



**Minutes of the Regular Meeting November 26, 2025**  
*The County of Brant Public Library cultivates inclusivity  
and empowers lifelong learning.*

**Date:** November 26, 2025

**Place:** Paris Branch

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

**Regrets:** Paula Chorpitta

**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: M. Sewell

Seconded by: N. Etherington

THAT the agenda be approved as amended.

**Carried**

**Declaration of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature of**

None

**Presentation- New Central Branch Library Final Needs Assessment and Site Study**

Janna Levitt, Architect, LGA Architectural Partners Inc. presented the draft Needs Assessment and Site Study for the new Central Branch Library.

Moved by: M. Sewell

Seconded by: J. Kyle

THAT the County of Brant Public Library New Central Branch Needs Assessment and the Site Study reports be approved.

**Carried**

## **Business Arising**

### **In-Camera Session**

Moved by: S. Howes

Seconded by: J. Bell

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. Kyle the Library Board rose from closed session and reconvened the regular meeting.

### **Approval of the Minutes**

Moved by: J. Bell

Seconded by: J. Kyle

THAT the minutes of the October 22, 2025 regular meeting be approved as presented.

**Carried**

### **Consent Items to be Received – Communications**

Moved by: M. Sewell

Seconded by: J. Kyle

THAT the November Safety Talk, JHSC Minutes: October 2025, be received.

**Carried**

### **Library Board Development**

F. Gladding and N. Etherington attended the OLS 2025 Virtual Conference which included an information session on the Valuing Ontario Libraries Toolkit. N. Etherington reminded the Board of the upcoming Library Board Bootcamp being held at the Ontario Library Association Super Conference in January.

### **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 October 2025, which show an increase of 7% over this time last year, with an overall year-to-date increase of 5%.

K. Bernstein reviewed the monthly Statement of Operations. To date, 83% of the operating budget has been spent, which aligns with the financial year being 83% complete.

A Paris Branch staff member will be going on maternity leave, and interviews are currently underway to select a temporary replacement.

The Shoebox Project partnership is underway and will continue in all branches until December 5.

Accreditation auditors have completed their tour, and re-accreditation is expected to be presented in January at the OLA Super Conference.

The November “Something for Everyone” Library Newsletter highlights the upcoming One Book, One Brant author visit with bestselling writer Linwood Barclay, who will present his new thriller *Whistle* on April 12.

The “On the Horizon” program guide advertises upcoming programs, including Unstoppable: An Olympic Celebration on January 18, which will feature a panel of Olympians sharing their experiences, and The Great Gala, a Great Gatsby–themed event scheduled for February 27 in Cainsville.

K. Bernstein reported updates on behalf of the Facility Committee.

Moved by: M. Sewell

Seconded by: J. Kyle

THAT the reports be received as presented.

**Carried**

### **New Business**

K. Bernstein presented the 2024 Provincial Statistics and Library Comparators Report.

Moved by: J. Bell

Seconded by : A. Henderson

THAT the Library Board directs K. Bernstein and F. Gladding to present the 2024 Provincial Statistics and Library Comparators Report to Council at a future meeting.

**Carried**

### **Next Meeting**

December 17, 2025 Paris Branch

### **Adjournment**

S. Howes moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:53pm.

**Meeting adjourned.**