequently, everyone, including staff members Kaley, Nadine, and Maz, introduced themselves.

Traditional Territories Acknowledgement Statement - Ali

The Whistler Public Library is grateful to be on the shared, unceded territory of the Lil'wat People, known in their language as Liwəwəwət7úll, and the Squamish people, known in their language as Skwxw7mesh. We respect and commit to a deep consideration of their history, culture, stewardship and voice.

100. Approval of Agenda

Motion: That the Agenda be approved

Moved: Bevin

Seconded: Thomas

Approved unanimously

200. Consent Agenda

- Minutes of the previous meeting: November 1st, 2023
- WPL Dashboard November 2023
- Current Policy 700 and Policy 800
- Revised Policy 700 and 800
- British Columbia Library Association Statement on Intellectual Freedom
- Canadian Federation of Library Associations Statement on Intellectual Freedom and Libraries
- International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions Statement on Censorship
- United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Article 18
- United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Article 19
- United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, Article 13 (1)
- British Columbia Human Rights Code, Articles 7 and 8
- Constitution Act, Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, Fundamental Freedoms section

Motion that the consent agenda be approved with amendment.

Moved: Josie

Seconded: Ralph

Approved unanimously

300. Business Arising from Reports

400. New Business

For Discussion/Decision

1. Make an Impact

1.1 Intellectual Freedom workshop with Wendy Wright

Mikale introduced Wendy Wright, co-chair of the BCLA's Intellectual Freedom Committee and Director of the Smither's Library. Wendy offered a comprehensive overview of the concept of Intellectual Freedom, discussed recent trends in Canada, explained the distinctions between misinformation and disinformation, and delved into the intersections of harm and human rights. She concluded her presentation with a brief review of recent challenges in this domain.

1.2 Policy 700 and Policy 800 Recommended Revisions. 6:05—6:30pm

Armed with insights from the Intellectual Freedom workshop, the Trustees engaged in a discussion regarding potential enhancements or improvements to Policy 700 and Policy 800.

Mikale presented Wendy's suggestions for Policy 700, encompassing our endorsement statements and proposed alterations to operational procedures. Furthermore, should

we consider additional changes, specifically, the creation of a separate values statement, with Intellectual Freedom being addressed in a distinct policy?
The board has decided to allocate more time for reviewing the policies before granting approval. They plan to revisit both policies in the new year.

Discussion/No Decision

1. Play well with others

1.1 Trustee welcome and goodbyes

Mike expressed gratitude to Thomas (4 years), Bevin (8 years), Josie (6 years), and Ralph (14 years), providing a recap of the work accomplished by each trustee.

Mikale expressed her gratitude for all the encouragement she has received since assuming the role of director. She also conveyed appreciation to each of the departing trustees, specifically acknowledging Mike, the outgoing Chair, for being so masterful at highlighting the accomplishments of others.

500. Old Business

600. Agenda items for next meetings

- Committee chair elections

700. In camera (placeholder)

*Motion to go in camera

800. Adjournment –

Motion to adjourn

Moved: Bevin

Seconded: Josie

Approved unanimously

Next Meetings:

Board – Wednesday, January 3rd, 2023 via Teams