

ORILLIA PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD

MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 21, 2024 MEETING

A regular meeting of the Board was held in the Library commencing at 3:30 p.m.

PRESENT – BOARD – Deborah Watson, Chair; Meghan Edwards, Vice-Chair; Catherine Allman; John Bard; Elaine Bremer; Helen Mallon; Gail McCorkell; Don McIsaac; Whitney Smith; Mike Stahls

STAFF – Bessie Sullivan, Chief Executive Officer
Melissa Robertson, Director of Corporate & Operational Services
Meagan Wilkinson, Director of Children’s & Youth Services
Amy Lambertsen, Co-Ordinator of Circulation Services
Tina Chatten, Recorder

ABSENT - Wanda Minnings

CONVENING OF THE MEETING – D. Watson welcomed those in attendance and via Zoom.

Land Acknowledgement Statement – D. Watson read the Library Board’s statement.

Call to Order – D. Watson called the meeting to order.

Approval of the Agenda

MOTION #2024:06

Moved by C. Allman, seconded by D. McIsaac that the Orillia Public Library Board approve the Agenda of the February 21, 2024 meeting. **CARRIED**

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof – none

CONSENT AGENDA

B. Sullivan commented on an email she received from an eight-year-old boy newly arrived with his family from Bahrain asking for a meeting. They wanted to relay how welcoming the library was to them and how important it is for newcomers to the area.

M. Wilkinson highlighted programs held with community partners last month from the OSPCA and Couchiching Conservancy during the story walk at Scout Valley, both promoted the library and supplied volunteers to assist with the programs. Many new families came out and enjoyed a great day.

M. Robertson reported that the Library will again be the host site of the Physician Recruitment Gala this Friday February 23rd after a 4-year absence.

MOTION #2024:07

Moved by D. McIsaac, seconded by E. Bremer that the Consent Agenda of the February 21, 2024 meeting be adopted. **CARRIED**

DISCUSSION AGENDA

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Annual Workplan for 2024 – The Board had no further changes or additions.

MOTION #2024:08

Moved by H. Mallon, seconded by J. Bard that the Orillia Public Library Board accept the Annual Workplan for 2024. CARRIED

REPORTS OF BOARD COMMITTEES AND REPRESENTATIVES

Finance Committee – The CEO met with City Treasury staff and further investigation is needed so accounts are not yet final for 2023, clarification is also needed from the City HR Department. The Reserve Funds report is accurate as well as financial statements for January 2024 which were presented for Board review and discussion. Financial statements will be audited in June as usual.

MOTION #2024:09

Moved by E. Bremer, seconded by D. McIsaac that the Orillia Public Library Board receives the January 2024 financial statements as presented. CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS

Fees and Charges for 2024 – A report outlining the fees and charges was presented for review and discussion.

MOTION #2024:10

Moved by J. Bard, seconded by H. Mallon that the Orillia Public Library Board receive the Library Fees and Charges schedule for 2024. CARRIED

Announcements – This is CEO Bessie Sullivan’s final Board meeting, with a reminder and invitation to all for a retirement celebration being held next week February 29 at noon. The Board Chair expressed her thanks to Bessie for the tireless work done during her time at the Library with lots of issues addressed and working toward efficient functioning.

Bessie commented that she is grateful to end her career here on a positive note. D. McIsaac expressed thanks on behalf of the board as well.

Adjournment at 3:46 p.m.

BOARD CHAIR

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER