

LIBRARY BOARD MINUTES

Hybrid Meeting
December 13, 2023

The Huron County Library Board met in a hybrid meeting setting on Wednesday, December 13, 2023, at 57 Napier Street in Goderich. All members of the Board were present.

1. Chair Harding to call the Huron County Library Board meeting to order:

Chair Harding called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.

2. Approval of Agenda:

Moved by: Member Zaleski and Seconded by: Member Morton

THAT:

The Library Board Agenda for December 13, 2023 be approved as presented.

CARRIED

3. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof:

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest stated.

4. Minutes of Previous Meeting:

Moved by: Member Becker and Seconded by: Member Wettlaufer

THAT:

The minutes of the Huron County Library Board meeting of November 8, 2023 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

5. Presentations: None.

6. Board Member Comments:

Member Morton delivered updates from the Ontario Library Service Board Assemblies meeting. The round table discussion centered on libraries, with a particular emphasis on key concerns. Policy matters, resident users, overdue fines, and the challenge of a growing population without sufficient infrastructure were prominent topics. The evolving role of libraries also took center stage, alongside discussions about safe protocols for workers. The recognition of the invaluable contribution of librarians and staff was highlighted.

On a lighter note, Member Morton shared the success of Bob the Book attending at the Santa Claus parade.

County Librarian Rumble assured that policies and protocols for working alone are currently in place, including the mandatory wearing of alarms at all times.

Warden McNeil acknowledged that staff safety is paramount so the Board and Council would be supportive if safety measures are needed. The issue of homelessness was also raised, particularly individuals seeking warmth at libraries.

Moved by: Warden McNeil and Seconded by: Member Smith

THAT:

The Library Board requests a staff report to comprehensively address the safety concerns associated with employees, including working alone, and practicalities of the risks involved in library work.

CARRIED

Warden McNeil commented on the uptake on menstrual products offered in libraries. Staff reported receiving appreciative feedback, and while the demand is gradually increasing, the plan is to continue monitoring the usage.

Chair Harding issued a reminder to members about best practices for inclement weather as the winter season approaches. He emphasized the importance of checking email on the meeting day in case of a shift to a virtual setting due to uncertain travel conditions.

7. Reports of the County Librarian:

7.1. Draft 2024 Huron County Library Budget (presented by Beth Rumble)

Moved by: Member Zaleski and Seconded by: Member Kester

THAT:

The Huron County Library Board receives the report by Beth Rumble, County Librarian, dated December 13, 2023, titled Draft 2024 Huron County Library Budget, as presented for information;

AND FURTHER THAT:

The 2024 budget be brought to the January Library Board meeting for approval.

CARRIED

7.2. Board Tour Summary (presented by Beth Rumble)

Moved by: Member Morton and Seconded by: Member Wettlaufer

THAT:

The Huron County Library Board receives the report from Beth Rumble, County Librarian, dated December 13, 2023, titled Board Tour Summary, as presented for information.

CARRIED

7.3. Advocacy Committee Update (presented by Beth Rumble)

Moved by: Member Becker and Seconded by: Member Zaleski

THAT:

The Huron County Library Board receive the report by Beth Rumble, County Librarian, titled Advocacy Committee Update, dated December 13, 2023 as presented for information.

CARRIED

7.4. Invitations to Library Events (presented by Beth Rumble)

Moved by: Member Becker and Seconded by: Member Smith

THAT:

The Huron County Library Board receives the report by Beth Rumble, County Librarian, titled Invitations to Library Events, dated December 13, 2023 as presented for information;

AND FURTHER THAT:

The Library Board Chair invite the local MPP and MP to future library events.

CARRIED

7.5. Administration Monthly Updates - October 2023 (presented by Beth Rumble)

Moved by: Member Morton and Seconded by: Member Smith

THAT:

The Huron County Library Board receives the report from Beth Rumble, County Librarian, dated December 13, 2023, titled Monthly Update - October 2023, as presented for information.

CARRIED

8. Policy Review:

8.1. Mission, Vision and Values Statement (presented by Beth Rumble)

Moved by: Member Zaleski and Seconded by: Member Wettlaufer

THAT:

The Huron County Library Board receives the report from Beth Rumble, County Librarian, dated December 13, 2023, titled Mission, Vision and Values Statement, as presented for information;

AND FURTHER THAT:

The Huron County Library Board adopts the Mission, Vision and Values Statement as outlined.

CARRIED

8.2. Children and Youth Services Policy Update (presented by Beth Rumble)

Moved by: Warden McNeil and Seconded by: Member Kester

THAT:

The Huron County Library Board receives the report from Beth Rumble, County Librarian, dated December 13, 2023, titled Children and Youth Services Policy Update, as presented for information;

AND FURTHER THAT:

The Children and Youth Services Policy be brought to the January Board meeting for approval.

CARRIED

8.3. Administration Safe Child Policy Update (presented by Beth Rumble)

Moved by: Member Becker and Seconded by: Member Kester

THAT:

The Huron County Library Board receives the report from Beth Rumble, County Librarian, dated December 13, 2023, titled Safe Child Policy Update, as presented for information;

AND FURTHER THAT:

The Safe Child Policy be brought to the January Board meeting for approval.

CARRIED

9. Correspondence: None.

10. Financial Statements:

10.1. Financial Statements (presented by Lisa Harvey)

Moved by: Member Zaleski and Seconded by: Member Morton

THAT:

The draft financial statements for the month ending October 31, 2023 be received.

CARRIED

11. Closed to the Public Session: None.

12. Next Meeting:

The next meeting of the Huron County Library Board will be on Wednesday, January 17, 2024 at 9:00 AM.

13. Adjournment:

Moved by: Member Smith and Seconded by: Member Morton

THAT:

The Huron County Library Board meeting adjourn at 10:01 AM.

CARRIED

Chair Doug Harding