



REGULAR MEETING OF THE OSHAWA PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD

Thursday, October 17, 2024 beginning at 6:30 p.m.
McLaughlin Branch, Boardroom

MINUTES

Present: Chair Eric Guernsey, Vice-Chair Elizabeth Jamischak, Trustee Mark Ashcroft, Trustee Jim Clapp, Trustee Sacha Fabry, Trustee Andrew Holmes, Trustee Marco Osso and Trustee Alexander Parkin

Regrets: Councillor Tito-Dante Marimpietri, Trustee Kathryn McMillan and Trustee Carolyne Willoughby

Staff: Frances Newman, Chief Executive Officer
Gail Canonaco, Manager, John Aker Northview Branch
Stephanie McLean, Executive Assistant, acted as the Recording Secretary

Guest: Daniel Ovens

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**

(47-24) MOTION – Moved by Trustee Holmes, seconded by Trustee Parkin, “That the Oshawa Public Library Board approve the Agenda for the October 17, 2024 Board meeting. **CARRIED**

3. **Declaration of Conflict of Interest**

No conflicts were declared at this point of the meeting.

4. **Meet the Management Team:** Gail Canonaco, Manager, John Aker Northview Branch

Gail Canonaco, Manager, John Aker Northview Branch introduced herself to the Board, and provided a brief overview of her work experience, which has been primarily with the Oshawa Public Libraries.

Ms. Canonaco did not stay for the remainder of the meeting.

5. **Approval of the Minutes**

(48-24) MOTION – Moved by Trustee Ashcroft, seconded by Trustee Jamischak, “That the Oshawa Public Library Board approve the minutes from the September 19, 2024 meeting, as amended. **CARRIED**

6. **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 – September 30, 2024

(49-24) MOTION - Moved by Trustee Jamischak, seconded by Trustee Clapp, “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 September 30, 2024, as presented.” **CARRIED**

7. **Business Arising from Minutes**

1. **Update – Bagot Street Name Change**

CEO Newman advised the Board that the City has confirmed the date of the ceremony to introduce the newly named street, Debwewin Miikan. It has been

scheduled for October 29 at 1 pm. CEO Newman will provide the Board members with the invitation once she receives it.

2. **Update – New Library Branch**

Chair Guernsey referred to board motion 40-24 that was passed at the Board meeting held on September 19, 2024 in which he was absent from. He advised the Board that due to timing he was not available to make a delegation at the City Council meeting as per the motion. Further, he recommended that due to the time of year, the Board consider rescinding the motion as City staff are presenting the 2025/26 budgets to City Council for consideration. Following a discussion, the following motion was presented.

(50-24) MOTION - Moved by Trustee Jamischak, seconded by Trustee Ashcroft,
“That the Oshawa Public Library Board rescind Board motion 40-24.”

Affirmative – 3

Negative – 3

Abstention – 1

Motion failed (a vote of two-thirds of the members of the Board present is required.)

It was suggested that a delegation be made after the budget is approved as all City Councillors should receive the information to make it a matter of public record.

At this point of the meeting, CEO Newman presented conceptual drawings of the proposed new library branch. A brief discussion ensued.

8. **New Business**

1. **OLBA Report**

Board Chair, Guernsey provided the following Ontario Library Boards' Association (OLBA) updates:

- The OLBA is currently accepting nominations for some of the council regions and he has re-submitted his application for another term for the Central East Region. Chair Guernsey reported that there have been some challenges filling seats for the Council representatives due to the geographical regions, and as such, amendments to the regions are expected and will be phased in as terms expire.

- A brief overview of the anticipated sessions scheduled for the upcoming Bootcamp at the OLA Super Conference. He encouraged anyone who is available to attend the Bootcamp on Saturday, February 1 to do so.
- The OLBA is seeking nominations for the Joyce Cunningham Award (Public Library Board of the Year) and the James Bain Medallion (Public Library Board Member of the Year).
- An update respecting municipalities using the Strong Mayors Act, specifically with respect to appointing new library CEOs without consultation with the full Board.

2. OLA “Save our School Libraries” Campaign

Chair Guernsey provided an update on the funding model changes that could affect school libraries and referred to the OLA’s “Save our School Libraries” campaign. It was reported that earlier this year, the Ontario Ministry of Education changed the way schools are funded. The new funding model eliminates the protected funding for school libraries and library staff making it easier for school boards to reduce or eliminate school libraries and the essential staff that keep them running. A brief discussion ensued. CEO Newman will send the Board members the link from OLA that provides more information on this topic, and the Board will discuss further at the next Board meeting.

9. 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.

(51-24) MOTION - Moved by Trustee Fabry, seconded by Trustee Holmes, “That the Oshawa Public Library Board move in-camera to discuss security of the property of the board.” **CARRIED**

(52-24) MOTION - Moved by Trustee Clapp, seconded by Trustee Fabry, “That the Oshawa Public Library Board rise from in-camera.” **CARRIED**

10. Other Business, if any

CEO Newman advised the Board that the Oshawa Walk of Fame gala dinner is taking place on Thursday November 7 from 5 pm – 10 pm at the Jubilee. If Board members would like to attend the gala they should let her know by next week Friday, October 25.

11. **Adjournment**

(53-24) MOTION - Moved by Trustee Fabry, seconded by Trustee Ashcroft,
“That the meeting adjourn.” **CARRIED**

The meeting adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

APPROVED