

REGULAR MEETING

October 3, 2007

The regular meeting of the London Public Library Board was held on the above date in the Friends of the London Public Library Board Room at 5:40 p.m. with the following present:

From the Board S. MacDonald (Chair), G. Barber, N. Branscombe, J. Colwell, J. Deslippe, J. Lubell, J. Morgan, J. Tilley and D. Winninger (later);

Senior Management: A. Baker, A. Becker, S. Hubbard Krimmer, B. Jessop, L. Sage, T. Travers, N. Ward, M. Wilkinson;

Minutes taken by: J. White.

APOLOGIES – none

L07/44 WELCOME

Ms. MacDonald welcomed guests to the meeting.

DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST - none

L07/45 CHANGES TO AND ADOPTION OF AGENDA

It was MOVED by Mr. Colwell and seconded by Ms. Deslippe that the agenda be adopted.

CARRIED

L07/46 REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES, MEMBERS, AND STAFF REQUIRING BOARD ACTION

2008 Sustainability Business Case and Budget Implications

Ms. Becker presented an overview of the 2008 Sustainability Business Case and Budget Implications.

At 6:00 p.m., Councillor Winninger entered the meeting.

In the past, London Public Library has had significant difficulty achieving the budget target set by City Council due to increased personnel costs (negotiated wage settlements, higher minimum wage and rising benefit costs), collections costs, technology costs (support for Millennium, Integrated Library System) and energy costs. As well, there were also job evaluation/pay equity adjustments. Sustainability needs for 2008 include funding for the virtual branch, newcomer library services, facility cleaning and technology.

Board members discussed recommendation #5 and the other 6 options outlined in the report and the impact on service. It was noted by several board members that LPL should ask for what it needs and that we should not dilute service access by reducing hours or closing branches.

It was suggested that the report be linked to the City's Strategic Plan, that more information be provided on how the money would be allocated for newcomers, technology, facilities and virtual branch and that City Council be provided with a copy of the Library's Strategic Plan.

At 7:00 p.m, the meeting recessed and resumed at 7:10 p.m.

Board members agreed that sustainability of service accessibility, critical services and operations requires increased operational funding and that a 3.2% budget target is not sufficient.

It was MOVED by Mr. Colwell and seconded by Ms. Deslippe that Administration be directed to submit a 2008 budget proposal of 6.4%, as per recommendation 7 exceeding target to Board of Control on October 17, 2007;

and, that Administration be directed to amend Alternative #7 (increase of 6.4% to 6.7%) to include Monday service hours at Cherryhill, Masonville and Jalna.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

For purposes of communication through the process, Ms. Becker will ensure that an advocacy plan will be implemented, all public input will be distributed to the Board and that Board members will be notified of dates and times for budget meetings held as part of the City budget process.

It was suggested that advisory committees be established at small branch libraries to develop plans to increase attendance and circulation on a go-forward basis. A report will be prepared for the November 21st, 2007 meeting.

Mr. Colwell thanked members of the public for attending the meeting and urged Londoners to contact their Councillors if they want to support the motion.

Board members thanked Ms. Becker and the senior team for a very complete report containing a comprehensive overview of the 2008 budget.

L07/47

CONSENT ITEMS

It was MOVED by Mr. Colwell and seconded by Ms. Deslippe that the following consent items be received:

Letter from Marian Weldon, Secretary, Westminster Township Historical Society to Ms. Becker regarding the Lambeth Branch Library. (October 2, 2007)

Letter from Sarah Merritt, Manager, Old East Village BIA to Councillor Winner regarding the Carson Branch Library. (October 3, 2007)

Email from Ted Town, Old East Village Community Association to Controller Barber regarding the Carson Branch Library. (October 3, 2007)

Email from Shawn and Dawn Davis to Councillors Orser, Winninger and Branscombe and Controller Barber regarding the Carson Branch Library. (October 2, 2007)

Email from Greg Thompson, Past Chair, Old East Village Community Association to Controller Barber regarding the Carson Branch Library. (October 2, 2007)

Email from Kurt Kostuk to Controller Barber regarding the Carson Branch Library. (October 2, 2007)

Email from Lindsay Matthews to Councillor Orser regarding the Carson Branch Library. (October 2, 2007)

CARRIED

ON MOTION, the meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Chair

Secretary