



Minutes of the Regular Meeting September 27, 2023

*The County of Brant Public Library cultivates inclusivity
and empowers lifelong learning.*

Date: September 27, 2023

Place: Glen Morris Branch

Present: Paula Chorpitta, Nathan Etherington, Fred Gladding, Amanda Henderson, Steve Howes, Jennifer Kyle, Kari Raymer Bishop, Marilyn Sewell

Regrets: David Bailey, Linda Tripp

Staff: Kelly Bernstein, Steph Burchill

Call to Order: F. Gladding in the Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

Approval of the Agenda

Moved by: S. Howes

Seconded by: M. Sewell

THAT the agenda be approved.

Carried

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature of

None

Approval of the Minutes

Moved by: A. Henderson

Seconded by: P. Chorpitta

THAT the minutes of the June 28, 2023, regular meeting be approved as presented.

Carried

Business Arising

K. Bernstein provided a verbal update on New Main Branch progress. The demolition of the later additions to the Bawcutt Centre has been completed. The current remaining structure is covered for the upcoming winter season.

Consent Items to be Received – Communications

Moved by: M. Sewell

Seconded by: J. Kyle

THAT the July Safety Talk, September Safety Talk, JHSC Minutes: June 2023, and correspondence from Board Member Linda Tripp be received.

Carried

Library Board Development

The Paris & District Chamber of Commerce met at the Paris Branch on September 20th. Board Members P. Chorpitta, and N. Etherington attended. K. Bernstein presented information on the New Main Branch. F. Gladding reminded the Board that the Ontario Library Service Virtual Conference for Boards will take place on September 28.

Submissions for Board Development

F. Gladding reminded Board Members that suggestions for Board Development are encouraged and should be submitted to the Chair or CEO for inclusion in the agenda.

Reports

K. Bernstein reported overall increases in the Output Measures for July & August 2023. The increased usage of children's material in the summer months is noted and attributed to a successful Summer Reading Program. Staff are monitoring a declining trend in Freegal (eMusic) use. K. Bernstein shared news that long-term vendor Library Services Centre has posted notice of intention to dissolve the corporation. Staff are in discussions with new vendors for library materials. Operating expenditures to date are normal overall, with the collections budget lines expecting to catch up by the end of the year. Library newsletter *Something for Everyone* was shared, which is currently promoting the Digitally Savvy Seniors Program series and Culture Days. A new Makerspace Coordinator has been hired, and a Gear & Gadgets Librarian temporary contract has been posted to cover an upcoming maternity leave. K. Bernstein shared she has been asked to join the OPL Guidelines Committee.

K. Bernstein announced a new partnership with Brant County Health Unit to distribute free Naloxone kits to the public. The program is expected to launch November 1, 2023. Policies and procedures relating to the Library's harm reduction response are being developed. All staff will receive training on the distribution program and first aid for drug poisoning.

P. Chorpitta reported Facility updates.

N. Etherington presented draft amendments to the Library's Constitution and led discussion. A vote to approve constitutional changes will be held the following month.

Moved by: N. Etherington

Seconded by: P. Chorpitta

THAT the reports be received for information.

Carried

New Business

The success of the Summer Reading Club was shared by K. Bernstein. There will be a social media campaign to thank donors . K. Bernstein presented the draft 2024 Operating Budget. Adjustments to the base budget meet Council's directive to submit estimates that maintain current service levels. Changes include: inflationary increases for goods and services, cost of living increases for staffing, and decreases wherever possible to better match actual spending.

Council Updates

S. Howes and J. Kyle shared news and information from Council with the Board.

In-Camera Session

Moved by: P. Chorpitta

Seconded by: N. Etherington

THAT the Library Board convene in camera to discuss personnel matters: CEO Job Description Update.

S. Burchill left the meeting.

On a motion by S. Howes and P. Chorpitta the Library Board rose from closed session and reconvened the regular meeting.

S. Burchill returned to the meeting.

Moved by: J. Kyle

Seconded by: A. Henderson

THAT the Board form an ad hoc Human Resources Sub-Committee with appointees F. Gladding, M. Sewell, P. Chorpitta, N. Etherington.

Carried

Next Meeting

October 25, 2023 at 7pm. Paris Branch.

Adjournment

S. Howes moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:26pm.

Meeting adjourned.