



Minutes of the Regular Meeting April 24, 2024

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

Date: April 24, 2024

Place: Burford Branch

Present: Paula Chorpitta, Nathan Etherington, Mike Gatopoulos, 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 7:00pm.

Approval of the Agenda

Moved by: M. Sewell

Seconded by: N. Etherington

THAT the agenda be approved with one addition under New Business: Provincial Advocacy Update.

Carried

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature of

None

Guests: Alison Newton

Alison Newton, County CAO shared updates on the New Build schedule. No major changes or milestones have been reached in the New Build. A report will go to Council in June, which will summarize the Class C estimate results and detailed design. There are no Council decisions needed or anticipated in June.

A draft Memorandum of Understanding has been forwarded to K. Bernstein for review. The formatting is as an Operational MOU containing multiple schedules, including the New Build.

Other schedules being created include the provision of IT Services, Human Resources, Legal, and other services provided in kind. Several iterations are expected, and once details are finalized the Board will review.

Approval of the Minutes

Moved by: P. Chorpitta

Seconded by: M. Gatopoulos

THAT the minutes of the March 27, 2024 Regular Meeting be approved as presented.

Carried

Business Arising

K. Bernstein shared that costing for the Class C estimate on the heritage portion of the Bawcutt Centre has begun. Once detailed design of the new addition is complete, it will be sent to CSL for costing too. Class C estimate results are expected at the end of May. DPAI is updating their 3D renderings for use in upcoming fundraising and marketing campaigns. A contract is being finalized for the hiring of a professional fundraiser, and an internal staff member has been tasked with pursuing grant opportunities. Brant Municipal Enterprises (BME) is taking the lead on sustainability grant opportunities from the Green Municipal Fund.

S. Howes presented concerns that had been voiced to him regarding funding for the New Main Branch. The Board reviewed funding sources and amounts, and in response to questions, K. Bernstein provided information about Development Charge revenue. The Board directed the CEO to present a report with further details at the May meeting.

The Board discussed use of the Opera Hall as an event space and its impact on Library service and directed the CEO to draft a report with comparative examples from other library systems. K. Bernstein advised that a draft operational plan would be presented at the May meeting.

Consent Items to be Received – Communications

Moved by: N. Etherington

Seconded by: J. Kyle

THAT the Resolution Approved by County of Brant Council – March 26, 2024, April Safety Talk, JHSC Minutes: March 2024, Paris Friends of the Library Minutes: April 2024, be received.

Carried

Library Board Development

Deferred due to time limitations.

Submissions for Board Development

F. Gladding has requested that submissions for Board Development be deferred for the time being.

Reports

K. Bernstein reported that Output measures for March show steady growth overall. Online community engagement is up due to recent posts about One Book, One Brant program, the New Build campaign, and the distribution of eclipse glasses. The Childrens Program numbers shows a decrease due to changed dates for school outreach events and are expected to rebound. Adult Program growth continues.

The Operating statement has now been populated with approved budget numbers. At the end of the first quarter, expenditures total 21%, which is on track as several services contracts come due at year end.

April's Something for Everyone newsletter highlights many library events. The One Book, One Brant author event will take place on Saturday May 25th with a writing masterclass to follow on Sunday.

P. Chorpitta reported Facility Committee updates.

M. Sewell reported the HR Committee has developed a template for the CEO evaluation. The evaluation form will be distributed, and the committee would like the form returned by mid-May.

Moved by: M. Gatopoulos

Seconded by: P. Chorpitta

THAT the reports be received as presented.

Carried

N. Etherington presented draft changes to the Adult Volunteers, Youth Volunteers and Board Committees- Terms of Reference policies.

Moved by: N. Etherington

Seconded by: S. Howes

THAT the Volunteers in the Library and the Board Committees- Terms of Reference policies be approved as presented.

Carried

New Business

N. Etherington shared results from OLBA's advocacy sessions at "Library Day at Queens Park". The singular success being an increase to the First Nations Libraries supplement and the increase to the First Nations Public Library Operating Grant.

Council Updates

Nil.

Next Meeting

May 22, 2024, 7pm at the St. Geroge Branch.

Adjournment

M. Gatopoulos moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:12pm.

Meeting adjourned.