

BRACEBRIDGE LIBRARY BOARD MEETING

Date: Tuesday, November 19, 2024, at 7 pm
Bracebridge Library, Lyle & Margaret Cathcart Boardroom

MINUTES

Vision: *An engaged, informed, inclusive and inspired community that is anything but the ordinary.*

Mission: *To enrich, empower and inspire our community.*

Present: B. Hutchinson, A. King, C. Robinson, B. Hutchinson, L. Boucher, E. Brown, C. Bergstrom (CEO)
Regrets: D. Smith

1. Call to order by the Chair, B. Hutchinson, at 7:02pm.
2. Land Acknowledgement – A. King

“We would like to begin by acknowledging that the Bracebridge Library is on the traditional territory of the Anishinaabe – specifically the Ojibway, the Chippewa, and the Algonquin peoples. This land was a part of the 1923 Williams Treaties. We recognize and appreciate the historic and present contributions that First Nations, Metis, and Inuit people have made to our town and our country. We challenge everyone here today to seek out knowledge and take actions toward real truth and reconciliation in support of our commitment to wellness for all, and to walking the path together in respect, peace, and harmony for future generations.”

3. Approval of the agenda

Motion to approve the agenda.

Moved by: L. Boucher **Seconded:** E. Brown **CARRIED**

4. Guests & Delegations – P. Judson, Director of Finance, Town of Bracebridge.
P. Judson provided a budget perspective from the town, mentioning a recommended rate increase of 9.5% and the generational investment required for new facilities. He discussed the financial challenges and the plan to gradually incorporate operational costs onto the levy. P. Judson explains the Town's request to use the library's reserve balance of \$87,000 to smooth the impact on the Town's levy. Board members discussed the various pros and cons of utilizing the entire capital reserve of the Library. P. Judson committed to working with the CEO to formalize the reserve management process and provide comfort to the library, ensuring that the Library would be supported financially in the event of any unforeseen financial circumstances. Board members expressed gratitude towards the great working relationship between the Town and the Library.
5. Consent agenda
 - 5.1 Approval of the Amended Minutes of the October 2024 Meeting
 - 5.2 Ad hoc/Standing Committee Reports - none
 - 5.3 Board Chair Report - attached
 - 5.4 OLS Trustee Report – attached

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda.

Moved by: E. Brown **Seconded:** L. Boucher **CARRIED**

- 6 Board Professional Development/Education – None
- 7 New Business - none
- 8 Business arising

8.1 Strat Plan Working Group Update – The working group introduced the review of the strategic plan, noting the need to simplify and streamline the pillar. They emphasized the importance of using active language and making the plan more accessible. Updated draft would be included in the December Board package for review, and up for discussion at the January meeting.

9 Library Construction Update

C. Bergstrom provided an update on the library construction, mentioning ongoing deficiencies and the operational status of the recording studio. She confirmed that the award ceremony is part of the OLA Super Conference, and board members are encouraged to review the schedule and express interest in attending, noting that the early bird deadline for registration is December 6th.

10 Correspondence – C. Bergstrom announced that the library has been nominated for the Minister's Award for Innovation for the musical presentation to council. The awards are presented at the Thursday evening of the Super Conference in Toronto.

11 CEO Report – C. Bergstrom reviewed the previously supplied CEO report, highlighting the coming murder mystery event on Friday November 1st, upcoming Super Conference in January of 2025 and the positive response the Library has been receiving from its social media efforts.

12 Financial Committee Report – The Board discussed the Town's request to utilize the full capital reserve to offset the 2025 Budget and the impact on the levy. Concerns were raised about the risk in emptying the reserve while weighing it against the benefits of supporting the Town and budget due to the scale of the new Muskoka Lumber Community Centre and the overall impact for the community. The Board members highlighted the collaborative relationship with the town, where budget discussions are detailed and supportive.

Motion to approve the Town of Bracebridge's request to utilize the entire \$87,000 in the Library Capital Reserve to offset the 2025 budget and the impact on the Levy.

Moved by: C. Robinson Seconded by: A. King CARRIED

13 Policy Committee Report

The Board discussed the updated version of OP-39: Library Volunteers, noting improvements over the previous version of the policy.

Motion to approve the updated OP-39: Library Volunteers

Moved by: L. Boucher Seconded by: B. Hutchinson CARRIED

14 Date of next meeting – TDB

15 Adjournment 8:36pm