

**OPIRG Peterborough Board Meeting**  
**Minutes April 7th, 2021 Via Zoom**  
**Minutes by: Jenn MacDonald**

Attendance: Robert Gibson, Addison Clermont, Jenn MacDonald, Nicola Koyanagi, Mohamed Farah, Angela Connors, Faith David, Heidi Sidky, Mikayla Livingston

Regrets:

Announcements:

Called to Order: 3:30PM

Land Acknowledgement  
Check-In

Staff Reports:

*Nicola Koyanagi (Coordinator):*

- March Newsletter
- Sent out cheques for sponsorships (CRRC, BLM, TQC, BIPOC growing collective)
- AGM/Board Nominations outreach (including Board Info Session)
- AGM preparation (many meetings, coordinating with Keynote and CRO, Annual General Report prep, virtual meeting prep; slides, forms, etc)
- Planning for Thank you! Party
- Struggling to connect IG and Facebook -- will use Later App
- Coordinating with Sakina for UHIP follow-up
- Supermarket Tour Review and Edits
- Bank letter for Amnesty International x2
- Attended Free Market Working Group meeting
- Ontario PIRG meeting re: planning Board Training
- Coordinated and attended Consensus Workshop with Awiiyuk
- Updated Anti-O workshop and facilitated 2 Anti-O 101 Workshops for Heads-Up for Inclusion Board and Staff
- Attended workshop: Tools & Practices for more fun online meetings and gatherings with Healing by Choice!
- Staff Evaluation with Jenn, Heidi, and Rob
- Conversation with Robert during his office hours about the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Network and the City Survey re Changerooms at the Wellness Center
- Attended Placement Students Poster presentation
- Beginning exit interviews with Student Staff (uploaded in SadleirNet)
- Applied for TWSP funding and we should be getting Levy Cheque soon (it's late, they needed me to send our financial review but I wasn't aware)
- Sent out inquiries for facilitation for Board Retreat

- AGM deliveries
- Anti-Racism Workshop by Future Ancestor (CUPE 3908 and TUFA)
- Meeting with new Board members

#### *Student Staff Updates From Nico*

- All student staff have completed their contracts
- Supermarket Tour book is all completed
- Thank You Party for all student staff
- Wrapped up Free Market, creating filing/sorting system for free market, coordinated funding for the FM
- Diya was interviewed by Trent Arthur regarding her research and was invited to several meetings with Trent faculty and was acknowledged by President Leo Groarke for her research and was interested on implementing her suggestions.

#### *Faith David (Placement Student):*

- Finishing her placement
- Prepping policy for Sexual Harassment for transition planning, and last-minute wrap ups
- Helping with AGM prep and planning
- Poster presentation with Mohammed

#### *Mohamed Farah (Placement Student):*

- Poster presentation with Faith
- Wrapping up placement student activities

#### Board Reports:

##### *Addison Clermont:*

- Attended the Thank You Party.
- Submitted form to renew the liability insurance for Provincial.
- Been in contact with the finance collective.
- Signing cheques and reviewing expenses.

##### *Robert Gibson:*

- Attended Consensus Training.
- Met with Heidi, Jenn, and Nicola for staff evaluation meeting.
- Met with Nico to discuss the diversity and inclusion committee (DEI) and policing in the community.
- Attended AGM and Thank You Party.
- Created Agenda for BOD meeting.
- Up to date with emails.
- Signing cheques.

##### *Jenn MacDonald:*

- Attended Thank You Party and AGM.

- Met with Heidi, Rob, and Nico for staff evaluation.
- Looking at OPIRG website to make edits and updates.

*Angela Connors:*

- Keeping up with emails.
- Attended the consensus training.
- Attended the AGM.

*Mohamed Farah:*

- Wrapping up time as a placement student.
- Met with Nico to go through Board Kit.

*Heidi Sidky:*

- Met with Nico, Jenn, and Rob for staff evaluation.
- Assisted with AGM planning and outreach.

Approval of Agenda:

**Motion to approve the agenda.**

Motioned by Heidi. Seconded by Mohammed. Board consensus.

Approval of Past Meeting Minutes:

**Motion to approve the meeting BOD Meeting Minutes from March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021.**

Motioned by Addison. Seconded by Heidi. Board consensus.

Passed Motions via Email:

Old Business:

1) *Phone*

a) Contract Option

- Samsung Galaxy S20 FE 5G from Bell.
- \$0 down, \$25.42 monthly for 2 years.
- Email from Bell saying they will give us 5 months service for free.
- Have to return the phone after 2 years or pay the remaining balance to own.

b) Second-Hand Option

- Used iPhone 8 64 GB from Banana Service (local to Peterborough).
- \$490 to buy out-right with same plan.

**Motion to purchase a refurbished iPhone 8 with Banana Service.**

Motioned by Addison. Seconded by Jenn. Board consensus

2) *Future Majority Email*

- Youth led non-partisan organization looking to run campaigns for Canadian youth.
- Looking to collaborate with OPIRG and get OPIRG to sign on to be a coalition partner to help them advocate for mental health.

**Motion to sign on as a coalition partner to support the efforts of Future Majority Peterborough/Northumberland.**

Motioned by Heidi. Seconded by Angela. Board Consensus.

3) *Meeting with Political Candidates 2022 Election*

- Nico makes the point that we can direct politicians to meet with Future Majority
- Board discusses that as a non-partisan organization OPIRG should not meet with political candidates or parties.

**Motion that OPIRG as an organization does not meet with Political Parties or Candidates.**

Motioned by Angela. Seconded by Jenn. 1 Abstention. Board consensus.

4) *Updates Re: Gender Neutral Change-rooms and TQC*

- City of Peterborough passed a motion to have a second survey on the Peterborough Sport and Wellness Center.
- Original design was to have 1 gender inclusive space instead of 3 separate change-rooms.
- Robert met with the Trent Queer Collective and an individual from that group is not supportive of maintaining the gender binary system as it is not inclusive and would “other” non-binary individuals.
- TQC put out info graphics with more information.
- Robert sent the email to councilors on behalf of OPIRG Peterborough.
- There will be a council meeting on April 26<sup>th</sup> where the public is able to present.

5) *OPIRG Sexual Harassment By-Law Committee*

- Faith has been focusing on terms and definitions section of the policy.
- In December, Faith reached out to TQC and Consent at Trent for consultation about inclusive gender terminology.
- Nico and Faith discussed the disciplinary action section and wanting to add a transformative justice approach.
  - This part can be a focus for the next person reviewing policy.
- Faith created a google doc with all the changes.
- Action to create a policy committee will be discussed at the board retreat.

**Action Item: Faith will add sexual harassment policy changes to Sadleir Net.**

New Business:

1) *Board Positions*

- Nico mentions that the portfolios were condensed and to look at previous portfolios and begin thinking about what portfolio you want to work on.

2) *Free Market Working Group Bank Letter*

- In order for Free Market to open a business account they need a legitimate organization to vouch for them.
- The Free Market is asking if OPIRG can write a letter of support.

**Motion to support the Free Market Working Group with a Bank Letter to legitimize their group.**

Motioned by Addison. Seconded by Angela. 1 Stand Aside. Board consensus

3) *5% Fee for Ontario PIRG Provincial Budget 2021/2022*

- Addison explains that it is the portion of our levy that we pay to provincial to help support the PIRG network and this support varies per chapter.

**Motion to support the 5% fee for OPIRG Provincial Budget 2021/2022.**

Motioned by Addison. Seconded by Angela. Board consensus

4) *No Fighter Jet Coalition*

- Email from Brock PIRG asking if OPIRG Peterborough to sit on the coalition.
- If interested, reach out to Fiona from OPIRG Brock.

5) *Website Updates*

- Jenn has looked into the website and is looking to make edits and changes keeping accessibility in mind.
- Angela mentioned that the CRRC has a website designer who assists them and they have an annual expense that is agreed upon.
- Nico did an informal check in with her friend who mentioned they can do a website for anywhere up to \$5000.
- Other PIRGS have used services that amount to \$3000-\$8000.
- Heidi will follow up with her connections with web development.
- Discussion around if we want to hire a third party to review and update the website.

**Motion to inquire about website development options for OPIRG Peterborough.**

Motioned by Robert. Seconded by Addison. Board consensus.

6) *Ask an Algonquin Sponsorship Request*

- Hosted by an org called “Bearing Witness to Canada”.
- There is a \$15 admission fee with the hopes of getting 100 attendees.
- Nico asked for more clarification on sponsorship ask – any amount was welcome.
- Angela suggests supporting 1 speaker at \$300 per speaker.

**Motion to tentatively support the Ask an Algonquin sponsorship request with \$300 for speaker fees after more information regarding if other sponsorship exists and projected ticket revenue is obtained.**

Motioned by Addison. Seconded by Angela. Board Consensus.

7) *Gender-Based Violence Lynn Gehl Request*

- Funding request from Lynn Gehl for her research she was commissioned to do on intersectional oppression with Indigenous women and girls with disabilities and gender based violence.
- There is around \$600 left in OPIRG budget for workshops so there could be option to turn this into an OPIRG event.
- General discussion around need to create a sponsorship policy.
- General discussion about how we can approve sponsorships in an equitable way for the entire community.

**Motion to deny Lynn’s request under the understanding that OPIRG needs to ensure we are supporting the community through sponsorships in an equal and equitable way.**

Motioned by Angela. Seconded by Heidi. Board Consensus

**Action Item: Nico and Addison to follow up with Lynn Gehl.**

8) *Fridays for Future Climate Strike*

- Robert suggests reaching out to Strike for Climate to make connections to the Free Market Group. As shoes have been used in demonstrations and protests the FM can provide shoes as a representation of protestors for future demonstrations.
- Addison makes a comment that there would need to be a form of supervision or logistical organizing

**Action Item: Robert to follow up with a more thorough proposal.**

9) *Turtle Conservation*

- Heidi – Ontario Turtle Conservation in Peterborough is asking if OPIRG can help with their grant writing.
- Jenn suggests directing them to Peterborough Area Fundraisers Network.

10) *Policy Committees – Sexual Harassment, Gift Card, Diversity and Inclusion*

- Angela suggests making one policy committee to review all policies.
- A discussion for the strategic planning session.

- Angela, Heidi, Robert, and Mohammed all agree to join the policy committee.

11) *Update Re: CRRC ReconciliAction Award*

- Re: a question about OPIRG being contributors to the selection committee.
- Annual donors will be a part of the selection committee.
- Any other contributions (under \$250) will be gifts-in-kind.

12) *Katimavik Volunteer*

- Katimavik reached out to provide a volunteer to OPIRG but there wasn't follow up on their end.
- Discussion about looking deeper into the inclusive and anti-oppressive practices of the volunteer organization.

13) *Canada Summer Jobs*

- Nico has had a hard time getting in touch with Canada Summer Jobs.
- Nico had applied for two positions.
- If approved, we would need to strike a hiring committee.
- What would the board like to do if we do not receive funding?

14) *Board Retreat*

- Scheduled for Sunday, April 25<sup>th</sup>
- Striking committees and discussing board roles.
- Note that the provincial network is planning on a provincial wide board training.
- Nico reached out to Bloom consulting and is waiting to hear back about facilitation.

15) *Potential Workshops*

- Heidi is proposing 2 workshops;
  - Discussion Board/Panel with Kemi Akapo (Youth Chair at City Council) to get youth more involved;
  - Workshop with "Sustainably Mickey" from Instagram, a Trent Alumni for a workshop on mending clothing etc.

**Action Item: Heidi to follow up with a more thorough proposal for workshops.**

16) *Change of Board Meetings*

- Discussion about the need for 1 meeting a month or bi-weekly meetings
- Discussion about ways to reduce length of timing in meetings

Check out

Next Meeting: TBA

Motion to Adjourn:

**Motion to Adjourn.**

Motioned by Addison. Seconded by Angela. Board consensus.

Adjourned at: 6:45pm

Upcoming Events/Dates:

*Board Retreat – Sunday, April 25<sup>th</sup> 2021*

Action items:

**Action Item: Faith will add policy changes to SadleirNet.**

**Action Item: Nico and Addison to follow up with Lynn Gehl.**

**Action Item: Robert to follow up with a more thorough proposal.**

**Action Item: Heidi to follow up with a more thorough proposal for workshops.**