

**STRATFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD
MINUTES OF A MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 16, 2010**

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD PRESENT:

Ted Boniface Anita Gaffney Paul Rempel
Peter Brooks Geoff Williams Keith Culliton
Susan Fox

REGRETS:

Patty Mann

MEMBERS OF THE STAFF PRESENT:

Wendy Hicks, Deputy Director
David Harvie, Associate Director
Cathy Perreault, Recording Secretary

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order in the library auditorium by Chair, Ted Boniface at 7:00 p.m.

2. CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS:

none

3. DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST AND THE GENERAL NATURE THEREOF:

none

4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

2010-20 Moved by G. Williams , seconded by P. Rempel that the agenda be approved.
CARRIED

5. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 16, 2010:

2010-21 Moved by K. Culliton, seconded by S. Fox that the minutes of February 16, 2010 be approved. **CARRIED**

6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

6.1 Changes to by-laws:

Change 2.2 (b) to: “The current Chair, Vice Chair and C.E.O. will review the applications for appointment to the Board; and, may interview applicants as deemed appropriate by the Chair, Vice Chair and C.E.O.; and, will provide recommendations for Council’s consideration.”

Change 3.1 by changing “one-year term” to “two-year term”

Change 3.2 by changing “one-year term” to “two-year term”

Change first sentence of 4.3 to: “The Annual General Meeting shall be held in January of each year, except the year following a municipal election when, the Annual General Meeting shall be the first meeting subsequent to receipt of appoint confirmation from the City Clerk.”

Change the third sentence of 4.3 by deleting, “for their annual term”

Change first sentence of 4.4 to: “The Board shall hold regular meetings once a month for at least 10 months each year. These regular meetings shall be held at 7 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month.”

Change 4.4 (b) to: “In a municipal election year, there shall be no meeting scheduled in November. An alternative meeting shall be scheduled in the 10 months preceding the election.”

Change 4.6 by adding, “Delegations” after “Approval of agenda” and before “Approval of the minutes of previous meeting(s)”.

Change the reference in 4.8 (i) to: “(PLA, ss. 16.1(4) & 16.1(5))”

2010-22 Moved by G. Williams, seconded by P. Rempel to accept recommended changes to by-laws
CARRIED

7. BUSINESS OF THE BOARD:

- 7.1 Planning Implementation Committee: No meeting.
- 7.2 Report from the Foundation: Rob Lavery, Fundraising consultant for Southern Ontario Library Services, spoke to members at the February 22 meeting.
- 7.3 Report from the Friends: The Annual General Meeting and Meet and Greet is set for April 14 at 6:45 in the library auditorium. They are in need of a person to fill the secretary position. Proposed changes to the by-laws will be voted on at the AGM.
- 7.4 Report from PCIN: Met via conference call on February 22 and approved transfer of grant for cultural mapping to Perth County Visitors’ Association.
- 7.5 SOLS: Nothing to report.

8. CEO MONITORING REPORTS:

2010-23 Moved by P.Rempel, seconded by K. Culliton to approve the CEO’s Monitoring Reports. **CARRIED**

9. CORRESPONDENCE:

A letter from Minister Chan was acknowledged.

10. OTHER BUSINESS:

11. CONFIRMATION OF DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING:

Next Board meeting will be Tuesday, April 20 at 7:00 p.m., Library Auditorium

12. ADJOURNMENT:

2010-24 Moved by A. Gaffney, seconded by K. Culliton that the meeting adjourn at 7:20 p.m.

Stratford Public Library Board By-laws

Approved May 16, 2006, amended March 16, 2010

Preamble WHEREAS the *Public Libraries Act*, R.S.O.1990, chapter P 44, (hereinafter called the "PLA") provides that public libraries shall be under the management and control of a Board, which is a corporation;

1. GENERAL

- 1.1 Name** AND WHEREAS, By-law # 160-85 (as amended) of the Council of the City of Stratford (hereinafter called the "Council") establishes the City of Stratford Public Library Board (hereinafter called the "Board").
- 1.2 Address** The Board's address shall be at the *Stratford Public Library, 19 St. Andrew St. Stratford Ontario N5A 1A2*
- 1.3 Mission** The Stratford Public Library is a community-owned organization committed to the open provision of library resources and services that will enhance personal and community quality of life.
- 1.4 Powers and Duties** The Board's powers and duties shall be all those described in the PLA. Accordingly, the Board is responsible for operating one or more libraries in accordance with the PLA and regulation.
- 1.5 Definitions** The provisions of the by-laws shall be interpreted in accordance with the glossary of terms, attached as Appendix "A."
- 1.6 Associate Group Responsibility** The Board shall be responsible for policies and strategies of its associate groups: Friends of the Stratford Library and the Stratford Library Foundation. See Appendices "B" and "C."

2. BOARD COMPOSITION

- 2.1 Size and Composition** The Board shall consist of nine trustees, of whom a maximum of four shall be a member of the said Council and the remainder shall be citizen appointees who are representative of the community served. (City By-Law 160-85 as amended)
- 2.2 Appointments** The Board shall be appointed by the municipal Council of the City of Stratford. (PLA, s.9)
- a) The Library Board will solicit applications from the district school Boards and will inform Council of same. Council will appoint a school Board applicant in the event a suitable application is received. (City of Stratford, Policy C3.8)
 - b) The current Chair, Vice Chair and C.E.O. will review the applications for appointment to the Board; and, may interview applicants as deemed appropriate by the Chair, Vice Chair and C.E.O.; and, will provide recommendations for Council's consideration. (City of Stratford Policy C3.8)
- 2.3 Qualifications** Citizen appointees must meet the qualifications set out in Section 10 (1) of the PLA.
- 2.4 Term** A Board member shall hold office for a term concurrent with the Council term, or until a successor is appointed. (PLA, s.10(3))
- 2.5 Reappointment** A Board member may be reappointed for one term plus if applicable, a second term in those cases where a Board member is initially appointed mid-term to fill a vacancy. (City of Stratford Policy C3.1)
- 2.6 Resignations/ Vacancies** If a vacancy arises in Board membership, Council shall appoint a person to fill the vacancy and to hold office for the unexpired term, except if the unexpired term is less than 45 days. (PLA, s.12)

- 2.7 Disqualification** If a board member,
- (a) is convicted of an indictable offence;
 - (b) becomes incapacitated;
 - (c) is absent from the meetings of the board for three consecutive months without being authorized by a board resolution;
 - (d) ceases to be qualified for membership under PLA s.10(1)(c); or
 - (e) otherwise forfeits his or her seat,
- the member's seat becomes vacant and the remaining members shall forthwith declare the seat vacant and notify Council accordingly.(PLA, s.13)

3. BOARD OFFICERS

- 3.1 Chair** The Board shall elect the Chair for a two-year term and he/she shall hold office until a successor is elected.
- 3.2 Vice-Chair** The Board shall elect the Vice-chair for a two-year term and he/she shall hold office until a successor is elected. In the absence of the Chair, the Vice-chair shall preside and shall have all of the Chair's powers and responsibilities.
- 3.3 Secretary** The Board shall appoint a Secretary. Typically, that shall be the CEO or the CEO's designate.
- The Board Secretary shall:
- a) Prepare meeting minutes;
 - b) Provide notice of meetings; and
 - c) Conduct the Board's official correspondence.
- 3.4 Treasurer** The City Treasurer is the legal Treasurer of the Board. (City of Stratford Policy)
- 3.5 Chief Executive Officer** The Director of the Stratford Public Library is the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) under PLA s.15(1), who shall be known in these by-laws as the "CEO." As CEO, the Director is responsible to the Board for general supervision over and direction of the operations of the public library and its staff.
- The CEO is entitled to notice of and to attend each meeting of the Board and every committee of the Board, but the Board may require the CEO to withdraw from any part of a meeting at which the Board or a committee of the Board intends to consider a matter related to the remuneration or the performance of the duties of the CEO.

4. BOARD MEETINGS

- 4.1 Meetings** All Board meetings shall be open to the public except for In-Camera Meetings under s. 4.9 of this by-law.. (PLA, s.16.1(1))
- 4.2 Inaugural Meeting in New Term** The PLA, Section 14 (1) and (2) and the City of Stratford By-law # 160-85 (as amended) authorize the CEO to call the first Board Meeting in each new term.
- 4.3 Annual General Meeting** The Annual General Meeting shall be held in January of each year, except the year following a municipal election, the Annual General Meeting shall be the first meeting subsequent to receipt of appoint confirmation from the City Clerk.
- The CEO calls the Annual General Meeting to order and conducts the elections for the Chair and Vice-Chair positions.
- Once the Chair and Vice-Chair are elected, the Chair presides over the remainder of the meeting.

- 4.4 Regular Meetings** The Board shall hold regular meetings once a month for at least 10 months each year. These regular meetings shall be held at 7 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month.
- a) The Board shall not hold a Board meeting that falls on a municipal, provincial or federal election date.
 - b) In a municipal election year, there shall be no meeting scheduled in November. An alternative meeting shall be scheduled in the 10 months preceding the election. (PLA, s. 16(1))
- 4.5 Meeting Notification**
- a) The Board Secretary shall provide to each member at least four days in advance written notice of all regular and special meetings, together with the proposed agenda and the minutes from the previous meeting.
 - b) Lack of receipt of notice for a regular meeting shall not affect the validity of holding the meeting or any action taken thereat, provided a quorum is obtained.
- 4.6 Order of Business** The order of business at regular meetings shall be as follows:
- Call to order
 - Chairperson’s remarks
 - Approval of agenda
 - Delegations
 - Approval of the minutes of previous meeting(s)
 - Business arising from the minutes
 - Board education
 - Business of the board
 - CEO monitoring reports
 - Correspondence
 - Other business
 - Confirmation of date and time of next meeting
 - Adjournment
- 4.7 Special Meetings** The Chair or any two members may summon a special meeting at any time with four day’s notice. The Meeting’s purpose must be stated in the notice and no other business will be transacted without the consent of a Board majority. (PLA, s.16(2))
- Notwithstanding section 4.5, special emergency meetings may be called with 24 hours notice.
- Lack of receipt of notice for special meetings shall not affect the validity of holding the meeting or any action taken thereat, provided a quorum is obtained.

4.8 In-Camera Meetings When the Board determines that matters should be dealt with in the absence of the public, a motion to move into an in-camera session must be moved, seconded, and approved by majority vote, prior to the meeting being closed. Motions to move in-camera are not debatable.

The following subjects may be discussed at properly constituted closed meetings:

- a) Debate as to whether or not an item is properly in-camera or not if, in the Chair's opinion, such discussion would be prejudicial if discussed at an open meeting;
- b) The security of the Board's property;
- c) Personal matters about an identifiable individual;
- d) A proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the Board;
- e) Labour relations or employee negotiations;
- f) Litigation or potential litigation, including matters before any Court or Administrative Tribunal, affecting the Board;
- g) Advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose;
- h) A matter in respect of which a Board or Board committee may hold a closed meeting under another Act; and
- i) A request under the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. (PLA, ss. 16.1(4) & 16.1(5))

A Meeting may be closed to the public during a vote only if:

- a) Conditions permitting or requiring the meeting to be closed to the public exist; and
- b) The vote is for a procedural matter or for giving directions or instructions to Board officers, employees or agents or Board committee or persons retained by or under contract with the Board. (PLA, s.16.1(8))

4.9 Meeting Procedures The Chair will preside at all Board meetings, maintain order, decide whether motions are in order, and rule on all procedural matters.

If the Chair is not present at the time for the meeting to begin, the Vice-Chair will call the meeting to order and will preside for that meeting or until the Chair arrives.

If both the Chair and Vice-Chair are not present within fifteen minutes after the time for the meeting to begin, the CEO will call the meeting to order and will preside for the election of an Acting Chair. While presiding, the Acting Chair will have all the Chair's rights, duties, and responsibilities.

4.10 Attendance Members shall notify the Board Secretary if they are unable to attend the regular meeting. Meeting attendance shall be recorded.

For absence from Board meetings for two consecutive months, the Board Chair will speak to the member.

For absence from Board meetings for three consecutive months without a recorded Board resolution authorizing the absence, see section 2.7 Disqualification.

4.11 Conflict of Interest The Municipal Conflict of Interest Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter M.50 as amended, shall govern the Board, and the agenda shall include provision for members to disclose a direct or indirect pecuniary interest in a matter and the general nature thereof.

- 4.12 Delegations** Residents and community association representatives may attend and address the Board as a delegation at any regular meeting. In order to appear as a delegation, the following conditions must be met:
- a) Written request to speak as a delegation must be submitted, in person or by fax or e-mail, at least one week prior to the date of the meeting. The request must include the issue(s) to be presented, naming the organization or interested parties to be represented, and any intended materials for distribution;
 - b) The Board reserves the right to request any additional information regarding a particular issue or association;
 - c) The Board will provide delegations with a maximum of 15 minutes to make a presentation, unless extended by Board motion;
 - d) The Board reserves the right to limit the number of delegations per meeting;
 - e) A delegation may not appear before the Board on the same issue a second time, unless approved by Board motion;
 - f) Delegations may choose to remain for the balance of the public meeting, but may not speak to other agenda items; and
 - g) Through the CEO, the Board will communicate its decision to the delegation in writing. The Board is not obligated to respond or make a decision at the time of the presentation.
- 4.13 Quorum** A quorum shall be a simple majority of the Board. (PLA, s.16(5))
- As soon as there is a quorum present, the Chair shall call the meeting to order.
- Where a quorum is not present within 30 minutes after the hour fixed for a meeting, the Board Secretary shall record the names of the members present. In the absence of a quorum, the meeting may continue; however, no motion may be made or passed.
- 4.14 Voting** The Chair or Acting Chair may vote with the other members upon all questions. The Chair or Acting Chair shall cast a vote after all members have voted. (PLA, s.16(6))
- Any question on which there is a tie vote shall be deemed to be negative. (PLA, s.16(6))
- Voting shall be by a show of hands, unless otherwise requested. Upon the request of a member who is present when a question is stated, a recorded vote shall be taken.
- 4.15 Rules of Order** The Board shall use Robert's Rules of Order as a tool to govern proceedings and member conduct.
- 4.16 Chair's Procedures** The Chair will:
- a) Open Meetings by calling the meeting to order;
 - b) Determine the presence of a quorum;
 - c) Maintain a list of members who have signaled the Chair that they wish to speak or ask questions;
 - d) Recognize members in the order in which they signaled that they wished to speak or ask questions;
 - e) Receive and submit, in the proper manner, all motions presented by the members, unless a motion is contrary to the Board's By-laws;
 - f) Decide all questions of order;
 - g) State and put to a vote all motions, which are moved and seconded in the course of proceedings, and announce the results;
 - h) Expedite business;
 - i) Ensure appropriate conduct of members and the public;
 - j) Sign on behalf of the Board, where applicable;
 - k) Ensure the decisions of the Board are in conformity with the laws and by-laws governing Board activities; and
 - l) Declare the meeting adjourned when the Board so votes.

- 4.17 Board Conduct** The Board will communicate policy and strategy speaking with one voice, to ensure adherence to a consistent message. In situations requiring formal communication from the Board, the Chair or designate shall be the spokesperson.
- 4.18 Member's Conduct** A member who wishes to speak will signal the Chair and wait for the Chair's recognition. A member will address to the Chair all remarks and questions, including questions intended for another member or staff. A member will be courteous and respectful. A member will not engage in any action that disturbs the meeting. A member will not:
- a) Use un-parliamentary or offensive language, including any expression or statements in debate or in question that attributes false or undeclared motives to another member, charge another member with being dishonest, be abusive or insulting, or cause disorder;
 - b) Make any noise or disturbance that prevents members from being able to participate in a meeting.
 - c) Speak beside the debated question;
 - d) Reflect upon any prior Board determination, except to conclude such remarks with a motion to rescind such determination;
 - e) Interrupt a member who is speaking, except to raise a matter of privilege or a point of order;
 - f) Disobey Board By-laws; and
 - g) Disobey the Chair's decision on questions of order or practice or on the interpretation of Board By-laws.
- The Chair may expel any person for improper conduct at a meeting. (PLA, s.16.1(3))
- 4.19 Public Conduct** Members of the public will be courteous and will not engage in any action that disturbs the meeting. Members of the public will not:
- a) Make any noise or disturbance that prevents members from being able to participate in a meeting;
 - b) Address the Board without a prior appointment, or without Board permission at a meeting; and
 - c) Use un-parliamentary or offensive language.
- The Chair may expel any person for improper conduct at a meeting. (PLA, s.16.1(3))

5.0 MOTIONS

- 5.1 Decisions** All formal decisions will be made on the basis of motions.
- 5.2 Moving a Motion** To make a motion, a member must first have the floor. A motion properly moved before the Board must be dealt with before any other motion can be received, except a motion to amend or adjourn, or on a matter of privilege.

- 5.3 Seconding a Motion** Every motion must be seconded by a different member than the mover.

A motion will not be debated until it has been moved and seconded and put on the floor by the Chair.

The Chair will not put any matter to the vote, and a member will not move a procedural motion to have the vote taken, until every member who wishes to speak has spoken at least once. Members who have already spoken may speak again only after all other members have been given the opportunity to speak. A member may not speak more than twice on an issue without a Board resolution. After members debate a motion, the Chair puts the question to a vote and announces the voting result.

Any member may require the question or motion under discussion to be read at any time during the debate.

There will only be one substantive motion before the Board at any one time. An amendment may be made to a motion, but may not negate the initial motion or materially alter its intent.
- 5.4 Amending a Motion** Only one motion to amend the main motion shall be allowed.
- 5.5 Adjournment** A motion to adjourn is not debatable, cannot be amended and, if resolved in the negative, cannot be made again until after the Board shall have completed some intermediate proceeding.

6.0 MINUTES AND AGENDAS

- 6.1 Agenda** The Board Chair, in consultation with the CEO, shall prepare the agenda. At the beginning of any regular meeting, Board members may propose additional items to be added to the agenda. Such requests shall then be considered at the Chair's discretion.
- 6.2 Distribution** Regular Board meeting agendas and minutes are public information. A person may, during ordinary business hours, inspect any records, books, accounts and documents in the possession or control of the CEO. The CEO shall refuse to allow such an inspection in circumstances in which the CEO must refuse disclosure under any of sections 6 to 16 of the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, and the CEO may refuse to allow such an inspection in circumstances in which the CEO may refuse disclosure under any of those sections of that Act (PLA, ss. 28(1) & (2)).

Copies of all approved regular meeting and committee meeting minutes are retained in an official minute book filed in the administration centre and posted on the Stratford Public Library website.

Copies of approved minutes of in-camera sessions are to be kept separate and are not to be posted or accessible.
- 6.3 Regular Meeting Minutes** The Board Secretary shall prepare minutes of all meetings.

The minutes shall be approved at the following regular or special meeting.
- 6.4 Committee Minutes** Minutes shall be kept for all committee meetings and submitted to the Board Secretary.

- 6.5 In-Camera Meeting Minutes** The Board Secretary takes the minutes of in-camera meetings unless excused by the Board for reasons of confidential discussions. Minutes are kept brief and do not contain the discussions at the in-camera meeting. Motions passed in-camera are to be ratified when the Board returns to its regular meeting.
- Minutes are approved at a subsequent in-camera meeting. Minutes are circulated to the Board and appropriate staff.
- Through a motion made while in regular session, the Board may declare that In-Camera minutes are not to be filed in the official minute book to become part of the public record. If such a motion is passed, the minutes, once approved, will be returned to the Board Secretary by each member for destruction.
- Where minutes are to be excluded from the official minute book, the original minutes and approved minutes are separated from the regular Board minutes and kept in a locked cabinet within the CEO permanent files. Neither staff nor the public is permitted to review them and they do not become part of the public record.

7.0 REVIEW AND AMENDMENTS TO BY-LAW

- 7.1 Conflict** In the event of a conflict between this By-law and the provision of the Public Libraries Act or any other applicable legislation of the Legislature of Ontario, the PLA or other legislation will prevail .
- NOTE that, as well as the PLA, many "municipal" acts apply to the Stratford Public Library Board due to the fact that the acts apply to "local boards" including in many cases (but not all), public library boards. Also, note that the *Corporations Act*, especially Part III "Corporations without Share Capital" and Part VII "Corporations – General", applies to library boards by virtue of the fact that the library board is a corporation.
- In the event of conflict between the PLA and the Corporations Act or between the PLA and municipal legislation, the PLA prevails.
- 7.2 Review** Revisions to any of the guiding authorities (Public Libraries Act, other legislation, City of Stratford By-laws) may necessitate a review of these By-laws.
- 7.3 Amendments** By-law amendments require a two-thirds majority vote by the members.
- 7.4 Effective Date** These By-laws or amendments are effective at the time of approval by Board motion.

APPENDIX “A”
GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Adjourn	To end the meeting.
Agenda	A list of business items to be considered at a meeting, arranged in the order in which they are intended to be addressed.
Amendment	A formal proposal to change the words of a pending motion.
Board	The Stratford Public Library Board.
CEO	The Chief Executive Officer of the Board.
Chair	The person who presides at the meeting.
Committee	Any Committee, task force, or work group appointed by the Board.
Council	The Council of the City of Stratford.
Delegation	One or more residents or community association representatives who address the Board.
Floor, on the	The current subject of debate.
Floor, to have the	To have the right to speak without interruptions, except on a matter of privilege or a point of order.
In-Camera	In private. Only Board members, CEO/Treasurer, Board Secretary, and persons authorized by them may be present at an In-Camera Meeting.
Libraries	Stratford Public Library.
Member	A member of the Stratford Public Library Board.
Minutes	The legal record of the Board's, or a Committee's, proceedings and decisions. Corrections must relate to matters of fact only. A Member who does not agree with a decision cannot have the decision changed by changing the minutes. The appropriate remedy is to move a motion to reconsider.
Motion	A formal proposal placed before the meeting by one member, the mover of the motion, for debate and decision.
Move	To formally propose a motion or amendment.
Mover	The person who proposes a motion or amendment.
Notice of motion	Formal advice to the Board that a member proposes to move a motion at a future meeting. It usually includes the wording of the proposed motion.
Order	Behaviour in a meeting, which allows members to conduct business without disruption.
Order, call a Member to	A way for the Chair to point out to a member that the member has broken the rules or is speaking out of turn.
Order, call the meeting to	An announcement by the Chair to indicate that the Chair is about to start the meeting. Also, it is a way for the Chair to enforce discipline on the meeting after the rules have been broken.
Order, point of	A way for a member to draw attention to a breach of the rules.
Quorum	The minimum number of members who must be present at a meeting to make the proceedings valid. A simple majority of the Board.
Rescind	To revoke a previous decision.
Resolution	A motion that has been moved, seconded and carried.

Ruling	A decision by the Chair on a procedural point. Any member may appeal it, in which case the ruling is immediately put to a vote without debate.
Second	To formally endorse a motion or amendment immediately after it has been moved.
Second	The person who formally endorses a motion or amendment. A seconder need not wait for recognition by the Chair. Seconding does not necessarily mean that a seconder supports the motion, only that the seconder agrees that it should be considered.
Show of hands	The usual way of voting. Those for and those against the motion are asked to raise their hands. The hands are counted, the result announced, and the motion declared either carried or lost.
Speaking with one voice	This principle requires all Board members to respect Board decisions and to convey agreed upon messages only.
Time limit	The maximum time allowed for a speech by an individual member, set by the Chair.
Two-thirds majority	Two-thirds, or the closest whole number that is greater than two-thirds.
Unparliamentary	Words or expressions that are disrespectful or language offensive. It includes swearing and derogatory and racial remarks.
Vice-Chair	The Board Vice-Chair.
Vote, cast a	A single vote (usually the prerogative of the Chair) that decides an issue when the vote has resulted in a tie.
Vote, majority	One more than half the number of members present.
Vote, recorded	A vote in which each member is asked individually and publicly to announce his or her vote for or against the motion. It is a way for a member to protect himself or herself legally by having his or her vote against a motion recorded in the minutes. It must be requested immediately before the start of voting.
Vote, tie	An equal number of votes for or against a motion. Negates a motion.
Voting	See Show of hands.