



## 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

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**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.**