

A meeting of the Deseronto Public Library Board was held on May 7, 2024 with the following members present:

Ms. J. Rixen, Chair
Mr. S. Everhardus
Mr. D. Simpson

Mrs. M. Hilderley, Vice-Chair
Mrs. J. Hill

Also in attendance was Ms. J. Lane, CEO.

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 5:03 p.m.

2. Approval of Agenda

It was moved by Mrs. Hilderley and seconded by Mr. Simpson that the agenda be approved.

"CARRIED"

3. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

No conflicts of interest were declared.

4. Minutes of Last Meeting

The Minutes of the April 9, 2024 meeting had been distributed previously.

It was moved by Mrs. Hilderley and seconded by Mr. Simpson that the Minutes of the April 9, 2024 meeting be received.

"CARRIED"

5. Business Arising

a) Year 2 of Board Cycle

Ms. Lane provided the results of the priority survey completed by Board members. They were:

i) New Sign

A temporary sign has been placed in the front window but its replacement by an attractive permanent sign is a Board priority.

ii) Fundraising

The Friends are prepared to contribute to the cost of the kitchen renovations. They are also making plans for additional fundraising activities, possibly including a fishing derby. They would appreciate the Board's assistance in increasing their membership.

iii) Strategic Plan

A strategic plan is a priority; however, the focus of Year 2 of the Board's cycle is advocacy and the strengthening of community and municipal relations. The results of Year 2 will contribute to the preparation of a strategic plan in Year 3.

6. Information Items

a) Financial Report

The CEO advised that the library is within budget this month. She noted that plumbing repairs had been completed. In addition, 60% of the grant for the kitchen renovations has been received. Staff is preparing the room for the work to start next week.

Ms. Lane was pleased to report that Council had passed a budget that allows for a student to be hired for the summer.

Mr. Everhardus suggested that a semi-annual budget report would provide a useful indication of progress toward the library's goals for the year.

It was moved by Mr. Everhardus and seconded by Mr. Simpson that the Financial Report be received.

"CARRIED"

b) CEO's Report

i) Statistics

The CEO noted that visitors to the library are well ahead of last year's numbers and more programs have been offered. Additions continue to be made to the collection. Fiction is the most popular category and LIBBY is second.

ii) Programming

As noted, programs at the library continue to be popular. There was good participation in the Eclipse program. The library hosted a "Canadian Film Day" in April. Planning is underway for the summer program.

Several local agencies have been using the library for their programs and services. The Girl Guides continue to hold their meetings at the library and have asked for permission to have another overnight sleepover.

It was moved by Mr. Simpson and seconded by Mrs. Hilderley that the Girl Guides be permitted to hold an overnight activity at the library.

"CARRIED"

iii) Grants

Staff continues to investigate grant opportunities. The library was successful in obtaining the Canada Summer Jobs Grant allowing a student to be hired for the summer. Another grant that is available and for which the local MPP, Mr. Bresee, has indicated support for the library, provides funds for accessibility.

It was moved by Mrs. Hilderley and seconded by Mr. Everhardus that the CEO's report be received.

"CARRIED"

7. Action Items

a) Policy Review

Ms. Lane will consolidate the edits from the first draft of the MOU and circulate it to other library CEO's for comment. It was suggested that the document could be submitted to Council in the fall.

b) Board Advocacy

A work plan for an advocacy program is to be prepared. The CEO recommended the formation of a subcommittee to head advocacy efforts. It was noted that letter-writing would be a key component of the Board's efforts.

8. Date of Next Meeting


It was moved by Mr. Simpson and seconded by Mrs. Hilderley that the next meeting be held on June 4, 2024 at 5:00 pm..

"CARRIED"

9. Adjournment

It was moved by Mr. Everhardus and seconded by Mr. Simpson that the meeting be adjourned at 6:03 p.m.

"CARRIED"



(Acting) Secretary