



Minutes of the Regular Meeting June 25, 2025

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

Date: June 25, 2025

Place: Paris Branch

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

Staff: Kelly Bernstein, Steph Burchill

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

Approval of the Agenda

Moved by: N. Etherington

Seconded by: J. Kyle

THAT the agenda be approved as amended.

Carried

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature of

None

Presentation- New Paris Branch Public Consultation Update and Next Steps

Melody Martin and Daniel Comerford from LGA Architectural Partners Inc. provided a summary of the public consultation outcomes from June 17 and presented the proposed next steps in the site selection process.

In-Camera Session

Moved by: S. Howes

Seconded by: N. Etherington

THAT the Library Board convene in camera to discuss confidential matters:

S.239(2) (k) a position, plan, procedure, criteria or instruction to be applied to any negotiations carried on or to be carried on by or on behalf of the municipality or local board. (New Central Branch Site Selection)

On a motion by N. Etherington and seconded by J. Bell the Library Board rose from closed session and reconvened the regular meeting.

Approval of the Minutes

Moved by: P. Chorpitta

Seconded by: J. Kyle

THAT the minutes of the May 28, 2025, Regular Meeting be approved as presented.

Carried

Business Arising

At the request of K. Bernstein, Environics has proposed a secondary date to deliver an updated presentation on the demographic study data.

As requested, Board members who also serve on Council raised the topic of the Memorandum of Understanding with Alison Newton, CAO. The response received was that, on the advice of the County Solicitor, discussions regarding the MOU are paused until the conclusion of the Ombudsman's investigation.

Consent Items to be Received – Communications

Moved by: J. Bell

Seconded by: S. Howes

THAT the June Safety Talk, JHSC Minutes: May 2025, be received.

Carried

Library Board Development

K. Bernstein and F. Gladding attended the Library as a Place conference. N. Etherington highlighted a Board Member survey being conducted by OLBA, with an end of month deadline.

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 presented output measures for May 2025, showing a strong recovery following a slower April, with notable increases in eBook usage and circulation of children's materials. In-person visits, reference inquiries, and computer workstation use also rose. Wi-Fi statistics are once again available after the upgrade of some hardware. Online class participation has doubled.

Programs performed well in May; the Death Café event was especially well attended and received excellent feedback.

The operating budget stands at 39% spent at end of May. Mid-year spending is anticipated to be on track at 50% spent.

Two Summer Literacy students, Carley Vivash and Elizabeth Cameron, have been hired.

Recruitment is underway for two new student pages for St. George and Paris, with a fall start date.

The "Something for Everyone" newsletter continues to highlight a broad range of programs, including the Summer Reading Program.

P. Chorpitta reported updates on behalf of the Facility Committee.

Moved by: N. Etherington

Seconded by: S. Howes

THAT the reports be received as presented.

Carried

New Business

K. Bernstein presented report RPT: 6-25-25 Library Re-Accreditation for information.

Moved by: M. Sewell

Seconded : S. Howes

THAT staff be directed to pursue Re-Accreditation of all CBPL branches in 2025.

Carried

K. Bernstein noted that the County is undertaking a potential community project in Glen Morris and asked for Board direction to participate in the planning and concept design for a potential co-located library branch.

Moved by: S. Howes

Seconded : A. Henderson

THAT Library staff be directed to participate in planning and concept design for a potential co-located library branch.

Carried

Staff Development Day 2025 is to be held on September 22, 2025.

Moved by: S. Howes

Seconded : J. Bell

THAT the Library close to the public on Monday, September 22, 2025 for staff training.

Carried

Next Meeting

September 24, 2025 (Regular meeting), Scotland-Oakland Branch

Special meetings July-August at the call of the Chair

Adjournment

S. Howes moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:24pm.

Meeting adjourned.