

LIBRARIES BOARD OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA
MEETING OF THE LIBRARIES BOARD OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Monday, 15 June 2020

Minutes No. 850

The meeting was held in the Hetzel Lecture Theatre, Institute Building and started at 10.02 am.

1 Present:

Mr Bruce Linn (Chair), Professor Joanne Cys, Mrs Janet Finlay, Mr Scott Hicks (arrived at 11.05 am), Ms Bronwyn Lewis (joined via Zoom), Professor Amanda Nettelbeck and Ms Jillian Whittaker.

In Attendance:

Mr Geoff Stempel (Director, State Library of SA)
Jo Bayly (Associate Director, State Library of SA)
Ms Hanlie Erasmus (Associate Director, Public Library Services)
Ms Sue Scadding (Executive Secretary, State Library of SA – Minutes)

2 Apologies: Ms Megan Berghuis).

3 Acknowledgement of Country

The Chair stated:

The Libraries Board acknowledges that we are meeting on the traditional Country of the Kurna people of the Adelaide Plains and pays respect to Elders past and present. We recognise and respect their cultural heritage, beliefs and relationship with the land. We acknowledge that they are of continuing importance to the Kurna people living today.

4 Conflict of Interest

Ms Jillian Whittaker and Ms Bronwyn Lewis registered a potential perceived conflict of interest regarding Item 7.1.

5 Decision on Matters for Discussion

6 Minutes

6.1 The minutes of the Board meeting of 18 May 2020 were confirmed with the meeting start time to be amended from 9.30 am to 10.00 am.

Moved: Bronwyn Lewis Seconded: Joanne Cys

6.2 Action List – June 2020

The Chair reported that he and Director will review the Board Actions list between now and the next meeting.

6.3 Matters dealt with Out of Session

7 Strategic Matters

7.1 PLS Draft Subsidy Allocation to Councils 2020-2021

The Associate Director, PLS reported.

This draft allocation is based on indexation of 1% from last year. If the budget allocation is greater than this an adjustment will be made. An increase to digital resources was approved by the PLS Standing Committee.

The Board discussed the methodology used, populations and the future MOA negotiations. The Chair noted that a number of members are new and require a history around the MOA to prepare ourselves to go into the discussions.

Ms Lewis reported on the PLS Standing Committee's good relationship with the LGA and referred to the Hudson Howells report. The report will be circulated to the Board with the next meeting's papers.

ACTIONS: A session will be held at the July Board meeting to provide the Board with the background and history of the MOA.

MOA Negotiations will be added to the Board Agenda. Another session will be held to discuss the next MOA.

The Hudson-Howells report is to be included with the July Board papers.

The Libraries Board approved the draft subsidy payments to councils for 2020-2021.

Moved: Joanne Cys Seconded: Amanda Nettelbeck

7.2 Update on State Library Draft Recurrent Budget 2020-21 – Late Paper

The Director reported on his late paper (*emailed to the Board on 12 June 2020*) concerning updated information regarding the State Library Draft Recurrent Budget for 2020-2021 and sought advice from the Board concerning its preferred approach.

The Board discussed the need for the State Library to go through a major transformation. Board-controlled funds must only be used for transformational purposes and these must be approved by the Board. The allocation of the Trading Account funds to help support the recurrent budget position was supported.

The Libraries Board:

- 1. Approved the use of the current Trading Account funds to support a transition to a more sustainable recurrent budget position following the recent reductions in the Library's funding; and**
- 2. Endorsed in principle the use of Board-controlled funds, in a custodially appropriate manner, to underwrite such transformational projects that will support and enable reforms and ongoing efficiencies in library practice. The Board seeks greater detail on such projects prior to their consideration and possible approval.**

Moved: Amanda Nettelbeck Seconded: Janet Finlay

8 Director's Report

The Director tabled his report and reported on:

1. An unsuccessful tenderer for PLS library materials;
2. Re-opening the Library. The Chair congratulated the Director and staff for the Library's response regarding COVID-19. The Board registered its formal thanks to the Director and team;
3. Met with Macquarie regarding the development of a draft investment policy;
4. Received a response from the Treasurer concerning approval to go to tender for an investment advisor;
5. University of South Australia has formally advised that it will terminate its partnership with the State Library for the contribution to the Library and Information Management courses at the end of this calendar year;
6. Notification of budget allocation for 2020-2021;
7. Requirement to commence MOA negotiations by July 2020;
8. Acknowledged the passing of Mrs Diana Bruce, wife of the former Chair of the Libraries Board, Mr James Bruce. The Director passed on the Board's condolences to Mr Bruce;
9. Visited Mr Hannaford and secured his donor agreement for his donation of materials to the Library;
10. Noted the retirement of Sue Scadding at the end of June 2020.

The Chair, on behalf of the Board, motioned a formal vote of thanks for Ms Scadding's service.

Moved: Bruce Linn

Seconded: Jillian Whittaker

Ms Lewis suggested that, given the market at the moment, the Board considers more philanthropic endeavours as a means to source more funding.

ACTION: The Chair, Bronwyn Lewis and the Director will schedule a meeting to discuss.

The Libraries Board noted the Director's report.

Moved: Amanda Nettelbeck

Seconded: Bronwyn Lewis

9 For Noting

9.1 PLS Support for COVID-19 Impact on Library Services

Unstarred Item. The Libraries Board noted the work undertaken by the PLS Programs and Communication team during COVID-19 restrictions.

10 Any Other Business

10.1 Ms Finlay provided an update on approaching potential external members for the Finance & Risk Committee. The Chair reported he has spoken with a Board member about joining the Committee.

10 Correspondence

11 Date of Next Meeting

The next Libraries Board meeting will be held on **Monday, 13 July 2020** at **10.00 AM**. The meeting will be held in the Hetzel Lecture Theatre, Ground Floor, Institute Building, State Library of South Australia. Zoom will be set up for those who are unable to attend in person.

The meeting closed at 11.32 am

Chair:

Date: