

BOARD MINUTES

BOARD MEETING: #25-03

DATE: THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2025, 7:00 PM

LOCATION: DOWNTOWN –ANGUS ROSS ROOM

Attendees:	Austin Mitchell (Chair), Nigussie Nigussie (Councillor) (left at 8:30 pm), Amy Courser (Councillor) (arrived at 7:09 pm), John Bicknell, Merrisa Little (left at 8:15 pm, Scott Herman
Library Staff:	L. Jessop, J. Little, L. LaFleshe
Regrets:	Michael Sauro, George Hawtin (Vice-Chair), Robin Munro C. Vanderkruys
Note Taker:	K. Bouffard

1. Call to Order, Welcome and [Land Acknowledgment](#)

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm.

2. Confirmation of Agenda

The agenda was confirmed.

3. Conflicts of Interest

No conflicts were declared.

4. Delegations – None

There were no delegations.

5. [Board Development](#)

5.1 OLA Superconference Key Takeaways

Due to time constraints, OLA Superconference Takeaways were not reviewed at this meeting. Instead, the presentation will be posted on the Hub, and a link will be sent to Board members for review. Please feel free to post any questions.

Consent Agenda

6. Board Meeting Minutes

7. Closed Board Meeting Minutes (in Closed Meeting Package)

8. CEO's Report

9. 2024 Year in Review Report

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10. Value for Money Audit Report

11. Correspondence – Letter to Mayor & Council Re 2025 Budget Amendment

12. Deferred Items

- a. Financial Migration
- b. CEWS Liability (Quarterly)
- c. Succession Management Plan
- d. Reserves (Forecast and 2025 changes)

Agenda

13. Items held from the Consent Agenda

Motion #25-09 SCOTT HERMAN - MERRISA LITTLE

THAT the Barrie Public Library Board adopts the consent agenda for Board meeting #24-03 dated Thursday, February 27, 2025. CARRIED

14. Strategic Plan Approval and Revised Core Values

The CEO provided an overview of the new Strategic Plan, including the Mission and Vision statements, strategic directions, and goals. The mission statement and one goal were revised.

Motion #25-10 SCOTT HERMAN - NIGUSSIE NIGUSSIE

THAT the Barrie Public Library Board approve the 2025-2028 Strategic Plan and that the Library's Core Values be updated, as amended. CARRIED

15. CEO Workplan

The CEO provided highlighted key priorities, noting that if the NW location moves forward, it will take up a lot of time. The first update will be in June.

Motion #25-11 JOHN BICKNELL - MERRISA LITTLE

THAT the Barrie Public Library Board accept the CEO Goals and Work Plan 2025. CARRIED

16. Policies

16.1 Financial Controls and Oversight Policy (revise) and Reserve Policy (rescind)

The CEO will investigate if a motion is required to combine the "Vested Sick Leave Benefits" and "Future Collection Acquisitions" reserves with the Future Capital Expenditures Reserve before rescinding the Reserves Policy. The policy will not be rescinded until this is confirmed.

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Motion #25-12 SCOTT HERMAN - JOHN BICKNELL

THAT the Barrie Public Library Board approves revisions to the Financial Controls and Oversight Policy. CARRIED

16.2 Corporate Credit Card Policy and Disconnecting from Work Policy

Motion #25-13 JOHN BICKNELL - NIGUSSIE NIGUSSIE

THAT the Barrie Public Library Board approve revisions to the Corporate Credit Card Policy as amended and that the Disconnecting from Work Policy be approved with no changes. CARRIED

16.3 Collections Policy

Motion #25-14 SCOTT HERMAN - JOHN BICKNELL

THAT the Barrie Public Library Board approve revisions to the Collections Policy. CARRIED

17. Board Committees

17.1 Personnel & Finance

The committee will meet to discuss the audit, policies, and any transfer to the financial stabilization reserve.

17.2 Community & Governance

A new Partnerships policy will be brought to the committee. Also on the agenda will be an update on the Northwest Library.

17.2.1 Announcements

There were no announcements.

18. Report of the Chair – Verbal Report

The Chair was pleased that the budget was approved with additional funding to investigate the Northwest location and is glad to see this project included in the CEO's work plan.

The CEO's report referenced a media article suggesting that reshuffling library reserves would cost the taxpayers, however, the impact to taxpayers comes from the additional funding allocated for the Northwest location, not a reserve adjustment.

Some Board members attended the mayor's lunch and took the opportunity to connect with the Mayor, Councillors and city staff.

The Chair shared information about an upcoming Georgian College summit for the Library to explore potential participation.

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A letter was sent to the Mayor and Council to acknowledge and express appreciation for the amendment to our budget. Councillor Kungl responded with an email thanking the Library for our contributions to the community.

19. Date of Next Board Meeting

Thursday, April 24, 2025, 7:00 pm

20. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:39 PM