

# Ramara Township Public Library Board

Thursday June 15, 2023 – via ZOOM from our homes

**Board members present:** Jane Ste. Marie, Ken Szijarto, Dayle Rochon, Deputy Mayor Keith Bell, Councilor Sherri Bell, Ninette Gyrody, Janet Banfield, Adrienne Davies.

**Regrets:** Karen Whitehorn, Donna Hewitt

**1. Call to order:** 1 p.m. by Chairperson Jane Ste. Marie.

**2. Consent agenda:** *none*

**3. Approval of agenda:**

*Motion #2023-25* Moved by Sherri Bell, seconded by Ken Szijarto that the agenda be adopted as presented. Carried.

**4. Treasurer's report:** *Manon Higgins*

Manon explained our reserve funds and answered questions about the 2022 audited financials for the Library.

*Motion #2023-26* Moved by Keith Bell, seconded by Ken Szijarto to transfer \$94,723 from the Library's CIBC account to the Township for the expenses that were incurred by the Library and paid by the Township in the past 5 years. Carried.

There is no directive as yet about rent for the Brechin branch now that it is closed. Manon's suggestion is that we wait a while to see the big picture before changing that item in our budget

**5. In camera:**

*Motion #2023-27* Moved by Sherri Bell, seconded by Keith Bell that the meeting be taken *in camera*. Carried.

*(Ninette Gyrody entered the meeting at 1:33 p.m.)*

*Motion #2023-28* Moved by Sherri Bell, seconded by Dayle Rochon that Janet Banfield proceed with the proposed plan of action regarding the Brechin branch. Carried.

*Motion #2023-29* Moved by Sherri Bell, seconded by Adrienne Davies that the meeting be taken *ex camera*. Carried.

*(Keith Bell left the meeting at 1:57 p.m.)*

*Business to be addressed:*

*Motion #2023-30* Moved by Ken Szijarto, seconded by Sherri Bell that the Treasurer's report presented at the May meeting be accepted. Carried.

*Motion #2023-31* Moved by Dayle Rochon, seconded by Ninette Gyrody that the Treasurer's report for today's meeting be accepted as presented. Carried.

**6. Declaration of conflicts of interest:** *none*

**7. Minutes of preceding meeting:**

*Motion #2023-32* Moved by Ken Szijarto, seconded by Dayle Rochon that the minutes of the previous meeting be accepted. Carried.

**8. Business arising from the minutes:**

Invite Manon, Library Board Treasurer, to the June Board meeting to provide an update on all Library's reserve funds; *Janet Banfield – done.*

## **9. Correspondence:**

A letter was received from a resident objecting to some of the programming that he mistakenly perceived our Library is offering. To be clear, we have an inclusion policy which encourages our staff to offer a diversity of programs. The resident included a circular/letter that he had received from an anti-Pride group asking their readers to resist inclusion. Jane telephoned the resident and explained that we had a policy and it was available for his viewing.

**ACTION:** *Jane will reply with a letter of response.*

## **10. Chairperson's remarks:** *Jane Ste. Marie*

Jane congratulated Janet on her outward calm demeanor during another turbulent time at the Library. Kudos to her team who continue to build community by offering varied programming for all ages, including the 3 new adult programs this summer. Janet replied that the Rec Department is a joy to work with on projects which affect them and the Library. Adrienne mentioned that Orillia residents are wanting to join our Library due to the diversity of programs offered!

## **11. Chief Executive Officer's report:** *Janet Banfield*

Rebecca has approached the Brechin Lions and received a donation of \$500. She is asking the Brechin Legion for \$250. Rebecca's application for the Sarah Badgley fund has reached the second phase and she is applying again to request the proceeds from the Tim Horton's SMILE cookie campaign. Among other plans, staff want to have more theme-based story time kits for borrowing, and funding for child and youth activities. The \$20,100 technology grant that Janet successfully obtained has been received and equipment will be purchased/installed this fall.

More manpower at the Ramara Centre has been a godsend as visitors and programming increase for the summer and everyone's time is very productive – new displays/activities, and staff working together to share while addressing the challenges of the Brechin branch closure.

Answering to inquiry - Janet shared that DVDs are ordered with Amazon Prime which saves vendor shipping costs.

## **12. Council report:** *Councilor Sherri Bell*

The "Have Your Say" button is live on the Township website until June 30 for public input in the Township's strategic priorities.

On June 20, the new Ramara branding (Ramara Experience), which is intended to give businesses more visibility and encourage shopping local, will be unveiled from 4-6 p.m. in the Council Chambers. They are looking for volunteers to participate on this new committee.

Lagoon City will be celebrating its 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary on June 23-25 and the community is invited to participate in the activities.

## **13. Committee reports:** *none*

## **14. Other business:**

Fine Free policy: *Circ 9 Fine Free*

*Motion #2023-33* Moved by Dayle Rochon, seconded by Sherri Bell that the Board approve the new *Circ 9 Fine Free* policy. Carried.

## **15. Friends of the Library report:** *Janet Banfield*

Both the Friends and the Ramara Library Quilters are in good financial shape and have sponsored all Child and Youth programming for the summer. They have also funded the purchase book stands, acrylic display stand and a new 3-panel display board for the Library. Fundraising will be a challenge as many events centers on the Ramara Centre and there is no longer a catering kitchen for use. This will affect the Craft Show this fall as the Friends can no longer provide lunch. There will be no summer meetings and the Friends will resume in September.

**16. Public comments:**

Janet told the Board that those who were volunteers last term will expect an invitation to a volunteer appreciation event coming soon.

**17. Date and location of next meeting:** Thursday, September 21 at 1 p.m., via ZOOM

**18. Adjournment:**

*Motion #2023-34*      Moved by Ken Szijarto that the meeting be adjourned at 2:50 p.m.