

RICHMOND PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD

REGULAR MEETING

Wednesday, November 27, 2013

Present: Peter Kafka, Chair
Simon Tang, Vice Chair
Councillor Linda Barnes
Mark Bostwick
Diane Cousar
Dulce Cuenca (arrived at 5:45, left at 7:30)
Sanjiv Khangura (left at 7:30)
Susan Koch
Pat Watson

Greg Buss, Chief Librarian and Secretary to the Board
Susan Walters, Deputy Chief Librarian

BUSINESS SECTION

ACTION

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:40pm. All items were deferred to after the IBI presentation.

3. Educational Session

An outline of educational topics was included for information.

4. IBI Group Presentation

(a) The Discussion Paper – Narrative: the Case for the Continued Relevance of Public Libraries was included for information.

Gary Andrishak and Oliver Hartleben presented on IBI Group's progress since the last report.

(Dulce arrived at 5:45)

Oliver discussed the narrative, the story that describes how and why the library is relevant. He asked if there are niches where the library can excel – what we do best and have a competitive advantage – activities and services that are “unGoogleable” and suggested 4 areas:

1. Physical space. Google can't provide space, coffee shops don't do it very well.
2. Community connection
3. Two-way learning
4. Co-creation and curation

These are 4 areas libraries will not be “out-competed” by the private sector.

Our big competitive advantage was that our services were free. That is changing, convenience is often more important than free.

The Board discussed the purpose of the public library and Oliver asked what has changed. IBI will address this in documentation. While the purpose is still relevant, how we meet that purpose has changed.

BUSINESS SECTION**ACTION**

The Board noted that Richmond has a diverse population, including some who can't afford a digital lifestyle and a generation that has grown up with the internet and don't like to pay for things they can get free.

Oliver then spoke about vision. RPL's vision statement should include:

1. A library that evolves.
2. A library that acts as an interface.
3. A library that builds community.
4. A library that shapes City vision.

The Board discussed item 4 in detail as they felt it significant. A new central library will be a catalyst to attain the vision of a vibrant, active and inclusive city centre. The Board noted that a significant part of the strategic plan can be achieved in existing space, but a new central library would move us to a new place in our functions and change the city centre. Our strategic plan will move forward regardless and through the demonstration projects will carry out the vision.

The Board asked IBI if the strategic plan considers whether branch libraries stay small or if we expand branches. Oliver indicated that they are looking at that in relation to an expanded central library, but in what order needs to be established.

Demonstrations are planned to show what would happen if we tried something new. These are a showcase of new ideas, tests with users, producing insights for implementation. It's difficult for users to imagine new ideas. Solutions may not yet be known and it's possible to make mistakes while allowing momentum to continue with little cost.

Next steps:

- Complete stage 4.
- Meet with city staff – December
- Write the draft report
- Get feedback from RPL Board – January
- Produce the final deliverables
- Final presentation

Linda asked if the School District had been contacted. Greg noted the stakeholders meeting in the previous week and that staff had attended but not politicians. Linda noted that the School Board might want to be informed. Greg responded that when we have the strategic plan we will take it to the stakeholders, such as the School Board and Steveston Community Society, for information.

IBI Group left the meeting and the chair called for a short break.

(Dulce and Sanjiv left at 7:30)

2. Approval of Agenda

MOVED: That the agenda be approved as presented.

.....CARRIED

5. Approval of Minutes

BUSINESS SECTION

ACTION

MOVED: That the minutes of the regular meeting of October 30, 2013 be approved as presented.

BOSTWICK/COUSAR.....CARRIED

6. Business Arising

(a) A background of how Wu Chang, the Terracotta Warrior, was named was provided for information.

7. Correspondence

(a) A letter dated November 4, 2013 congratulating Greg Halsey-Brandt was included for information.

(b) A letter dated November 4, 2013 thanking Mayor Brodie for the Civic Appreciation Event was included for information.

COMMUNITY

ACTION

8. Report from Councillor Barnes

Linda reported that the city has made a decision on the location of the new aquatic centre and seniors centre. Construction may impact the library but not badly. Richmond Children First published their report "It's Not Fair: The Face of Child Poverty in Richmond: A Call to Action" online on November 20th. The "Smart Centre" development has been approved for the northeast corner of Lansdowne Road. The Skyline Hotel area development on No. 3 Road is moving forward, while the Onni development in Steveston is being considered for rezoning.

Linda confirmed that Board Trustee recommendations for 2014 were approved by Council. Mark, Peter and Simon will return for two-year terms and two new Trustees, Kash Chahal and Robin Leung will join us in January.

9. Report from Friends of the Library

Alison Cormack reported that the Friends held their Annual General Meeting on November 23rd and she has been elected to the position of Chair for the next 2 years. Alison reported that the FOL committed to all items as presented in the wish list except item 2b) which they increased. A cheque for \$22,000 will be presented at the January 2014 meeting.

(a) The 2013 wish list was included for information.

(b) An update of the FOL account was included for information.

Peter encouraged the Board to join the FOL and indicated application forms on table.

STAFF:
Update website.

BOARD and
STAFF: join the
FOL.

STAFF OPERATIONS

ACTION

10. Program Reports

(a) A report on Large Event Programming was included for information.

(b) A report on Hanukkah celebrations was included for information.

11. Project Reports

(a) A report on the recent Terracotta Warrior event was included for information.

12. Future of Libraries Conference

A written report on the conference was included for information.

STAFF OPERATIONS

ACTION

13. Customer Comment Forms

Peter noted that the customer comment forms were on table for review.

(a) Summary of Comments

The summary of comments is included for information.

INTERLINK

ACTION

14. InterLINK Report

(a) Mark reported that the last meeting was a discussion of the provisional budget which we will receive next month and InterLINK's policy for sponsoring events. There will be openings in the New Year for new Trustees as InterLINK representatives.

BRITISH COLUMBIA LIBRARY TRUSTEE ASSOCIATION

ACTION

15. British Columbia Library Trustees Association

(a) The BCLTA Bulletin November 2013 was included and provided on the Board blog.

(b) A notification of the 2014 conference in Victoria on May 30-31 was included and provided on the Board blog.

BOARD

ACTION

16. Items for Decision/Discussion

(a) Long Range and Strategic Planning Update

- i. Status Report #11 was included for information.
- ii. OrangeBoy Phase 3 report was included for information.
- iii. Library of the Future Spatial Vignettes were included for information.
- iv. A report of the November 20, 2013 stakeholders meeting was included for information
- v. An invoice was included for payment.

MOVED: That the Richmond Public Library Board approve payment to IBI Group for Stage 3 deliverables.

WATSON/KOCH.....CARRIED

(b) 2013 Self-Assessment Survey Results were deferred to the next meeting.

(c) Nominations for 2014 Board Chair and Vice Chair were deferred to the next meeting.

Defer
Defer

17. Items for Information

(a) The 2013 staff recognition event was postponed to early 2014.

(b) The CIIF Grant Announcement has been rescheduled to the morning of Thursday, December 19th. Simon will host and all Board are welcome to attend.

(c) The electronic edition of *Felicitier* will be posted to the Board Blog when available.

(d) The Board Calendar and Work Plan was provided for information.

STAFF:
Reschedule event.
STAFF: Send reminder email.

18. Other Business

A memo outlining the new categories for donors and a reminder of *Celebrate with Books* was included on table. Pat noted that the Board can also donate through the Richmond Foundation.

BOARD

ACTION

19. Date of Next Meeting

A special meeting was scheduled for **Thursday, December 12, 2013, at 5:45 pm**
The next Board meeting will be **Wednesday, January 29, 2014 at 5:30 pm.**

20. Adjournment

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

CHAIR

CHIEF LIBRARIAN