



Huntsville Public Library

Library Board Meeting Minutes

May 9, 2023 | 3:00 PM | Friends Multipurpose Room + Zoom

Mission Statement

To provide accessible services, programs, collections, and spaces designed to inspire and enrich the community.

Present: Ray Love, Christine Passarello, Monty Clouthier (Council Representative), Robert Greene, Beth Ward, Tyler Ellis, Andrea Gillespie, Anastasia Lainas, James Bowler, William "Bill" Coon, David Tremblay (CEO/Chief Librarian/Secretary), Julia McKenzie (Town of Huntsville Director of Finance Services/Treasurer)

1. Call to Order | 2:59PM
2. Land Acknowledgement – Ray Love read acknowledgement.
3. New Board Member Introductions
4. Approval of Agenda | May 9th 2023 Motion: Tyler Ellis Seconded: Beth Ward Carried
5. Declaration of Any Conflicts of Interest: None
6. Approval of Minutes from Board Meeting Apr. 11th, 2023, Motion: Robert Greene Seconded: Christine Passarello Carried
7. Presentation from Town Finance Department to orient new board with the services it provides to the library: Julia McKenzie
 - Julia McKenzie left the meeting at: 3:36PM
8. Business Arising from the Minutes
 - a) Board Committees – New members – New members submitted preferences to Boar Chair Ray Love.
9. Committee Reports & Business Arising from Committee Reports
 - a) Council Representative Report – Nothing to report.
 - b) Chair Report/Friends Report – Chair spoke to the things The Friends do for the library.

- c) CEO Report – CEO spoke to popularity of Nintendo Switch collection. No questions from Board
- d) Monthly Finance Report – CEO spoke to format of monthly report and explained how some general ledger lines are front loaded in the beginning of the year.
- e) Youth Services Librarian Report – CEO spoke to the fact that Summer is the busiest time of year for the library with the TD Summer Reading Club.
- f) Community Engagement Coordinator Report – CEO spoke to work of Community Engagement Coordinator and Youth Services Librarian who put on the Murder Mystery with the Huntsville Theatre Company. The event sold out and the participants had a great time. Library staff have been asked when the next one will happen.

Motion to Approve Committee Reports: Monty Clouthier Seconded: Beth Ward Carried

10. New Business

- a) Vaccine Clinic Report Back – CEO spoke to Vaccine Clinic put on April 13th by Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit (SMDHU) in Friends Multi-purpose Room.
 - The library social media had hundreds of vitriolic direct messages sent to it. The library social media was locked down from comments. The CEO fielded five phone calls of opposition to vaccines. The CEO and staff had plans in place for the day. A peaceful assembly happened outside the library. Library board chair attended library in morning for support. OPP were notified, in advance, that the library was made aware of a planned peaceful assembly.
 - Simcoe-Muskoka District Health unit organizer stated the clinic was a success.
- b) New Policy Review
 - Protest and Public Demonstration at the Library
 - CEO directed to update definitions and gather staff input. Tabled to next board meeting.
- c) 2022 Annual Report – Tyler Ellis moved to accept the annual report as presented and James Bowler Seconded Carried.
- d) 2022 Government of Ontario Library Statistics Submission – The CEO spoke to the gathering of these statistics and the requirement of reporting them to the Provincial Government.

11. Roundtable

- During the round table the following items were discussed:
 - o Overdrive and Libby – the board wondered why there are long wait times for items on Libby/Overdrive? The CEO stated the library is part of a consortia collection with a large amount of other Ontario libraries and it is

a pooled/shared collection. The Huntsville Public Library does have some funds to buy extra copies to offset the wait times for our patrons, but the amount of funds is small and does not go far. The CEO further explained that the cost of eBooks for libraries and the licensing models of the major publishers has been unfair and that libraries across North America have been petitioning the major publishers about the unfair costs and licensing models. For context:

- <https://www.urbanlibraries.org/newsroom/one-hundred-mayors-and-county-leaders-speak-out-against-e-book-publishers-price-gouging-of-public-libraries>
- The board discussed how to best get information to new residents about library services.
- The board wondered if the library had ever had an open house.

12. Date of Next Meeting – Strategic Planning: June 13th 3:00PM in the Friends Multipurpose Room

13. Adjournment. Motion: Robert Greene 4:34PM