



## REGULAR MEETING OF THE OSHAWA PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD

Thursday, June 20, 2024 beginning at 6:30 p.m.  
McLaughlin Branch, Boardroom

### MINUTES

**Present:** Chair Eric Guernsey, Trustee Jim Clapp, Trustee Sacha Fabry, Trustee Andrew Holmes, Trustee Marco Osso, Trustee Alexander Parkin and Trustee Carolyne Willoughby

**Regrets:** Trustee Mark Ashcroft, Vice-Chair Elizabeth Jamischak, Councillor Tito-Dante Marimpietri and Trustee Kathryn McMillan

**Staff:** Frances Newman, Chief Executive Officer  
Stephanie McLean, Executive Assistant, acted as the Recording Secretary

#### 1. Land Acknowledgement

The land we are standing on today is the traditional territory of the Mississaugas of Scugog Island First Nation and is now home to many diverse First Nations, Inuit, and Métis Peoples. We acknowledge that Oshawa is covered under the Williams Treaties and as a settler on these lands we are all treaty people.

May we respectfully honour the knowledge and understanding of the Indigenous stewards of these ancestral lands and ensure that the voices of the First Peoples are represented in our collections, programs and services.

#### 2. Call to Order / Approval of Agenda

**(26-24) MOTION** – Moved by Trustee Fabry, seconded by Trustee Parkin, “That the Oshawa Public Library Board approve the Agenda for the June 20, 2024 Board meeting. **CARRIED**”

3. **Declaration of Conflict of Interest**

No conflicts were declared at this point of the meeting.

4. **Approval of the Minutes**

**(27-24) MOTION** – Moved by Trustee Fabry, seconded by Trustee Clapp, “That the Oshawa Public Library Board approve the minutes from the May 16, 2024 meeting, as presented. **CARRIED**

5. **Consent Agenda**

The Board Trustees received each of the following reports in their meeting packages, which were provided in advance of the meeting:

1. CEO Strategic Plan Update and Activity Highlights Report
2. Financial Report – May 31, 2024

**(28-24) MOTION** - Moved by Trustee Willoughby, seconded by Trustee Osso, “That the Oshawa Public Library Board approves Consent Agenda items 1 and 2, being the CEO Strategic Plan Update and Activity Highlights Report and the Financial Report as at May 31, 2024, as presented.” **CARRIED**

6. **Business Arising from Minutes**

1. **Board Advocacy - Follow-up on correspondence sent to City Councillors**

Chair Guernsey followed up to an action item from the May Board meeting regarding the Board’s concern with the reduction in size of the proposed new library branch in the community centre in the Northwood Business Park. At the May Board meeting, Board Trustees had agreed to reach out to their respective City Councillors and advocate for the new library branch. Board Trustees subsequently provided feedback received from some City Councillors. Discussion ensued.

Following a fulsome discussion, it was agreed that the Board will submit a delegation request to the City Clerk’s office to bring forward the Board’s concerns with the size of the new library branch.

**(29-24) MOTION** - Moved by Trustee Fabry, seconded by Trustee Holmes, “That on behalf of the Oshawa Public Library Board, Chair Eric Guernsey will submit a request to make a delegation at the next City Council meeting to raise the Board’s concerns regarding the reduction in size of the proposed new library branch in the community centre in the Northwood Business Park.” **CARRIED**

CEO Newman will reach out to the City Clerk's office and submit a delegation request for Chair Guernsey to speak to this matter at the next City Council meeting on behalf of the Board.

## 7. **New Business**

### 1. **City of Oshawa Land Title Matter – McLaughlin Branch**

CEO Newman referred to the letter received from the City of Oshawa, a copy of which was provided to the Board in their advance meeting packages, respecting an unresolved land title matter of a portion of the property located at 65 Bagot Street, where the McLaughlin branch is located.

According to the correspondence received from the City, the rear southerly portion of the property was transferred to the Oshawa Public Library Board in 1977 for a nominal fee of \$2.00 in order to permit the expansion of the McLaughlin branch. It appears as though the intention was for the Library Board to transfer the portion of property back to the City after the expansion was completed, however the transfer never occurred.

For house-keeping purposes, the City is requesting that the Oshawa Public Library Board approve the transfer of the portion of property from the Oshawa Public Library Board to the City of Oshawa by signing a Purchase and Sale Agreement.

**(30-24) MOTION** - Moved by Trustee Clapp, seconded by Trustee Parkin,

“That the Oshawa Public Library Board approves the transfer of ownership of PIN 16353-0164(LT) from the Oshawa Public Library Board to the City of Oshawa for a nominal sum of \$2.00. **CARRIED**”

### 2. **2024-2028 Strategic Plan**

CEO Newman presented the draft 2024-2028 strategic plan to the Board. She advised the Board that the new strategic plan is an update to the current plan that incorporates the themes, words and phrases that emerged from the various strategic planning workshops held. The key updates include the following:

- There is now a vision statement that reflects our aspirations.
- The mission statement has been updated and no longer refers to “the world of information”. There was consensus that this term was outdated and we developed a new mission statement which still incorporates elements of the old.

- Our overarching values have been slightly modified to reflect current priorities and concerns. For example, “intellectual freedom” has been added to reflect the current challenges libraries are facing in terms of censorship.
- Strategic priorities and goals have been updated and re-worded. For example, relevance and sustainability were questioned during the review process and it was determined an overarching priority of “enhancing organizational capacity” could be better understood and still incorporates these concepts.

CEO Newman reported that following Board approval, Management will work with staff to develop an implementation plan to determine specific actions that need to be taken to realize the strategies and goals set out in the plan. A brief discussion ensued.

**(31-24) MOTION** - Moved by Trustee Willoughby, seconded by Trustee Holmes,  
 “That the Oshawa Public Library Board approve the Strategic Plan as presented.”  
**CARRIED**

### 3. **Bagot Street Name Change**

Chair Guernsey referred to the City’s report that CEO Newman provided to the Board on May 31, regarding the proposed name change of Bagot Street, being the street that the McLaughlin Library Branch is currently situated on.

The report indicates that the City’s Economic and Development Services Committee made a recommendation to City Council, which was subsequently approved, that Bagot Street be renamed. Sir Charles Bagot was a former Governor General of Canada who commissioned a report in 1844 which ultimately led to the establishment of the residential school system and a broad range of measures to establish control over Indigenous peoples. The renaming is part of the City’s commitment to Truth & Reconciliation. After consulting with the Indigenous community, the new name will be Debwewin Miiken, the Anishinaabemowin words for Truth Road.

The report further indicates that the standard ex-gratia payment of \$250 be provided to each property owner and tenant affected by the name change. A brief discussion ensued with respect to the various costs for the Library as a result of the name change.

Following the discussion, the Board referred back to Management to compile a list of the costs imposed on the Library, including staff time, in order to facilitate the Bagot Street name change, and provide the list to the City. The Board asked for Management to provide an update at the September Library Board Trustee meeting.

8. **Other Business, if any**

The Board made a motion to appoint Trustee Fabry to the Board's Finance Committee.

**(32-24) MOTION** - Moved by Trustee Clapp, seconded by Trustee Parkin, "That the Oshawa Public Library Board appoints Sacha Fabry as a member of the Finance Committee of the Oshawa Public Library Board." **CARRIED**

At this point of the meeting, the Board made a motion to move in camera under section 16.1(4)(a) of the Public Libraries Act, R.S.O. 1990, C. P.44.

**In-Camera Item – Security of the property of the board (Public Libraries Act – 16.1(4)(a) of the Public Libraries Act, R.S.O. 1990, C. P.44.**

**(33-24) MOTION** - Moved by Trustee Clapp, seconded by Trustee Fabry, "That the Oshawa Public Library Board move in-camera to discuss security of the property of the board." **CARRIED**

**(34-24) MOTION** - Moved by Trustee Clapp, seconded by Trustee Fabry, "That the Oshawa Public Library Board rise from in-camera." **CARRIED**

9. **Adjournment**

**(35-24) MOTION** - Moved by Trustee Willoughby, seconded by Trustee Parkin, "That the meeting adjourn." **CARRIED**

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.