

**NIAGARA FALLS PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD**  
**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING**  
November 17, 2021

The open-session meeting was held virtually on Zoom

The Committee-of-the-Whole meeting was held virtually on Google Meet

**PRESENT:** A. Andres-Jones (Chair), J. Anstruther (Vice-Chair), L. Lococo, B. Ness, K. Tsiantoulas, K. Letourneau, D. Parakh

**STAFF:** A. Subnaik Kilgour, S. Gajjar, C. Burton, A. DeGiorgio

**GUESTS:** J. Burgess, CAO- City of Niagara Falls

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Meeting called to order at 4:31 pm

**THE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT WAS READ INTO THE MINUTES**

*The Chonnonton people have called these lands where we are gathering home for thousands of years and more recently, the Anishnaabe and the Haudenosaunee have been sharing the land as One Dish, One Spoon Treaty territory. We would like to acknowledge the enduring resilience of the First Nations, Metis and Inuit people who call this territory home.*

**1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Revision proposed to move in-camera during matter 4 “Matters arising from Minutes”.

**MOTION: 2021-102** To approve the [amended] agenda [of November 17th, 2021 Board meeting]

**MOVED BY:** B. Ness

**SECONDED BY:** J. Anstruther

**MOTION CARRIED**

**2. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY AND CONFLICT OF INTERESTS**

None

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION: 2021-103** To accept the minutes [of regular and committee-of-the-whole Board meeting of October 27, 2021]

**MOVED BY:** D. Parakh

**SECONDED BY:** L. Lococo

**MOTION CARRIED**

#### 4. MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES

**MOTION: 2021-104** To move into Committee-of-the-Whole  
**MOVED BY:** B. Ness  
**SECONDED BY:** J. Anstruther  
**MOTION CARRIED**

The Niagara Falls Public Library Board went “in camera” at 4:34 pm in order to address matters pertaining to:

- Labour relations or employee negotiations

**MOTION: 2021-106** To rise from Committee-of-the-Whole  
**MOVED BY:** J. Anstruther  
**SECONDED BY:** K. Tsiantoulas  
**MOTION CARRIED**

The “in camera” session was completed at 5:14 pm

J. Burgess joined the meeting around 5:10 pm.

There was a discussion surrounding the 2020 Audited surplus. It was agreed that the Library Board has the authority on determining the usage of this surplus. J. Burgess advised the Board to retain the 2020 surplus, designate it to the Stamford Library capital project or use it for any other asset management purpose.

J. Burgess left the meeting at 5:33 pm.

#### 5. BOARD INFORMATION AND EDUCATION

- A plan to safely reopen Ontario and manage COVID-19 for the long term
- Ontario releases plan to safely reopen Ontario and Manage COVID-19 for the long-term, Lancaster, Brooks & Welch LLP
- Public Library Update November 3, 2021, OLS
- Public Library Update November 12, 2021, OLS

#### 6. ARTICLES OF INTEREST

- *Overdue fines aren't good for borrowers or libraries* | Los Angeles Times
- *Terrifying' statistics continue for Niagara opioid crisis* | Andrew Mekbeb
- *Librarians rising up* | Rosemary Frei
- *Waterloo region public school board trustee calls for report on library review* | The Record
- *Ontario school board reviews every book in every library to cull those "harmful" to students* | County Weekly News
- *Wyoming librarian may face criminal charges for stocking LGBTQ books* | Metro Weekly

**7. FINANCE COMMITTEE**

- a) The Library cheque/EFT registers were read into the minutes  
October 1-31, 2021 – 2021 Fiscal year \$ 78,935.04

**MOTION: 2021-107** To accept the cheque/EFT register of October 1-31,2021  
**MOVED BY:** J. Anstruther  
**SECONDED BY:** B. Ness  
**MOTION CARRIED**

- b) Monthly revenue and actual reports were provided for October2021

**MOTION: 2021-108** To accept the financial reports as presented  
**MOVED BY:** J. Anstruther  
**SECONDED BY:** K. Letourneau  
**MOTION CARRIED**

- c) Proposed 2022 Operating Budget was presented to the Library Board by A. Subnaik Kilgour and S. Gajjar

**MOTION: 2021-109** To approve the proposed budget as presented tonight [in the November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2021 regular Board Meeting]  
**MOVED BY:** K. Letourneau  
**SECONDED BY:** J. Anstruther  
**MOTION CARRIED**

**8. CEO REPORT**

A. Subnaik Kilgour

- Provincial restriction update with respect to Libraries
- Update on Stamford Library renovation project
- Recommendation on R2 and R3 retirement benefits plan
- Update on 2020 Charitable Tax Return
- Update on transfer of Chippawa Parking lot

**MOTION: 2021-110** To move forward with in-person meetings and in-person programming in the New Year, while adhering to physical distancing, masking, capacity limitations and other COVID safety protocols  
**MOVED BY:** L. Lococo  
**SECONDED BY:** B. Ness  
**MOTION CARRIED**

**MOTION: 2021-111** To accept CEO's recommendation to discontinue services at the current Stamford space to eliminate the double rent paid in 2022 and give notice to the Landlords immediately so that we can stop paying double rent by the end of December 2021

**MOVED BY:** D. Parakh  
**SECONDED BY:** K. Tsiantoulas  
**MOTION CARRIED**

**MOTION: 2021-112** To accept CEO's recommendation on closing the SunLife B benefits package and proceed with all the criteria for R2 and R3 mentioned in the November 15 CEO Report

**MOVED BY:** J. Anstruther  
**SECONDED BY:** B. Ness  
**MOTION CARRIED**

**MOTION: 2021-113** To accept the CEO Report as of whole [for November 15, 2021]

**MOVED BY:** J. Anstruther  
**SECONDED BY:** D. Parakh  
**MOTION CARRIED**

**9. NEW BUSINESS**

Following items were provided for Board's review:

- 2022 Holiday dates
- 2020 Annual Report

**10. OTHER BUSINESS**

a) The following items were provided for the Board's review:

- i. October 2021 Qualitative Statistics
- ii. October 2021 Quantitative Statistics

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 7:02 pm

**NEXT MEETING**

December 15, 2021

January 19, 2022

February 16, 2022