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OPIRG Peterborough Board Meeting Minutes

May 3 2022 , 6:00 PM, Via Zoom

Minutes by: Jenn MacDonald

Facilitated by: Nico Koyanagi

Attendance: Nico Koyanagi, Addison Clermont, Jenn MacDonald, Robert Gibson, Hannah Austin

Regrets:

Announcements:

Called to Order: 6:00pm

Land Acknowledgement

Check-In 6:09pm

Staff Reports:

Nico Koyanagi, Coordinator:

- Preparing for a facilitating Board Retreat Sessions
- Theresa's final evaluation
- Prep for Staff and Volunteer Appreciation event
- Catching up on finance and admin tasks
- Interview Morgan for BSW placement next year
- Meeting with Kelsey to discuss contract extension and tasks
- Attended Levy council meeting
- Final review of all research projects
- Attended Responding to Everyday Racism Training sessions
- Hiring for Canada Summer Jobs position
- TWSP applications for reimbursement
- Need to do applications for next year tomorrow, so will be doing some hours
- Began office cleanout and organization with Addison and Kelsey including archiving and getting rid of some things in the Sadleir House dumpster

- Attending All-Collectives meetings, Internal Development Collective meetings, and bargaining meetings
- Have been taking vacation time (previously approved by the board) to move.

Additionally, I have been keeping up with social media, weekly staff meetings and supervision, placement student supervision, financial duties including bills, reconciliation, remittances, WSIB, union dues, payroll etc.

Kelsey Roote, Program Coordinator

- Working on the May newsletter
- Helping with office cleaning
- Prepping How-Tos for Student Staff positions
- Supporting with Job Posting
- Working on Indigenous Abolitionist Study Group

Board Reports:

Robert Gibson, Chair:

- Checked bins
- Met with Nico
- Resigned as chair during election

Addison Clermont, Provincial Liaison:

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Jenn MacDonald, Staff Liaison:

- Attended first two sessions of Board Strategic Planning
- Created a timeline of goals set out at the last Strategic Planning Session and what we accomplished, what was missed, etc.

Approval of the Agenda:

Motion to approve the Agenda.

Motioned by Jenn. Seconded by Addison. Board Consensus.

Passed Motions via Email/Slack:

1. N/A

Old Business:

1. Approval of Minutes for: [March 1, 2022](#) and [April 5th, 2022](#)

Motion to approve the minutes from March 1, 2022

Motioned by Jenn. Seconded by Addison. Board Consensus,

Motion to approve the minutes from April 5, 2022

Motioned by Jenn. Seconded by Addison. Board Consensus.

New Business:

1. Laptop

- Nico picked up the new laptop from ReBoot.
- Nico mentioned it is making a low rattling sound.
- Nico asked if there was a warranty on the computer?
- ReBoot was supposed to issue a refund which has not come yet.

Action Item: Addison to call ReBoot to clarify about the warranty and the refund of laptop.

2. Research proposal - *Tabled until next Board meeting.*

3. 30 seconds of reflection

4. Permission to Survive - Petition to City Council (Jenn 5 mins)

- “Until the City of Peterborough can ensure all residents have access to safe and adequate housing or, at the very least, shelter beds available to anyone who requires them, we, the undersigned, are urging Peterborough City Council to request the CAO enact Section 13 of the Parks and Facilities By-Law. In addition, we request the City of Peterborough open a park where those experiencing homelessness can set up tents legally, with access to water, toilet facilities, and supports. This would allow the City of Peterborough to take the first steps in decriminalizing those experiencing homelessness. This step must be taken to work towards ensuring no one is denied the fundamental right to housing.”

<https://permissiontosurvive.mailchimpsites.com/>

- Supported by One City, John Howard Society, Elizabeth Fry Society of Peterborough, One Roof Community Centre, PARN, 360 Degree Nurse, & the CCRC

Motion to sign onto the Permission to Survive petition urging City Council to enact Section 13 of the Parks & Facilities By-Law

Motioned by Jenn. Seconded by Robert. Board consensus.

Action Item: Jenn to sign on to the Petition on behalf of OPIRG Peterborough

Other Business:

1. Free Market proposal to become Program (Free Market Working Group) - *Tabled until Board Planning Session*

Action Item: Rob to reach out to the Free Market Working Group to ask for a summary of their thoughts, concerns, and ideas for the board to address in the Strategic Planning Session.

2. Odoobii Watershed Stewards Sponsorship request of \$500 which will be used for communication and signage for the project
 - Requesting support of \$500 for communication and signage for a rehabilitation project along the west side of Jackson Creek, north of Parkhill Road bridge.
 - The activities of the project are: researching and sourcing suitable plants, determining and obtaining required support material such as soil amendments and protective fabrics, designing and producing signage, marshalling equipment and personnel, work scheduling, performing the removal and planting, installing signage and maintenance until the new plantings are established and outcompeting invasives. We will simultaneously and more broadly be doing communication activities to get the message out and invite wider participation.
 - \$1000 is currently left in the sponsorship budget line.
 - Jenn tests a motion for \$100-\$150

Motion to provide support of \$150, 250 buttons, & use of OPIRGs Button Maker to the Odoobii Watershed Stewards for their rehabilitation project.

Motioned by Jenn. Seconded by Robert. Board Consensus.

3. 30 seconds of reflection

4. Request for endorsement for "CAF out of Calgary" campaign

- calling for the City of Calgary to end its contract with the Spanish/Basque company CAF (Construcciones y Auxiliar de Ferrocarriles) because of the company's human rights abuses against Palestinians.
- "City of Calgary [signed](#) a contract with CAF to supply the rail cars for the city's new transit line – the "Green Line." Unfortunately, CAF partnered with Israel's Shapir Engineering and Industry (SEI) in 2019 to win a \$2.5 billion CDN contract to expand the Jerusalem Light Rail (JLR) network. This expansion of the JLR further entrenches human rights abuses and discrimination against Palestinians. In February, 2020, SEI, was listed by the UN as one of 112 companies which unlawfully profits from human rights abuses against the Palestinians. Later that year, there was a formal request to the UN that CAF also be added to this list."
- Website for this campaign at <https://CAFOutOfCalgary.ca>
 - The link does not work.
- Asking for OPIRGs endorsement
- <https://www.cjpme.org/home>
- Nico to follow up with the group to see if they can send an updated link for the board to have more information.

5. Board Portfolios and Committees - *Tabled to next Strategic Planning Meeting.*

Action Items: Board Members to review portfolios and committees before the next planning meeting.

6. Benefits Plan Merger

- A class A decision from the Provincial PIRG
- All chapters have health benefits through Green Shield administered by OPIRG Provincial
- Talks to merge plans with CFS (Canadian Federation of Students) to reduce costs and have better access to benefits
 - Improves coverage at same or lower costs per member
 - Fixes the LTD enrollment issue
- Nico shares an addition that should be made: OPIRG maintains the autonomy of negotiations of said benefits moving forward.
- Addison: We should be able to maintain control in determining what OPIRGs benefits package is. We would be under their benefit 'umbrella' in our own package.

- Nico understands it differently.
- We are being asked if we support the merger.

Motion to support the merging of OPIRGs Health Benefits with CFS on the condition that an additional condition is added indicating OPIRG maintains the autonomy over the health benefits package moving forward.

Motioned by Hannah. Seconded by Robert. Board Consensus.

In-Camera Meeting:

No in camera session.

Check out

Next Meeting Date: Tuesday May 17th, 2022 - Board Strategic Planning

Motion to Adjourn:

Motioned to Adjourn the Board Meeting.

Motioned by Jenn. Seconded by Addison. Board Consensus.

Adjourned at: 7:58pm

Upcoming Dates/Events:

- None to report.

Action Items:

- **Jenn to send out minutes and report from Strategic Planning Session P.2**
- **Addison to call ReBoot to clarify about the warranty and the refund of laptop.**
- **Jenn to sign on to the Petition on behalf of OPIRG Peterborough**
- **Board Members to review portfolios and committees before next planning meeting.**
- **Action Item: Rob to reach out to the Free Market Working Group to ask for a summary of their thoughts, concerns, and ideas for the board to address in the Strategic Planning Session.**