

REGULAR MEETING

November 30, 2005

The regular meeting of the London Public Library Board was held on the above date in the London Public Library Friends of the Library Board Room at 6:10 p.m. with the following present:

From the Board F. Tranquilli, R. Caranci, P. Coderre, P. Griffith, G. Kerhoulas, S. MacDonald, J. Schlemmer, W. Thorpe and D. Winninger;

Administration: A. Becker, J. Bowerbank, S. Hubbard Krimmer, B. Irwin, M. Mitchell and M. Wilkinson;

Other Staff: L. Kirkham, L. Manax Skikos, D. Mitchell, B. Whitney;

Guests: C. Sprovieri, Students from the Faculty of Information and Media Studies at UWO; John Keating, Joe Duncan and Michael Tidy from Telus; Howie Thompson from IBM;

Minutes taken by: J. White.

APOLOGIES - none

L05/59 DELEGATIONS

Councillor Tranquilli welcomed representatives from IBM and Telus to the meeting.

Mr. Irwin introduced Joe Duncan, John Keating and Michael Tidy from Telus.

The first annual Telus Golf Tournament was held on September 21, 2005 and the next profit exceeded \$11,000.00. This money will fund the Literacy Links initiative linking young people to technology and computers. The second annual golf tournament will be held on September 13, 2006.

Mr. Irwin introduced Howie Thompson from IBM.

IBM has funded two homework centres at the Sherwood and East London branches.

On behalf of the Library Board, Councillor Tranquilli expressed his appreciation to IBM and Telus for their generous contribution to London Public Library.

At 6:22 p.m, the meeting entered in-camera session. The meeting resumed at 6:40 p.m.

Councillor Tranquilli welcomed Ms. Sprovieri and students from the Faculty of Information and Media Studies at the University of Western Ontario.

Delegations from four groups who have donated to the Library's collections were also in attendance.

Ms. Whitney introduced the following representatives:

Barbara Bain, Cardinal Representative, McIrwaith Field Naturalists:
This organization has generously been donating materials for many years to the science collection for adults/children.

Joyce Larsh and Nancy King, London Endometriosis Support:
This organization has made a health collection donation to the Library.

Maureen Reid, Manager, Children's Aid Society, Caring Community Collection:
The Caring Community Collection is a collection of materials providing information on the problem of abuse and prevention.

Ruth Ann Woolford, President, Canadian Embroiderers' Guild:
This organization has been a long time contributor to the Library's art collection.

Councillor Tranquilli thanked Ms. Whitney and the four organizations for their contributions and for helping to make London Public Library relevant and well connected in the community.

DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST - none

L05/60 CHANGES TO AND ADOPTION OF AGENDA

It was MOVED by Mr. Griffith and seconded by Ms. Thorpe that the agenda be adopted as amended.

CARRIED

L05/61 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was MOVED by Mr. Kerhoulas and seconded by Ms. MacDonald that the minutes of October 26, 2005 (L05/52-L05/58) be approved.

CARRIED

L05/62 REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES, MEMBERS, AND STAFF REQUIRING BOARD ACTION

Update of London Public Library Website

Mr. Irwin thanked members of the Web management Committee for their dedicated work over the last year: Sarah Andrews, David Caloren, Heather Heathcote, Beth Kinchlea, Linda Kirkham, Betty Lueddeke, David Mitchell, Lisa Manax Skikos, Beth Whitney, Margaret Wilkinson and Cathy Willits.

The London Public Library's website was first introduced in 1994. Now, the website has 2,000 pages of content from 1,000 pages and over 40 information databases.

Ms. Hleba, Youth Librarian, was recognized for her work on the "Teen Zone".

It was suggested that naming or recognition opportunities be added under the "Support Your Library" section.

A link to LTC busroutes could be added as well.

Councillor Tranquilli thanked the Website Management Committee for their outstanding work. Ms. Becker also congratulated the Committee, noting the dedicated work of Ms. Manax Skikos and Mr. Mitchell.

At 7:10 p.m., Councillor Winninger left the meeting.

L05/62.1 Strategic Plan Review

Councillor Tranquilli acknowledged the work of Ms. Becker in the preparation of this Strategic Plan.

It was suggested that the "bridge" on the front cover be replaced with a photo of a bridge in London.

The Strategic Plan will be posted on the Library's website for review and comments from the public.

It was MOVED by Ms. Coderre and seconded by Ms. Thorpe that the Strategic Plan Review be received.

CARRIED

L05/62.2 2006 Operating Budget Presentation

On November 23, 2005, Board of Control reduced the Library's budget by \$25,000. Library Administration is hopeful that this reduction will not proceed.

It was MOVED by Councillor Caranci and seconded by Mr. Schlemmer that the 2006 Operating Budget Presentation be received.

CARRIED

L05/62.3 Services and Operations Update - Service Assessment

Library service statistics have been negatively impacted due to the branch closures during the refurbishment periods.

Discussion included the use of self-check out units, CD-ROM's, a breakdown of fiction and non-fiction material.

It was suggested that feedback be sought from the public on the Library's budget. Comments could be automatically sent to Ms. Becker and City Council.

It was MOVED by Ms. Thorpe and seconded by Ms. MacDonald that the report Services and Operations Update - Service Assessment be received.

CARRIED

L05/62.5 Creative City Report

This report was prepared to inform Board members about London Public Library's ongoing role with the City of London's Creative City process. The Library was asked to respond to specific recommendations coming from eight broad strategic goals.

Board members discussed alignment of fiscal responsibility. It was stated that the Library Board must encourage the City to sufficiently fund London Public Library's value-added contribution to this project.

It was MOVED by Mr. Kerhoulas and seconded by Mr. Griffith that the Creative City report be approved and forwarded to Board of Control.

CARRIED

L05/62.6 Charter of Library Use - Unattended Children Policy

It is recommended that the policy be applied to all children under the age of 12 in all locations across the London Public Library system.

It was MOVED by Ms. MacDonald and seconded by Mr. Schlemmer that the Charter of Library Use - Unattended Children Policy be approved.

CARRIED

L05/62.7 Employee Survey Results

Mr. Bowerbank reported that this Employee Survey was the first full in-depth satisfaction survey at London Public Library. 329 surveys were distributed and 251 were filled out. Staff provided feedback on a number of issues related to the development of the Strategic Plan, including their assessment of the previous plan and how services are perceived in the community.

Many comments were received and are currently being compiled. Clearly, the staff enjoy their work. They love the public library and feel comfortable in their own locations. Opportunities for improvement include: internal communications, recognition and development opportunities, understanding of the roles of others in the organization, opportunities for advancement within the organization and the consistent application of policies, to name a few.

Board members discussed the statistical analysis of questions related to the Board. Mr. Griffith asked to view the comments made about the Library Board.

Focus groups will be held with employees on communication, leadership, roles and governance.

It was MOVED by Councillor Caranci and seconded by Ms. Thorpe that the report on Employee Survey Results be received.

CARRIED

L05/62.8 Historic Sites Committee Appointment

Ms. Mitchell reported that interviews were conducted after a resignation from the Historic Sites Committee.

It was MOVED by Councillor Caranci and seconded by Mr. Kerhoulas that Mr. Jason Jordan be appointed to the Historic Sites Committee.

CARRIED

L05/63 CONSENT ITEMS

Walking Guide to Historic Sites in London

The Historic Sites Committee with a grant from Landmarks London and the assistance of the London Public Library Board prepared and published the Walking Guide to Historic Sites in London. It will be sold for \$10.

L05/63.2 Northridge Branch Library

Ms. Mitchell reported that work at the branch will continue into January, 2006.

L05/63.3 150 People Who Define London

Board members congratulated Mr. Kerhoulas for being included on the list of 150 People Who Define London in the London Free Press on October 20, 2005.

It was MOVED by Councillor Caranci and seconded by Ms. Thorpe that the following consent items be received:

Historic Sites Committee, September 22, 2005
Letter from Kevin Bain regarding the London Public Library Collections
budget. (October 25, 2005)
Thank you note from Reg Patterson for her 25-year gift from the Library
Board

CARRIED

L05/64

REPORT ON MATTERS FROM THE EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councillor Tranquilli reported that progress was made on a property and
personnel matter which will remain confidential

ON MOTION, the meeting adjourned at 8:46 p.m.

Chair

Secretary

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