

ERMLS Board Meeting
April 9, 2024
Saturna Island Library

Present: Debbie Lesurf, Chair; Carmen Creoveanu, Treasurer; Madeleine Picciotto, Secretary; Ellen Bourassa, Rosemary Henry, Pamala Page. **Absent:** Pauline Preston, Vice-Chair.

1. Call to order and territorial acknowledgment: The meeting was called to order at 9:40 a.m., with the acknowledgment that we meet on the unceded territory of the Coast Salish people.

2. Agenda and past minutes of Dec. 12, 2023: Approved as presented.

3. Governance

• **Budgets**

- 2024 Operating Budget: It was noted that the church has raised our rent by \$360/year; other expenses remain relatively stable.

• **Grants**

- Seed Library: Funds are available via the Southern Gulf Islands Seed Coop, and plans are underway to apply for this funding. We have already received \$400 from Parks & Recreation for the seed sharing program. We agreed to discuss ongoing library oversight of the seed program at our next meeting.
- Victoria Foundation: We have applied for \$9,500 to hire a Youth Program Coordinator (working 6 hours per week) to support enhanced library services for children and youth. We will hear the results of the grant application in July 2024.
- Times Colonist Grant: We applied in November 2023 for \$1000 to cover writing workshops for adults and/or children. This month we received a \$250 grant from the Times Colonist, which must be spent by June 2024. It must now be decided how this smaller amount could best be put to use. We agreed that the Writers' Group should discuss best options, and that we will support whatever they decide.
- **SGI Library Commission:** The commission includes a Best Practices Committee; our Saturna representative is Pauline Preston. The SGILC has recently directed all member libraries' attention to BC government privacy requirements. Pauline Preston attended a relevant webinar and Ellen Bourassa attended a presentation from Carmen Oleskevich of Pender Library. A critical element is the Sitka library software system, with a responsibility to make sure that we are using this system in a manner that is compliant with regulations. One result of this has been the removal of Sitka from the library's public computer, so that it will now only be available on the circulation desk terminal. Further training will be available as required.
- **Strategic Plan Review:**
 - In pursuing Goal 1, we will review the community survey results, gather data to evaluate effectiveness, and document our promotional plan. Madeleine Picciotto has volunteered to spearhead this project, with assistance from Pamala Page.
 - Goal 2 is in part being accomplished through the Victoria Foundation Grant Subcommittee.

- Goal 3 has been fully achieved.
- We agreed that Goals 4 and 5 should be addressed together at an upcoming board meeting.
- Attention to Goal 6 is ongoing.

4. Operations

- **Victoria Foundation Grant Progress Update:** A number of moves have already been made to proceed with our plans, including culling of the DVD collection, ordering children's/YA books, and holding events such as an open house to invite community participation.
- **Internet:** Wifi connectivity has been improved.
- **Book Sale:** Jan MacLennan will be overseeing the Lamb BBQ Book Sale this year.

5. Next meeting: May 7, 2024 at 9:30 a.m.

6. Adjournment: 11:34 a.m.