

MINUTES The Blue Mountains Public Library Board Meeting



MEETING DATE: June 16, 2016
MEETING TIME: 2:00 p.m.
LOCATION: Town Hall, Council Chambers
PREPARED BY: Corrina Giles, Interim Secretary

A. Call to Order

Vice-Chair LeJune Pier called the meeting to order with Library Board members in attendance including Councillor Martin and Councillor Gamble, Maurice Pepper, Angela Weldon, Lloyd Brown, John Milne and Willi Wildman. Chair John McKean was absent due to his attendance at a previously scheduled Ontario Good Roads Association Conference.

Also in attendance, Chief Executive Officer Terri Pope, Facilities Manager Aaron McMullen and Manager of Human Resources Jennifer Moreau

▪ Approval of Agenda

Moved by: Angela Weldon Seconded by: Lloyd Brown

THAT the Agenda of June 16, 2016 be approved as circulated, including any items added to the Agenda, Carried.

▪ Declaration of Pecuniary Interest and general nature thereof

No member declared a pecuniary interest to any matter on the Agenda

▪ Previous Minutes

Moved by: Michael Martin Seconded by: Angela Weldon

THAT The Blue Mountains Public Library Board minutes of May 19, 2016 and the Special Meeting of The Blue Mountains Public Library Board minutes of May 24, 2016, be adopted as circulated, including any revisions to be made, Carried.

B. Deputations / Presentations

Chair LeJune Pier noted that under the authority of the *Municipal Act, 2001* and in accordance with Ontario's *Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (MFIPPA), The Blue Mountains Public Library Board wishes to inform the public that all information including opinions, presentations, reports and documentation provided for or at a Public Meeting, Public Consultation, or other Public Process are considered part of the public record. This information may be posted on the Library website and or/ made available to the public upon request.

LeJune noted that as Vice-Chair of the meeting, she asked that those present in the Council Chamber maintain proper decorum during the meeting. In accordance with the Public Libraries Act and Roberts Rules of Order, any person may be asked to leave the meeting for improper conduct.

LeJune noted that section 16.1(3) of the Public Libraries Act states that the Board chair may expel any person for improper conduct at a meeting.

LeJune then stated that Library Board Chair John McKean and the Clerk received the deputation request of Patrick Delaney on the following topics and noted the reasons why the deputation request was denied.

1. “Communication”

Communication with Library Board members. Board members can be reached through the library contact email at: libraryinfo@thebluemountains.ca In addition, a communication to one board member is a communication to all board members. Hence, it is good governance to have communications come through one email address. Further, separate addresses will open up board members to being harassed.

2. “Grievances”

Questions about employee matters are private and confidential. I confirm that any correspondence which may have been received by the Board will have been reviewed by the Board and legal counsel and will have been responded to directly to any active employees that may have submitted a correspondence. This question was raised at the March 22 Special Library Board Meeting, April 21 Board Meeting, and May 19 Board Meeting.

3. “Facebook comments”.

Reading facebook comments, is repetitive and likely abusive. Anyone can read them online.

4. Library Board Meeting Start time

This question was raised through Patrick Delaney’s deputation of April 21 (read by Mr. Gosselin) and May 19 (read by Mr. D’Abramo) and the Board has decided to keep start times as they are.

LeJune noted that deputation requests are made to ensure that deputations are not repetitive of prior business, and do not constitute harassment. For these reasons, Mr. Delaney’s request was denied and will not be heard today.

B.1 John Corrigan Re: Support for Library Board Sub-Committee

Mr. Corrigan spoke noting that he is speaking this day as the Chair of the VOCAL Steering Committee. Mr. Corrigan noted that the mission statement of this group is “to restore transparency, accountability and public confidence in the stewardship of the Blue Mountains Public Library Board for the Library”.

Mr. Corrigan noted that he supports the motion made by John Milne last month to strike a subcommittee of the Board to work with representatives of VOCAL. These representatives will be Mr. Corrigan and Cathy Innes.

Mr. Corrigan provided his experience with the Library Board, and the experience of Cathy Innes with the Library Board. Mr. Corrigan noted that he and Ms. Innes collectively, bring 17 years of experience in serving the community in The Blue Mountains.

Mr. Corrigan asked that the subcommittee be permitted to meet over the summer months and report back to the Library Board as necessary.

John Milne spoke in response thanking Mr. Corrigan for his interest in his motion. John Milne noted that his thought would be that the committee would not meet with just one interested group.

B.2 Lynn Corrigan Re: Library Support to the Arts Advisory Committee

Lynn Corrigan spoke noting she is a member of the Arts Advisory Council (“AAC”) at the Library Board. Ms. Corrigan noted that the AAC has been an integral part of the Library for 20 years and many dedicated volunteers have been members of the Council over those years supporting an important aspect of the library, arts and culture.

Ms. Corrigan noted that the AAC is concerned that not all Library Board members, with the exception of Willi Wildman, the Board Liaison, attend monthly art openings.

Ms. Corrigan noted that the Library Gallery not only creates opportunities for local artists but raises money to support the Library, further noting this could also be said for events such as author’s presentations and travelogues.

Ms. Corrigan then questioned how many Library Board members were at the openings on June 4, May 7 and April 2. Ms. Corrigan encouraged all members of the Board to support the efforts of the AAC with regard to these events for the community, further noting that it provides an informal way for Board members to meet with the community and to hear their concerns and support.

B.3 Mike D’Abramo Re: Problems with Non-Disclosure and the Value of Strategic Planning

Mike D’Abramo spoke regarding the problems with non-disclosure and noted that the public cannot respect the Board’s decision if there is a lack of disclosure. Mr. D’Abramo noted that all records have been hidden, and that there has been no public consultation as to what was wrong with the library. Mr. D’Abramo noted that no one wanted a new library building, further noting that he wants to know how each elected official voted on this decision.

Mr. D’Abramo spoke regarding strategic planning and noted that there should have been open and accountable disclosure for the public. Mr. D’Abramo noted that in 2013 and 2014 the Library Board focus was on the land next to the library.

C.5 Action Log dated June, 2016

Moved by: Michael Martin Seconded by: Lloyd Brown

THAT the Blue Mountains Public Library Board receives the Action Log dated June, 2016, Carried.

D. Correspondence

D.1 Araby Lockhart Re: Request to cancel library card

Moved by: Angela Weldon Seconded by: Maurice Pepper

THAT the Blue Mountains Public Library Board acknowledges receipt of the correspondence from Araby Lockhart requesting that her library card be cancelled, Carried.

Moved by: Michael Martin Seconded by: Lloyd Brown

THAT the Blue Mountains Public Library Board directs the CEO to send a letter to all new library card holders, to ask if they have other family members that would like to join the library, and include a survey asking why they joined the library, what expectations they have and what services they would like to see at the library;

AND THAT the Blue Mountains Public Library Board directs the CEO to send a letter to all departing library card holders, thanking them for their membership at the library, and a request to complete a brief survey asking why they are leaving the library, and what services they would like to see at the library today and in the future, Carried.

E. New and Unfinished Business

E.1 Round Table

Councillor Martin spoke noting he has been at the library and was pleased to see the services and programming running well, further noting he observed many children participating in the programming. Michael commended Terri and her staff.

E.2 Additions to Agenda

Maurice Pepper spoke asking why the additions to the agenda are at the end of the meeting, further noting that this agenda is reminiscent of the Council agendas. Maurice noted that he does not agree with this, and noted that the Library Board does not have to conform to how the municipal council performs. The Interim Secretary spoke noting that there are no additions to this agenda, but had there been, the additions would have been noted at the beginning of the meeting in the approval of the agenda, and the additions would then be dealt with at this point in the meeting.

