



*Inspire together & expand horizons*

The purpose of the Kootenay Library Federation is to facilitate collaboration between member libraries, in order to foster and promote equitable and outstanding library services.

**Spring Board Meeting Minutes  
April 30, 2022 – 10:35am Pacific**

**Location: Hume Hotel, Nelson**

**Trustees:** Kevin Atherton (Elkford), Joanne Beetstra (Trail), Dave Evans (Greenwood), Randi Fjeldseth (Nelson), Dianne Galloway (Castlegar Alternate), Jennifer Gawne (Salmo), Anne Heard (Kaslo), Wendy Hurst (Castlegar), Mary Kierans (Grand Forks), Daneve McAffer (Invermere), Laurie Riehl (Creston), Abigail Steele (Rossland), Jen Tagg (Radium), Gail Wakulich (Cranbrook), Maureen Weddell (Trail Alternate), Terry Welsh (KLF Treasurer & Nakusp Alternate)

**Regrets:** Shannon Girardo (Beaver Valley), Lyndsay de Jonge (Penticton), Jan Kohlhauser (Midway), Cathie Kearns (Kimberley), Shori Smith (Nakusp), Frank Longo (Fernie)

**Guests:** Heather Rennebohm – CBT Consultant, Babs Kelly – BCLTA, Anni Holtby – Chair, Nelson Public Library

**KLF Staff:** Melanie Reaveley, Executive Director

**Library Directors:** Stacey Boden (Rossland), Ursula Brigl (Cranbrook), Taylor Caron (Salmo), Cari Lynn Gawletz (Grand Forks), Saara Itkonen (Creston), Jacquie Kozak (Radium), Samantha Murphy (Trail), Claire Paradis (Nakusp), Anne Rogers (Invermere), Tracey Therrien (Nelson)

**Call to Order 10:35am**

1. Territorial acknowledgment was made at the AGM.
2. It was requested that the Treasurer's report be removed from the consent agenda and become agenda item 4.B. Motion to approve the agenda by Laurie Riehl and seconded by Mary Kierans. Carried.
3. Motion by Anne Heard and seconded by Mary Kierans that the following items contained in the consent agenda be approved and adopted: minutes of September 25, 2021 meeting, Acting

Chair/Executive Committee Report, Governance Committee Report, and Executive Director Report. Carried.

4. A. Motion by Mary Kierans that the discussed changes to the Governance Manual be approved and adopted. Seconded by Wendy Hunt. Carried.

B. After discussion, Joanne Beetstra moved and Abigail Steele seconded approval of the Treasurer's Report. Carried

5. LDAG Chair report, Saara Itkonen  
Saara thanked Kootenay member libraries for all their work helping their communities during the COVID pandemic. She acknowledged that Library Directors are feeling run down, but also united in the importance of libraries and advocating for increased provincial funding. At the LDAG meeting on April 29<sup>th</sup>, the group shared some of our challenges and took part in wellness activities. There was discussion amongst the KLF reps about common uses for the Provincial COVID relief grant.
6. Guest: Heather Rennebohm, CBT consultant  
Heather summarized the scope of her consulting work with the KLF through the Columbia Basin Trusts' nonprofit advisor's program. She thanked Board members and Library Directors for their participation in the survey which received a 50% response rate. Heather has created a report with 5 main recommendations about Board member engagement and intentional recruitment. The Executive Committee will study Heather's report, consider, trial the recommendations, and bring forward to the whole Board at our Fall meeting.
7. Guest: Babs Kelly, Training & Development Officer with BCLTA  
Babs offered a brief talk about the BCLTA and the importance of serving on a Board. She described governance as less of the 'what' and more of the 'why', with some why as oversight and governance. BCLTA strives to offer nimble training, meeting the needs of BC's library boards.
8. Adrienne Wass from Public Libraries Branch advised us of her regrets after the agenda was created.

Lunch Break & Nelson Library tour

9. Board activities and discussion
  - a. Activity: Getting to Know You Again - Board Member Scavenger Hunt
  - b. Discussions facilitated by Daneve
    - i. KLF reps described how they came to be the representative for their member library. For most, they volunteered for the role. One person specifically volunteered because they liked the idea of being part of a wider conversation about libraries throughout the Kootenays. In a couple of libraries, the Vice Chair and KLF rep role are a package deal.
    - ii. KLF reps explained what they receive/take-away from our meetings. Discussion points include a broader understanding of BC libraries, the desire to belong to a larger group, the community development aspect of giving back to something they feel is essential to the social aspect of communities, a sense of strength with other library federations, being energized as a Board member, recognizing and advocating for the unique value of libraries, and wanting to support libraries as community second responders.

- iii. KLF will pilot a trial of having two Co-Vice Chairs to support a shared leadership model. Having Co-Vice Chairs or Co-Chairs was described as a version of proportional representation. Participants feel that the Public Libraries Branch has a vested interest in Federations and want us to succeed.
- iv. How can we encourage more people to get involved in the KLF? Excellent discussion about specific task contributions vs. making a longer-term commitment. The Executive Committee and the ED will begin approaching individual Board members for ad-hoc requests based on needs and tasks.
- v. To close the meeting, Daneve asked KLF reps to share 2 things: appreciation for something/and what they are taking away.
  - 1. Gail – a sense of connection/a sense of optimism for advocacy
  - 2. Anne – how we pull and use resources/the importance of succession planning
  - 3. Abigail – problem solving efforts
  - 4. Maureen – learned a lot about group cohesiveness
  - 5. Dianne – being welcome to attend/connection between groups
  - 6. Wendy – enjoyed conversations and the people
  - 7. Mary – loved talking with everyone and the feeling of moving forward/the importance of succession planning
  - 8. Dave – appreciates the KLF members are concerned about small libraries/meeting everyone & the conversations
  - 9. Terry – the in-person meeting environment allows for building off each other’s conversations/the opportunities available (challenges too)
  - 10. Anni – a flexible organization that explores needs to meet needs/will share the discussions with the local Nelson rep
  - 11. Jen – senses a strong foundation here and is excited to see where we go with it
  - 12. Kevin – having the KLF as a resource for help & guidance/Heather’s work with our governance
  - 13. Joanne – commitment to maintain and improve/advocacy is a real mission

10. The meeting adjourned at 2:50pm.