



Newmarket Public Library Board

Minutes

Date: Wednesday, May 19, 2021

Time: 5:30 PM

Members Present: Darcy McNeill, Chair
Jane Twinney, Vice Chair
Kelly Broome
Darryl Gray
Leslee Mason
Art Weis
Victor Woodhouse

Staff Present: Linda Peppiatt, Acting CEO
Jennifer Leveridge, Manager, Library Services
Benjamin Shaw, Manager, Library Operations
Lianne Bond, Administrative Coordinator

1. Meeting to be held through video interface

2. Adoption of Agenda Items

- 2.1 Adoption of the Regular Agenda
- 2.2 Adoption of the Closed Session Agenda
- 2.3 Adoption of the Consent Agenda Items

Motion 21-05-188

Moved by Kelly Broome

Seconded by Leslee Mason

That items 2.1 to 2.3 are adopted as presented.

Carried

3. Declarations

None were declared.

4. Consent Agenda Items

4.1 Adoption for the Regular Board meeting minutes for April 21, 2021

4.2 Strategic Operations report for April, 2021

Motion 21-05-189

Moved by Darryl Gray

Seconded by Art Weis

That items 4.1 to 4.2 be adopted and approved as presented.

Carried

5. Reports

There were no reports.

6. Business Arising

6.1 Dr. Seuss Books - Update

The Acting CEO provided a verbal update on the information gathered so far regarding materials of concern. Consultation with other libraries showed that there is no consensus as to how libraries are managing this type of collection. A focus group has been conducted by Ontario Public Library Association however no results have been received as yet. The Acting CEO will continue to investigate and consult with community members and stakeholders and report back to the Library Board.

6.2 Support for Ontario Library Association / Canadian Federation of Public Libraries Pre-Budget Submission follow-up

A draft letter to be sent on behalf of the Newmarket Public Library Board to the Honourable Christine Elliott, Minister of Health and Deputy Premier, MPP Newmarket Aurora, and Resolution in support of the Ontario Library Association/Canadian Federation of Public Libraries 2021 Pre-Budget Submission was reviewed by the Library Board. The letter and Resolution endorse support for Libraries submission requesting provincial funding support to offset lost revenues from implementing fine free policies and to support the establishment of an Ontario Digital Public Library.

Motion 21-05-190

Moved by Art Weis

Seconded by Darryl Gray

That the Library Board approve the following Resolution.

Whereas public libraries are vibrant community hubs where residents of all ages and backgrounds can learn, work, train, innovate, explore and connect;

and, **Whereas** the Newmarket Public Library provides community members with equitable, reliable access to broadband internet;

and, **Whereas** the Newmarket Public Library uses technology to make resources more accessible and responsive to people's changing needs;

and, **Whereas** the Newmarket Public Library supports local economic development through the provision of important business development and job skills programming for adults and youth;

and **Whereas** the Newmarket Public Library works closely with local residents to deliver valued programs and services and shares knowledge and resources;

and, **Whereas** the Newmarket Public Library continues to responsibly manage public resources with the utmost care and is committed to the sustainability of its services;

and, **Whereas** the Newmarket Public Library recognizes the opportunity that targeted provincial investment can provide to secure more equitable access to increasingly significant digital resources and library-based services across Ontario;

Therefore Be It Resolved

1. that the Town of Newmarket encourages the Province of Ontario to continue to recognize and support the contribution of local libraries within their communities;
2. that the Town of Newmarket encourages the Province of Ontario to maintain existing funding for Ontario's public libraries,
3. that the Town of Newmarket encourages the Province of Ontario to make a new, ongoing, targeted annual investment to strengthen access to modern, cost-effective digital resources and services for all Ontarians through local public libraries;
4. that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Ontario Minister of Heritage, Sport, Tourism, and Culture Industries, to the Ontario Minister of Municipal Affairs, to the local MPPs, to the Association of

Municipalities Ontario, to the Ontario Library Association, to the Federation of Ontario Public Libraries, and to York Region and local area municipalities for endorsement.

Carried

6.3 Library Board Action List

The Library Board reviewed the Action List. The Chair updated the Library Board on recruitment of the CEO.

Motion 21-05-191

Moved by Victor Woodhouse

Seconded by Kelly Broome

That the Action List be received as presented.

Carried

7. **New Business**

7.1 2022 Draft Operating and Capital Budget Requests

The 2022 Decision Package Requests for Capital and Operating Budget were presented to the Library Board. It was noted the 2022 Operation Budget is not ready as yet as the Library is still consulting with the Town of Newmarket Finance.

Motion 21-05-192

Moved by Victor Woodhouse

Seconded by Art Weis

That the Library Board approve the draft Capital and Operating 2022 Decision Package requests for submission to the Town of Newmarket.

Carried

7.2 Support for Centre for Equitable Library Access (CELA)

A draft letter to be sent on behalf of the Newmarket Public Library Board to the Honourable Tony Van Bynen, Minister of Parliament for Newmarket Aurora, and Resolution to ensure sustainable funding to the Centre for Equitable Library Access (CELA) was reviewed by the Library

Board. CELA provides necessary reading materials for people with print disabilities.

Motion 21-05-193

Moved by Darryl Gray

Seconded by Art Weis

That the Library Board approve the following Resolution:

Whereas at least three million Canadians have print disabilities which include low vision or blindness, learning disabilities like dyslexia, or physical disabilities like Parkinson's', Cerebral Palsy, and others, which prevent them from using traditional print: and

Whereas each year in Canada, people with print disabilities read more than 1 million accessible titles, and the majority are in physical formats; and

Whereas access to information and ideas is crucial to education, to employment, and to opportunities to connect socially within a community, and yet fewer than 1 in 10 books are available in accessible formats for those with print disabilities; and

Whereas the Centre for Equitable Library Access (CELA) provides necessary reading materials for people with print disabilities, including those with vision loss, learning disabilities and physical disabilities, and libraries across the country rely on CELA to provide accessible reading materials and support to patrons that are cost effective and equitable, and

Whereas the Federal government has recently decided to reverse its proposed cuts to funding for accessible book production and distribution, but offers no assurances for longer term funding, which is still set to be fully withdrawn by the 2022-2025 fiscal year; and

Whereas without a funding guarantee, CELA may face a 50% reduction to its production and distribution budget next year, which will have a devastating impact on its ability to produce and distribute accessible reading materials.

Now Therefore Be it Resolved that the Newmarket Public Library Board request that the Federal government commit to ongoing, stable funding for CELA, so those with reading disabilities across Canada are not left further behind; and

That a copy of this resolution be sent to: public library boards across the country; the Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Disability Inclusion, Carla Qualtrough; the Minister Finance, Chrystia Freeland; and Member of Parliament Tony Van Bynen.

Carried

8. Closed Session

- 8.1 Labour relations or employee negotiations, per section 16.1.4.(d) of the Public Libraries Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter P.44.
- 8.2 A matter in respect of which a board or committee of a board may hold a closed meeting under another Act. 2002,c.17,Sched.C, s.24(5) per section 16.1.4.(g) of the Public Libraries Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter P.44

Motion 21-05-194

Moved by Art Weis

Seconded by Kelly Broome

That the Library Board move in to a Closed Session at 6:40 pm for Labour relations or employee negotiations, per section 16.1.4.(d) of the Public Libraries Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter P.44.

And

A matter in respect of which a board or committee of a board may hold a closed meeting under another Act. 2002,c.17,Sched.C, s.24(5) per section 16.1.4.(g) of the Public Libraries Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter P.44

Carried

Motion 21-05-195

Moved by Victor Woodhouse

Seconded by Kelly Broome

That the Library Board move out of Closed Session at 6:50 pm.

Carried

Motion 21-05-196

Moved by Jane Twinney

Seconded by Leslee Mason

Motions Arising from Closed Session:

That the Closed Session minutes for March 17, 2021 be adopted as presented and April 20, 2021 be adopted as amended.

Carried

Motion 21-05-197

Moved by Art Weis

Seconded by Kelly Broome

That the Library Board receive the report on matters pertaining to Labour relations.

Carried

Motion 21-05-198

Moved by Kelly Broome

Seconded by Darryl Gray

That the Library Board receive the report on the results of the Request for Proposal for Strategic Planning Services;

And That the Library approve the recommendations as outlined in the report.

Carried

9. Dates of Future Meetings

The next regular Library Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 16, 2021 at 5:30 pm. Location electronic via Zoom.

10. Adjournment

Motion 21-05-198

Moved by Kelly Broome

Seconded by Jane Twinney

That there being no further business, the meeting adjourn at 6:57 pm.

Carried

Darcy McNeill, Chair

Linda Peppiatt, Acting CEO

Secretary/Treasurer