



County of Brant Public Library Board Minutes of the Regular Meeting

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

Date: June 22 2022

Time: 7 p.m.

Place: Online via Zoom

Present: Paula Chorpitta, Nathan Etherington, Steve Howes, Marc Laferriere, Marilyn Sewell, Joyce Smith, Alice Sroka

Regrets: David Bailey, Fred Gladding, Jim Shivas

Staff: Kelly Bernstein, CEO

Call to Order: A. Sroka, in the Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:02pm

Approval of the Agenda

Moved by: N. Etherington

Seconded by: J. Smith

THAT the agenda be approved as presented.

Carried

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature of

None

Approval of the Minutes

Moved by: N. Etherington

Seconded by: S. Howes

THAT the minutes of the May 25, 2022 regular meeting be approved as presented.

Carried

Business Arising

K. Bernstein provided a verbal update on the New Main Branch Library and the RFID project. Staff attended a kickoff meeting with architecture team DPAI on June 22. Equipment and supplies for the RFID modernization project have been sourced from Bibliotheca, to maximize efficiency and maintain compatibility with the Library's existing self-check technology.

Moved by: M. Laferriere

Seconded by: M. Sewell

THAT the Business Arising report be received as information.

Carried

Consent Items

Moved by: M. Laferriere

Seconded by: M. Sewell

THAT the June Safety Talk and May 2022 JHSC Minutes received as information.

Carried

Board Development

N. Etherington shared updates from the Ontario Library Board Association (OLBA). OLBA plans to launch a postcard campaign to raise awareness about library boards, to coincide with the fall municipal election. Board members discussed local initiatives promoted by OLBA.

Moved by: N. Etherington

Seconded by: J. Smith

THAT the Planning Committee be directed to draft a library awareness questionnaire, to be distributed to all municipal candidates, and communicate responses to the public.

S. Howes abstained from the vote.

Carried

Submissions for Board Development

A. Sroka solicited input for future Board Development sessions. K. Bernstein reminded Board members of the upcoming Annual Institute on the Library as Place, held in Toronto in early July.

Reports

K. Bernstein presented a verbal update on Library statistics and financials to May 31 2022. Electronic circulation is dropping slightly, relative to print circulation, which is rising. The net result is an overall increase. This reflects changing usage patterns with more patrons returning in person as COVID concerns decrease. Similarly, user-initiated transactions have decreased and staff transactions have increased; indicating that patrons are having more in-person contact with staff. Wi-fi continues to be unavailable sporadically in some branches. Repairs have been slow due to ongoing supply chain and technical support availability problems.

Year-to-date spending continues to be on track. K. Bernstein filed the Library's 2021 Charitable Information return to the Canadian Revenue Agency this week.

Several staffing changes have taken place. Retirements have created opportunities for existing staff to move to new branches or take on new roles. Management are currently interviewing to fill vacant positions. Response to external job postings has been excellent.

The Library celebrated the grand opening of the Onondaga Kiosk on June 18.

P. Chorpitta reported Facility updates.

Moved by: S. Howes

Seconded by: P. Chorpitta

THAT the reports be received for information.

Carried

In J. Shivas' absence, N. Etherington presented the draft Succession Planning Policy.

Moved by: N. Etherington

Seconded by: J. Smith

THAT the Succession Planning policy be adopted.

Carried

Council Updates

S. Howes, and M. Laferriere shared news and information from County Council with the Board.

Next Meeting

September 28, 2022, location TBA.

Adjournment

S. Howes moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:42pm.

Meeting adjourned.