



Ajax Public Library

Ajax Public Library Board Minutes

6.1 October 17, 2024, Meeting Minutes

Place: Multi-Purpose Room, Audley Branch

Date: October 17, 2024

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Present: Piyali Correya (Chair), Mallik Fernando, , Deborah McDougall Jones, Sepelene Deonarine, Pia Kaukoranta Vahabi (Vice-Chair), Rebecca Hayes, Voytek Bialkowski, Douglas Miller

Regrets: Regional Councillor Sterling Lee

Staff:

Sarah Vaisler	- CLEO & Secretary/Treasurer
Jason Tooral	- Manager of Corporate Services
Melissa Redden	- Manager of Public Service
Sai Mahendran	- Executive Assistant

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m.

Rebecca Hayes joined at 7:02 p.m.

2. Land Acknowledgement

We would like to begin this meeting by acknowledging that the land on which we gather is situated within the traditional and treaty territory of the Mississaugas. More specifically, the Mississauga's of Scugog Island First Nation, signatories of the Gunshot Treaty of 1788 and the Williams Treaties of 1923. This land is, and will continue to be, home to the Indigenous Peoples. Let us acknowledge the mistakes and traumas of the past through authenticity and support truth and reconciliation. Let us engage and celebrate Indigenous communities by being leaders of action in acknowledging the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's recommendations towards truth and reconciliation. Let us keep these principles close, as we continue towards truth and reconciliation and as we move forward with kindness and respect as a community.

3. Approval of the Agenda

24-10/01

Moved by: Deborah McDougall Jones
Seconded by: Malik Fernando

Motion that the Board approves the agenda of the October 17, 2024, Board Meeting.

CARRIED

4. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

None.

5. Guest Presentation: (Commenced at 7:34 p.m.)

5.1 Tommi Laito, Bloomberg Innovation Fellow, Convivencia – Conflicting Ideas Inside the Library

Tommi Laito shared insights on the role of public spaces in fostering social cohesion. He explained the theory of Convivencia and the role and challenges of libraries in fostering community and coexistence. He outlined the six principles of Convivencia, the four types of partnerships that libraries can engage in and emphasized that friction between users and user groups is expected but can also be a positive indicator of the library's impact.

6. Consent Agenda

24-10/02

Moved by: Douglas Miller

Seconded by: Deborah McDougall Jones

Motion that the Board approves the Consent Agenda as distributed.

CARRIED

7. Correspondence

7.1 Customer Testimonial – Amina Rajan

Amina Rajan, a Muslim female educator expressed their appreciation for Ajax Public Library's event featuring a Muslim female author. She highlighted the importance of representation in schools and books for students and thanked the Library for organizing the event with two BIPOC authors sharing their stories.

8. Other Business

Pia Kaukoranta Vahabi joined at 7:06p.m.

8.1 TAC Update – Hansika J. Shetty

Hansika expressed her enthusiasm about her election as TAC's new Board representative. TAC recently held an election to choose its executive team, social media managers, and established various subcommittees. TAC is actively preparing for upcoming events, including Love Your Library Week, a Halloween Murder Mystery event, Hindu Heritage month celebrations, and a Mental Health night event. In 2025, TAC plans to create high school study kits, organize Lego-based programs, and implement strategies to increase student participation in its activities.

8.2 Internal Monitoring Report – E.L. 3.3 Communication and Counsel to the Board

24-10/03 Moved by: Rebecca Hayes
Seconded by: Malik Fernando

Motion that the Board receives the monitoring report EL 3.3 Communication and Counsel to the Board and agrees that it provides reasonable interpretation of the policy and evidence of compliance.

CARRIED

Internal Monitoring Report – E.L. 3.7 Financial Planning/Budgeting Policy

24-10/04 Moved by: Pia Kaukoranta Vahabi
Seconded by: Sepelene Deonarine

Motion that the Board receives the monitoring report EL 3.7 Financial Planning/Budgeting Policy and agrees that it provides reasonable interpretation of the policy and evidence of compliance.

CARRIED

8.4 Review of Board Ends Policies

24-10/05 Moved by: Malik Fernando
Seconded by: Pia Kaukoranta Vahabi

Motion that the Board approves and adopts the revised Ends Policies as presented.

CARRIED

8.5 Staff Report – 2025 Draft Operating and Capital Budget

CLEO presented the Board with a summary of the proposed 2025 Operating and Capital Budget. She discussed the projected revenues and expenses for the Operating Budget, the 2025 Business Cases, and the details of the 2025 Capital Budget.

24-10/06 Moved by: Deborah McDougall Jones
Seconded by: Dougals Miller

Motion that the Board approves the 2025 Draft Operating and Capital budget as presented.

CARRIED

8.6 Committee Composition and Workplan

24-10/07 Moved by: Pia Kaukoranta Vahabi
Seconded by: Rebecca Hayes

Motion that the Board approves the addition of Deborah McDougall Jones to the Board's Performance Appraisal Committee.

CARRIED

8.7 Committee Updates

Community Engagement Committee – Committee met in October to discuss report to council, to be presented to Council in November.

8.8 Announcements

None.

9. Closed Session (Commenced at 8:30 p.m.)

24-10/08 Moved by: Voytek Bialkowski
Seconded by: Malik Fernando

Motion that the Board move into Closed Session

CARRIED

9. Adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

24-10/09 Moved by: Deborah McDougall Jones
Seconded by: Pia Kaukoranta Vahabi

Motion that the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

Next meeting:

Thursday November 21, 2024
7:00 p.m. Rotary Room, Main Branch.