



KASLO & DISTRICT
PUBLIC LIBRARY

Kaslo and District Public Library

April 21, 2021 Annual General Meeting (via Zoom) minutes

Approved March 16, 2022

- Present:** Mayor Suzan Hewat, Karen Pidcock, Dianne Wilton, Candace Frary, Catherine McCormick, David Cheatley.
- Trustees:** Anne Heard, John Whitehead, Charles De Pape, Ellen Watters, Celia Cheatley, Margaret Wanke, Leah Honkanen .
- Staff:** Eva Kelemen (secretary), Angela Bennett.

Quorum is met

Call to order: 5:05 pm

Anne Heard welcomed everyone and acknowledged that the land we live on is the traditional and unceded territory of the Ktunaxa, Syilx (Okanagan), and Sinixt Nations and that we are privileged to live here.

1. Approval of Agenda: **Motion to approve the agenda. Anne/ Charles/ carried.**
2. Approval of Minutes: **Motion to approve the minutes of the Nov, 18, 2020 AGM. Charles/ Ellen/ carried.**
3. Business Arising from Minutes: **None**
4. Chairperson's Report: (attached) Highlights: Anne discussed the billboard that was set up on April 17 on the future site of the new library. She thanked Lynn & Paul Van Deursen for design & construction and ACE, Boards By George, and Kaslo Glass for donating materials.

The pandemic affected operations. Anne thanked Eva for leadership and superb organization and Angela for venturing to succeed with changes to programs.

The library turned 100 in 2020 (December 18) but the celebration started early on Jan 1st by going fine-free! A centennial celebration was held via Zoom in December with over 75 people attending.

Several strategic goals are underway or complete in year 2 of the 5-year plan such as celebrating 100 years, the end of the radon problem (thanks to the Village), and the review and improvement to staff benefits including sick days and an annual RRSP contribution for pension. The New Library Project has progressed with the development of a vision document, fundraising plan, concept plans, location, website presence, brochures, and a newsletter. The Board thanks the Village for

- a. working with CBT to acquire land through the Land Acquisition Grant,
- b. working as a team with Margaret and Eva to submit an infrastructure grant (ICIP)

- c. developing the Library Capital Reserves bylaw 1257,
- d. participating in Kaslo Library Building Committee meetings with library representatives (KLBC – formerly KLAC), and
- e. exploring the municipal library service model.

We are grateful for the strong partnership with the Village and thank CBT for funding support to purchase land, develop preliminary concept plans, and work with a consultant for the Town Hall meeting. 45 people attended the Town Hall on February 24 to discuss the New Library Project.

We welcomed Leah Honkenan to the KDPL Board in November 2020 (AGM delayed due to pandemic). Now we thank and acknowledge Ellen Watters for serving on the KDPL Board for 8 years, being the Kootenay Library Federation (KLF) representative as well as serving on the KLF Executive. Anne read a thank you letter from the Libraries Branch (attached). The Branch also sent Ellen a copy of the 'Library Book'. The Board presented Ellen with a card and a gift.

Report accepted as presented.

5. Treasurer's Report (report and 2020 Financial Statements attached):

Charles De Pape reported that the increased costs due to the pandemic (supplies/ barriers) were offset by 3 donations. The phase 1 fundraising goal to pay for the library portion of the land purchase reached \$76,150 in donations in 2020. Today donations are at \$80,990 plus \$13,000 in pledges. There were donations in memory of Doris Drayton, who served as secretary & treasurer on the Kaslo library board for 19 years (1953-1972). There were donations in memory of Murray Pearson that the board designated towards hiring youth through wage subsidy programs. The final installment from the Estate of Ann MacNab was received – this will be used for capital purchases. A second conditional bequest was received from the Estate of Hiltrud Stock-Rohlmann that will build the library collection for 8 more years.

The pandemic year delayed several project due to increased workload for staff and reduced staff capacity without volunteers during open hours. Several projects were deferred as a result along with normal deferrals due to multi-year use of funds.

Charles thanked Minichiello & Company for excellent work.

Report accepted as presented.

Motion to adopt the 2020 Financial Statements and to appoint Minichiello & Company as Accountants for 2021. Charles/ Celia/ carried.

6. Library Director's Report: (attached): Summary:

Eva reported that 2020 was the most challenging work year out of 16 years. The COVID-19 pandemic included: closing the library for a while, safety plans, extra cleaning, rules, suspension of volunteer program, increased workload for staff, program changes, Zoom meetings, managing changing projects, schedules & budgets. Eva thanked Angela Bennett for being up for the challenge of modifying programs to be safe and still engaging for the community. She, along with Canada Summer Job staff Maddox Hahne and Saleme Lafortune prepared hundreds of activity bags for all ages. Angela also held programs outdoors and offered 3 StoryWalks. Community feedback indicates that these efforts were appreciated.

There was a flood from a burst pipe in the electrical room that was detected early enough by Village CAO Ian Dunlop that it remained contained in the back hall. Eva gave thanks to the Canada Summer Jobs 'temporary flexibilities' during the pandemic

that made it possible to hire 2 youth at separate times from July – Jan. This modified program was an enormous help given the sudden change in our service delivery and COVID safety protocols. Eva also thanked volunteers who helped with shelving during closed hours or covered books from home during the pandemic. Eva thanks all the volunteers before and during the pandemic year. Volunteers are listed in the attached report for the record.

The New Library Project has been a good challenge. Eva thanked the Village of Kaslo for the excellent partnership and progress with the New Library Project in 2020 and noted that the newly formed Fundraising Committee is also doing excellent work. She thanked the community for demonstrating support first with the 374 signatures in favour of the New Library Project (16.3% of Kaslo/Area D) and then with the generous donations received to date. It has been so encouraging.

Celebrating 100 years was also a good challenge and continues. Eva continues work on some exciting additions to the library history book, which will go to print in 2021. Eva thanked funding partners being supportive by making allowances in 2020 for delays and changes in a most unusual year.

Report accepted as presented.

7. Election: Ellen Watters has completed her 4th term or 8 years, which is the maximum number of years allowed to serve as a Trustee. Charles De Pape, Margaret Wanke, Celia Cheatley, and Leah Honkanen are continuing their terms. Anne Heard and John Whitehead are willing to stand again.

Chair called for nominations allowing sufficient time for them.

There were no more nominations.

MOTION: that the slate of officers be elected by acclamation. Karen/ David/ carried.

8. New Business

- a. Building for the next 100 years: Anne discussed the online auction that will run from April 23- May 2 with the goal to raise the remaining \$26,010 to pay off the land purchase for the New Library. Anne thanked the many donors of goods and services for this fundraising event. Dianne commented that the auction looks wonderful and offered to help with posters. Suzan commented that it might be a good idea if the expiry dates for adventures are flexible given the pandemic restrictions on travel.

- b. Comments/discussion:

Catherine asked when we will hear about ICIP and what happens if not granted.

Answer: summer/ we will keep trying

Comment that not everyone is on social media – hard to stay in the loop. Eva noted that the library website advertises events too and we put up posters on the door and around town (and Pennywise if we make the deadline).

Karen sent a thank you to Anne and Eva

Suzan commented that it is a pleasure to work with Eva on the accounting as she is organized and responsive. As Mayor, Suzan said that it is a pleasure to work the Kaslo Library Building Committee (KLBC) and KLAC (as it was known before), the Fundraising Committee, and Council (which is in support of the New Library Project.)

9. Adjournment: **6:10 pm Ellen**