



PRL BOARD TALK

Highlights of the Parkland Regional Library Board Meeting

FEBRUARY 22, 2018

Staff Long Service Awards

Three PRL staff received long service awards at the February board meeting.

Donna Williams – 20 Years

Wendy Crews – 20 Years

Rhonda O’Neill – 5 years

Annual Report

Ron Sheppard presented the 2017 annual report data. Of note: Items ordered has decreased, interlibrary loan volume has increased, PRL has purchased a 3rd van to support volumes and hired an additional part time staff member to assist with shipping & receiving, and cardholders numbers have increased significantly since several libraries have eliminated card fees.

Board Chair Policy Update

The board voted to update the policy regarding length of term a board chair can serve. PRL Board policy 2.2.9 will now read that the board will: “Elect one of its members as chairperson at the organizational meeting each year” so there is no limitation on terms a chair can serve.

After the policy change was approved, another election was held since the November 2017 election was invalid. Debra Smith was nominated and elected Chair by acclamation.

Executive Committee Composition

In PRL policy, those municipalities with populations over 15,000 automatically received a seat on Parkland’s Executive Committee. However, due to population increases in a number of municipalities, staff were tasked to adjust the geographical electoral boundaries for executive committee representation. PRL’s board policy 2.5.6 has been updated as well. In addition to changing the electoral boundaries for seats on the Executive Committee, the PRL board eliminated the provision for automatic seats. Starting at next November’s organizational meeting, all seats on PRL’s Executive Committee will be selected by a combination of population and geography.

PRL Strategic Plan

Parkland’s Strategic Plan expires in 2018 and a new plan should be submitted for 2019-2021. The current strategic plan was very ambitious. It is the opinion of PRL management and the executive committee that the needs in our region have not changed and the plan’s four main goals are still relevant. The board has elected to have a needs assessment done to determine if the current plan is still applicable. If the conclusion is that the plan is still pertinent, its timeline may be extended until 2021.

Building Renovation

PRL put out an RFP in early February to all member municipalities and several local builders. We requested proposals for a possible collaboration on a new building for PRL, or a lease-to-own-option (regional systems are not permitted to borrow money for major capital infrastructure projects). Proposals were received at the end of February and the Executive Committee is reviewing them later this spring.

The Executive Committee will report back to the board with recommendations and the board will make the final decision on the building project.

CIP Grant

PRL was successful in obtaining a Community Initiatives Program grant for \$50,000. The grant will be used to purchase computers for libraries and PRL headquarters.

Next Meeting: May 24, 2018, 1:00 PM.