

Bracebridge Public Library Board Meeting
Tuesday, January 8, 2019 at 7 p.m.
MINUTES

Present: A. Freer (Chair), B. Hutchinson, T. Henderson, C.A. Robinson, T. Barker, C. Wilson, M. Mayes-Stewart, L. Jacob, P. Schofield, C. Rodney (CEO)

Regrets:

1. Call to Order by the Chair:

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. The Chair extended a special welcome to Board member Lynn Jacob after her leave of absence. The Bracebridge Public Library's Declaration of Respect and Acknowledgement Statement was read.

"As our commitment to the Truth and Reconciliation promise and process, we (I) begin this event by acknowledging that the land on which we gather is the traditional territory of the Anishnaabeg, specifically the Chippewa and Ojibway peoples. We recognize the historic and present contributions to our province and country of First Nations, Metis, and Inuit peoples. We, as Canadians, are all Treaty people."

2. Approval of the Agenda:

Motion: To accept the agenda for the January 8, 2019 meeting with the addition of 10.3. Succession

Moved by: T. Barker, seconded by M. Mayes-Stewart. CARRIED

3. Delegation/guests: None

4. Approval of the Minutes of the previous meeting:

Motion: To accept the minutes of Tuesday December 11, 2018

Moved by: M. Mayes-Stewart, seconded by C.A. Robinson. CARRIED

5. Business Arising: None

6. Correspondence: None

7. Ad hoc/Standing Committee Reports:

7.1 Friends of the Library – A. Freer: The Friends have completed 10 years of service and support for the library. There will be a meeting on January 10, 2019 to review the FOBPL constitution. Board members were encouraged to attend some of this group's fund raising efforts.

7.2 Policy Committee: Reports will be forthcoming when the new policy committee is appointed and work resumes.

8. CEO Report: The report was circulated to all Board Members prior to the meeting. Highlights included our Year of Learning final event - Fancy Gift Wrapping presented by Susan Wilson. This was a well-received event and Susan Wilson will be asked to present again next year. The Board Information night was attended by 7 people who participated in a Q and A session and was concluded with a tour of the building. There was an excellent turn out on December 31 in the Children's Department "Countdown to Noon".

9. Financial Report:

9.1 Financial statement to the end of December distributed.

There are still a few items to come in before the year-end report is finalized. It is expected that we will come in under budget due to various factors such as the staff leaves of absence and the related effect on different budget lines.

Motion: To approve the quarterly report to date.

Moved by: T. Henderson, seconded by C. Wilson. CARRIED

9.2 Draft 2019 Library Budget.

The Library and the Town Departments were requested by the Town Treasurer to examine 2019 budgets to find areas that could be considered for further cost reductions. The Library Board decided that some window sealant work could be postponed. It was pointed out that the Library did come in under budget for 2018 with reduced staffing costs: two staff members were on medical leaves.

Motion: To reduce the budget for window sealant work from \$20,000 to \$10,000.

Moved by: T. Barker, seconded by B. Hutchinson. CARRIED

10. New Business:

10.1 Environmental Assessment of the Salmon Avenue Extension: A. Freer and C. Rodney attended this public forum regarding the road that will be built adjacent to the joint facility property and join with Highway 118. There were panels with extensive maps and information that could be studied. A consultant was available to answer any questions. Information from a previous Engineering Soil study (#1503-S046) was also included. Because Beaver Creek is classified as a cold water stream, a mandatory environmental report was necessary. In consequence, site development and building operations must maintain shoreline allowances and prevent silt from damaging the flow of the waterway. The report presented three standards of road development, ranging from basic to an enhanced road which also included sidewalks and a bicycle trail.

10.2 Library research by Board members:

B. Hutchinson suggested that Board members read "The Library Book" by Susan Orlean. It is an unsolved mystery of the most catastrophic library fire in American history (Los Angeles Library). It talks about libraries, what they are, and how they are changing, the historical aspects, and the role that libraries play today. A. Freer spoke about Waterloo Public Library and the space that they have provided for new comers and regular attendees to sit and chat. It is important to have a space for people to connect. As governments and social agencies become concerned about social isolation, libraries as community hubs are more important than ever. They are hubs open to all with free access, free learning and recreational opportunities. Public libraries are hugely important in building strong communities.

10.3 Succession

It was suggested by C.A. Robinson that the Library Board look into further succession planning to help inform new Board members. It was noted that each new Board member will receive a binder compiled by the CEO that includes the Public Libraries Act, the Library's Purpose Statement, Motto and Guiding Principles, the Legacy statement as well as other pertinent documents. There will be a webinar coming re Governance Fundamentals that all Board members will be encouraged to attend. It was also noted that the first meeting of the new Board is initially chaired by the CEO. The first order of business is the election by Board members of the Board Chair. In order to know each other better, it was suggested that each Board member should forward a one page synopsis on their background and interests to the CEO. The information would be distributed to all Board members before the first meeting and would contribute to the important decision

regarding a Board Chair. The selection of Library Board members will be ratified by Council on January 17th.

11. Closed Session

Motion: To go into closed session at 8:05 p.m.

Moved by: M. Mayes-Stewart, seconded by C.A. Robinson. CARRIED

Motion: To exit closed session at 8:20 pm.

Moved by: Chris Wilson, seconded by Terry Henderson. CARRIED.

12. Board Farewell

The Chair expressed the gratitude of all members to Cathryn Rodney for her excellent service and leadership during the 2014-2018 term. Board members had an opportunity to express their appreciation for the honour of representing and working for the citizens of Bracebridge.

13. Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday, February 12, 2019, 7 p.m.

14. Adjournment was declared by the Chair: 8:35 p.m.