

104th Report of the
ELDON HOUSE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Meeting held via remote electronic format, Thursday, March 18, 2021 commencing at 4:33 p.m.

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

Regrets: R. Griesmayer

1. Approval of the Agenda

KOUDYS AND SPENCER GOLOVCHENKO

That the Agenda **BE APPROVED** with the addition under item #5 Community Museum Digital Capacity Top Up Grant, # 7 Education Committee report, New Business items: April board meeting date and Name used for Eldon House in communications and branding.

CARRIED

2. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

R. Koudys declares conflict of interest with agenda item #6 Farhi Holdings Development.

3. Remarks – M. Donachie, Chair

The Chair deferred opening comments in lieu of speaking to specific agenda items.

4. Approval of 103rd Report of the Eldon House Board of Directors (attached)

SPENCER GOLOVCHENKO AND HENDERSON

That the 103rd Report of the Eldon House Board **BE APPROVED**.

CARRIED

5. Overview of Staff and Financial Reports (attached)

The following update by Curator Director T. Wittmann was given:

- Since reopening, there have been about 19 visitors to tour the museum and approximately 45 persons visiting the grounds.
- Information was provided on a quick-turnaround opportunity to apply for a one-time Community Museum Digital Capacity Top Up Grant opportunity for a maximum of \$9,761. The Curator Director submitted for consideration and a decision will be made on March 19, 2021.

Board members provided additional comments below:

M. Spencer Golovchenko commended staff on the pivot for the New Horizons grant to shift focus to virtual content. M. Majumdar welcomed support of C. Morgan, Professor at the University of Toronto to assist in development of programming and documentation on Amelia Harris. J. O'Neil proposed possible participation of Eldon House in 100th anniversary of the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada (RASC) London Centre in 2022, as John Harris used astronomy when a naval officer.

HENDERSON AND MAJUMDAR

That the Staff and Financial Reports as distributed **BE RECEIVED**.

CARRIED

6. T. Wittmann – Farhi Holdings – verbal update

The Curator Director and Board Chair met March 16 with City of London Planning Division to discuss the Farhi Holdings Development. T. Wittmann gave a summary of the discussion and there was good exchange of information and clarification for both organizations. Plans are to continue to keep the dialogue open between both the City and Farhi Holdings.

7. Committee reports

Collections and Policy Committee (attached; T. Regnier)

The Committee Chair presented the draft Communications Policy and Social Media Policy for review.

REGNIER AND SPENCER GOLOVCHENKO

That the Communications Policy and Social Media Policy **BE APPROVED** with the following revisions: update both policies to have biannual reviews and also format policy numbering to follow existing policies. For the Social Media Policy add Confidentiality Agreement into listing of related documents.

CARRIED

Strategy and Innovation Committee (attached; M. Majumdar)

The Committee Chair reported on a March 9 meeting that focussed on activities related to promoting Amelia Harris as a person of national significance, including: 1) publish a short book on Amelia producing 1000 copies possibly with launch of October 2021; 2) plan for promotion around her birthday next February; 3) put together an Amelia Wikipedia page and 4) work on longer term ideas, such as potentially portraying Amelia on Downtown Dollars. This is a step-by-step approach to keep building efforts to tell her story. A draft 2-page document giving background on Amelia Harris was shared with the board with their review and commentary to follow.

Education Committee (L. Henderson)

The Committee met March 5 and the Chair highlighted four items from the meeting: 1) summer programming focus will be outdoors, as safety is foremost for all on site; 2) congratulations were offered on new technology purchases to make videos for school programmes; 3) virtual tours are being devised for different audiences (students, families, Memory Lane); and 4) plans are underway to introduce Amelia Harris to younger children in outreach school programming. B. Ardiel presented the long-term goal to bring students and young people back into Eldon House in 2022. The Education Committee meets again in June.

MAJUMDAR AND KOUDYS

That the verbal committee reports for Communications and Policy Committee, Strategy and Innovation Committee and the Education Committee **BE RECEIVED**.

CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS

8. April meeting time

As there are five Thursdays in April, the Board considered deferring its monthly meeting to April 22 to provide staff more time to report. Following a brief discussion, the date of April 15 is unchanged.

9. Branding name use - M. Majumdar

MAJUMDAR AND HENDERSON

That the matters of Eldon House branding and name usage **BE REFERRED** to the Strategy and Innovation Committee and the Marketing Committee for review and possible revision.

CARRIED

10. In Camera – personnel matters, including information regarding identifiable individual(s) with respect to employment-related matters, advice or recommendations, including communications necessary for that purpose.

SPENCER GOLOVCHENKO AND MAJUMDAR

That the motion to go in-camera **BE APPROVED**.

CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT

KOUDYS

Motion to adjourn.

CARRIED

Adjourned at 7:13 PM.

NEXT MEETING

Thursday, April 15, 2021