

Whitby Public Library Board Minutes

Date: September 21, 2022

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Place: Board Room, Whitby Central Library

Present:

Lorraine Gray, Chair
Michael Emm
Janet Georgieff
Jennifer Maddigan
Fannie Mann
Liam Nichols
Maleeha Shahid
John Stafford

Regrets:

Geoff Anderson
Art Maki

Also Present:

Rhonda Jessup, CEO
Donna Bolton-Steele, Director, Community and Service Development
Michelle Frenette, Director, Corporate Services
Christy Harper, Director, Technology and Operations
Pat Khashmanian, Director, Administrative Services

1. Call to Order/Approval of Agenda

Moved by Maleeha Shahid
Seconded by John Stafford

That the Agenda be approved as distributed.
CARRIED

2. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

No conflict of interest was declared.

3. Guest Speaker: Maxim P. Kryukov, Service Director, Durham Children's Aid Society and Lead, Youth Pride Durham

Max Kryukov spoke about how his work in child welfare made it clear to him that LGBTQ+ young people are much more prone to challenges with mental health, addiction, bullying, etc., and that they did not feel there was support for them in the community. In 2018 Youth Pride Durham was established to provide that support. Drag Queen Storytime is one of the events it has taken on, using performers who are educators or have theatre training to encourage the love of reading and fun. All public libraries in Durham Region have taken part for the last several years.

4. Consent Agenda Items

Moved by John Stafford

Seconded by Lorraine Gray

That the Consent Agenda items be approved as distributed.

CARRIED

5. Chief Executive Officer's Report

Rhonda Jessup spoke about the Chamber of Commerce Business Summit, at which she was part of a panel on Resilience & Reinvention. The Library's TikTok popularity was noted by the business community. Meet the Candidate events are going well at the Central Library, giving people a chance to connect with municipal candidates for each ward, regional councillor and mayor. An orange crosswalk to honour lost children and survivors of residential schools, their families and communities has been created across King Street beside the Central Library. An official ceremony, including a story, will be held there on September 29. New Board recruitment will take place October 31-November 28.

6. Councillor's Report

Maleeha Shahid spoke about a safety walk done door-to-door in downtown Whitby to discuss crime prevention with business owners, work to attract more businesses to Whitby, speed concerns on local streets, and Council's discussion of Ontario's Bill 3, Strong Mayors, Building Homes Act, 2022.

7. Business Arising from Minutes

No business arising.

8. New Business

a) Creative Spaces Update

Donna Bolton-Steele reported that this project was originally envisioned as staffed, separate space, but that model would have an impact on operating budgets. Instead, the project will be integrated into existing spaces, build on staff strengths, and be

supported within existing capacity. It will include a sound-recording space, and high-powered computers with the Adobe Creative Suite and other advanced software. This direction was informed by our community scan and consultation, particularly the interest in digital creation, and supports the Town's interest in creative communities. Planning continues, and ordering and construction are underway. An event to mark the launch will be planned for 2023.

b) 2023 Budget Update

Rhonda Jessup reported that the Town of Whitby has provided inflation figures for Library staff to use in developing next year's budget. A meeting with Town staff is scheduled for next week and more information will be forthcoming next month.

c) RBC Contract Extension

The current contract for financial services with Royal Bank of Canada (RBC) is due to expire at the end of September. Town of Whitby staff have negotiated a new 5-year contract for the Town and the Library.

Moved by Michael Emm

Seconded by Liam Nichols

That the revised contract for financial services with Royal Bank of Canada be approved through to September 30, 2027.

CARRIED

d) Electronic Monitoring Policy

The Working for Workers Act, 2021 requires employers with 25 or more employees to have an Electronic Monitoring Policy that states purposes for which they may use information gathered through electronic monitoring. This is a brand new policy for Whitby Public Library.

Moved by Liam Nichols

Seconded by Michael Emm

That the new Electronic Monitoring Policy be approved as distributed.

CARRIED

e) Collection Development Policy

This policy was brought early for review due to legislative changes, including the repeal of the Film Classification Act, 2005. There is no longer a requirement for restrictions on viewing based on age, and films are no longer rated in this manner in Ontario. Other updates were made to selection guidelines for digital resources, to details on the Durham Indie Collection for self-published works, and to include equity, diversity and inclusion.

Moved by Jenn Maddigan

Seconded by Maleeha Shahid

That the updated Collection Development Policy be approved as distributed.

CARRIED

f) Posting and Distribution of Materials Policy

This policy was brought early for review to clarify it, removing newspapers so the policy deals only with non-profit items now.

Moved by John Stafford

Seconded by Jenn Maddigan

That the updated Posting and Distribution of Materials Policy be approved as distributed.

CARRIED

g) Planning Committee Update

i. Board Evaluation

The committee met tonight to discuss this year's Board evaluation process. Janet Georgieff reported that the results were similar to previous years so they will focus on the many comments received. The comments will be sorted by topic and shared with all Board members to ensure the list is complete. The committee will meet again before next month's meeting to finalize their analysis.

h) Presentation to Jenn Maddigan

Jenn Maddigan is leaving the Library Board because she is moving away from Whitby. Lorraine Gray conveyed the Board's thanks for the time and work she has given the Library Board and made a small presentation to her.

i) HR Committee Update

Moved by Michael Emm

Seconded by Maleeha Shahid

That the meeting go into closed session at 8:41 p.m.

CARRIED

Moved by Michael Emm

Seconded by Jenn Maddigan

That the meeting move back into open session at 8:50 p.m.

CARRIED

9. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 19, 2022, at 7:00 p.m., in the Program Room, Brooklin Branch Library.

10. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:51 p.m. on a motion by Jenn Maddigan.

Board Chair

Secretary