

**100th Report of the**  
**ELDON HOUSE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Meeting held via remote electronic format, Thursday, November 19, 2020, commencing at 4:07 p.m.

Present: M. Donachie (Chair), M. Spencer Golovchenko, T. Regnier, R. Griesmayer, L. Henderson, J. O'Neil, R. Koudys, M. Majumdar, T. Wittmann, R. Armistead, B. Ardiel

**1. Approval of the Agenda**

**SPENCER GOLOVCHENKO AND GRIESMAYER**

That the Agenda **BE APPROVED** as presented.

**CARRIED**

**2. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest**

R. Koudys declares conflict of interest with agenda item #8 Farhi Holdings Ridout development project.

**3. Remarks – M. Donachie, Chair**

The Chair gave a brief summary of the agenda items being dealt with at tonight's meeting. The board was informed that M. Donachie and M. Spencer Golovchenko are attending the Pillar Community Innovation Awards fundraiser event this evening that starts after this meeting. M. Spencer Golovchenko reminded the board and staff that Eldon House is a member of Pillar Nonprofit Network and we can avail ourselves of the substantial number of resources that are a great support for organizations, such as ours.

**4. Approval of 99<sup>th</sup> Report of the Eldon House Board of Directors (attached)**

**SPENCER GOLOVCHENKO AND KOUDYS**

That the 99<sup>th</sup> Report of the Eldon House Board **BE APPROVED**.

**CARRIED**

**5. T. Wittmann – Overview of Staff and Financial Reports (attached)**

That the following actions be taken regarding the Staff Reports:

## **REGNIER AND SPENCER GOLOVCHENKO**

- a. That an expenditure of \$8330 using the Little Trust Fund on four conservation projects in 2021 **BE APPROVED**. These projects are described in Appendix I of the Staff and Financial Reports.

**CARRIED**

## **SPENCER GOLOVCHENKO AND KOUDYS**

- b. That the recommendation to purchase a tent from Raymond Brothers Tent and Awnings at a cost of \$4000 **BE APPROVED** using funds from the late Maureen Ryan bequest.

**CARRIED**

## **GRIESMAYER AND KOUDYS**

- c. That the Staff and Financial Reports **BE RECEIVED**.

**CARRIED**

Additional information provided during verbal report:

- Garden staff role issues were reviewed. The board agreed with the Curator Director recommendation to defer further discussion on hiring until January especially due to upcoming budget challenges.
- Roaring 20s Trivia night using Zoom platform was shifted to Saturday November 21 with registrants participating to test their knowledge and have fun virtually.
- An opportunity exists for future paid virtual tours, so visitors can learn about Eldon House in this safely-distanced format.
- The security system and the City dealt well with a November 13 attempted break-in onsite.

## **6. T. Wittmann – Eldon House budget and forward planning (two documents attached)**

The Curator Director provided an overview of two documents prepared in response to the City's Covid-related future budget planning. Through discussion, questions and feedback by board members, it was deemed the planning documents are very prudent and allow for flexibility and adjustment on short notice due to changes in the local situation and financial requirements. T. Wittmann received confirmation from L. Green with the City of London that any budgetary changes will occur in 2021.

## **SPENCER GOLOVCHENKO AND O'NEIL**

That the *Contingency Planning, Financial Impacts Eldon House, and Financial Management Budget Impact - 2021-23* reports **BE RECEIVED** for information and discussion.

## **CARRIED**

### 7. Break

### 8. T. Wittmann – **Update from public meeting held by Farhi Holdings Corporation on Wednesday, November 18**

T. Wittmann summarized the virtual Zoom public meeting hosted by Tom Tillmann, lead architect for the renewed project at 435 – 451 Ridout St. Through a presentation with a question period afterward, Tillmann gave an overview of the plans for the planned 40-storey residential and commercial building, parking at the floodplain and greenspace being offered to the City of London to expand Harris Park. The slides and presentation were very similar to those given to the Eldon House board in late 2019, with no substantive changes in information. The next public meeting is planned for February 2021.

### **SPENCER GOLOVCHENKO AND MAJUMDAR**

That the verbal report from T. Wittmann on the Farhi Holdings November 18 public meeting **BE ACCEPTED.**

**CARRIED** Note: R. Koudys abstained

### 9. Reports from Committee Chairs

#### Gardens Committee (R. Koudys)

The Committee had a great meeting on October 19 with plans for the Spring Plant Sale being developed to establish a partnership with Greenhouse Academy, a local grower and engage youth. Confirmation was made that the Gardens Committee has a small fund set aside in previous budgeting in the amount of \$5000. However, annual additions to the budget have not been possible, due to other priorities. Still, access to the existing \$5000 could be used to support capital expenses and/or other projects, such as a Gardens Master Plan. Possible support could come from external sources to assist with getting the study done.

#### Education Committee (L. Henderson)

The draft terms of reference for the Education Committee were presented for review and approval by the Board.

Strategy and Innovation Committee (M. Spencer Golovchenko)

A request was made for additional board members to consider joining the Strategy and Innovation Committee in order to expand the group, as there are currently only two members. M. Spencer Golovchenko also inquired if further follow up can be made with the City Clerk to fill the board's 6-month vacancy, in hopes of securing an innovative skill set for the new committee. M. Donachie will follow up with the Clerk and also offered to join the Committee. T. Regnier suggested promoting this volunteer opportunity via Pillar Nonprofit Network, as it is an excellent resource to access possible new volunteers in the wider community.

That the following actions be taken regarding the Committee reports:

**HENDERSON AND O'NEIL**

- a. That the Education Committee Terms of Reference **BE APPROVED**.

**CARRIED**

**KOUDYS AND MAJUMDAR**

- b. That the verbal reports for Gardens Committee, Education Committee and Strategy and Innovation Committee **BE ACCEPTED**.

**CARRIED**

**NEW BUSINESS**

M. Spencer Golovchenko suggested the December board meeting include a nod to the holiday season.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**KOUDYS**

Motion to adjourn.

**CARRIED**

The meeting adjourned at 6:43 PM.

**NEXT MEETING**

Thursday, December 17, 2020