

123rd Report of the
ELDON HOUSE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Meeting held virtually on Wednesday, January 14, 2022, commencing at 4:35 pm.

Present: M. Donachie (Chair), M. Halliday, T. Wittmann, J. O'Neil, B. Duncan, D. Fleming, D. Millar, R. Griesmayer, D. Luthra, R. Armistead, L. Henderson, T. Regnier, B. Keim

Regrets: M. Spencer Golovchenko,

1. Approval of the Agenda

HENDERSON and LUTHRA

That the agenda **BE APPROVED**

CARRIED

2. Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest

None

3. Approval of 121st Report of the Eldon House Board of Directors

LUTHRA and GRIESMAYER

That the 121st Report of the Eldon House Board **BE APPROVED**

CARRIED

Approval of the 122nd Report of the Eldon House Board of Directors

- In previous correspondence with M. Donachie and M. Halliday, M. Spencer Golovchenko advised there was no hyphen in her name. M. Halliday to edit.
- T. Regnier mentioned the spelling of T. Wittmann's name was spelt incorrectly – M. Halliday to edit.

FLEMING and DUNCAN

That the 122nd Report of the Eldon House Board **BE APPROVED**

CARRIED

4. Completion of Board Executive

The Board received a motion to appoint M. Halliday as Secretary, joining existing Executive members M. Donachie (Chair), R. Griesmayer (Vice Chair) and J. O'Neil (Treasurer), whose terms of office continue until AGM in May.

HENDERSON and FLEMING

That the completion of the Board Executive **BE APPROVED**

CARRIED

5. Overview of Financial Reports

- B. Keim advised that the Board was provided the preliminary financial statements for last fiscal year and after conversation with the Auditor, the audit is to start February 20, 2023 meaning there was hope the get a draft of the audited financial statements for the April meeting.
- Public programming was significantly higher in 2022 and it has been a long time since it's been this high.
- This is the final year of the 4-year budget and was used to create the budget for 2023. Budget deliberations with the City of London most likely to be in the late summer/early fall.
- Some discussion about the best way to provide the Board with financial reports as they can be difficult to read. Decided that the use of a file sharing platform was the best course of action by both the Board and T. Wittmann.

6. Overview of Staff Reports

- T. Wittmann advised that annual visitor totals showed a 60% increase from 2021 to 2022 and while keeping an eye on public health guidelines for 2023 plans, very optimistic.
- Numerous board members applauded T. Wittmann and Staff for the level of detail in the staff reports and how helpful it was to new incoming Board members.
- D. Fleming showed interest in knowing more information about the specific grants that Staff apply for. T. Wittmann then briefly advised of the staple grants that Eldon House applies for.
- L. Henderson mentioned in the report that there were 5 high risk things for conservation, asked what they were and asked about the busts that are currently with a Conservator. T. Wittmann advised about the wallpaper preservation which was an exciting project taken on in 2015/2016 but was expected project to continue based on success of staying the deterioration of the wallpaper which is precious and unique to Canada. As for the busts, T. Wittmann advised they were hoping to put them back in the Library where they were historically, but it was dependent on their structure. Hoping to have them completed by Amelia's birthday in February, but dependent on Conservator.
- B. Duncan asked about fundraising efforts and T. Wittmann advised that things were halted by the pandemic and have yet to start up again but was open to the conversation.

LUTHRA and O'NEIL

That the Financial and Staff Reports **BE RECEIVED**

CARRIED

7. Committee appointments:

1. Former directors as committee chairs

- R. Griesmayer provided background for expansion for committee leadership.
- Over the past 4 years, the structure of the standing committees was reviewed and some departing members have wanted to stay connected. She moved to expand the standing committee terms of reference to include former directors as Chairs.
- T. Wittmann confirmed that the Chairs are appointed for 2-year terms.
- Some discussion about potentially having co-chairs to allow for new Directors to learn about the processes of chairing a committee, then spoke about potentially a Vice Chair.
- Concluded that it was best to let the committees run as is, with former Directors as committee chairs and then re-visit in January 2024 to speak about succession planning.
- Motion put forward as unamended.

GRIESMAYER and MILLAR

That the motion to have former Directors as committee chairs **BE RECEIVED**

CARRIED

2. Membership of committees and discussion around volunteering

- M. Donachie suggested the Board continue to chat about it via email to get an idea of who wants to volunteer for which committee and a better idea of numbers for each committee.
- T. Wittmann offered to collate the numbers that we know into one document to share with the Board. This will be an agenda point for next meeting.
- T. Wittmann then shared a document put together by staff member N. Michienzi updating the Board on the status of the Volunteer program. M. Donachie re-confirmed that this would be a conversation had next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

8. M. Donachie stated a discussion around Board meeting dates would be circulating via email.
9. M. Donachie mentioned that collective bargaining to be done with CUPE on January 27th, 2023 alongside T. Wittmann

ADJOURNMENT

GRIESMAYER

Motion to adjourn

CARRIED

Adjourned at 5:57

NEXT MEETING

Online board meeting, Wednesday, February 15, 2023.