

MINUTES OF THE DIDSBURY LIBRARY BOARD MEETING ON MAY 16, 2023 AT THE  
DIDSBURY MUNICIPAL LIBRARY, 2033 - 19 AVENUE, DIDSBURY COMMENCING AT 7:00 P.M.

**PRESENT:** Chair: Melynda Crampton; Vice-Chair: Patricia Brisebois, Treasurer: David McWhinney, Secretary/Mountain View County Representative: Alana Gibson; Member-at-Large: Julian Ross; Library Manager: Maia Foster; Guest: I. McAdam

**ABSENT:** Town of Didsbury Representative: Curt Engel; Member-at-Large: Carolyn Massel

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order by Chair, Melynda Crampton at 7:00 p.m.

**AGENDA:** a) Additions/Deletions

**MOTION:** Moved by J. Ross that the following items be added to/deleted from the Agenda:

4b) Table to next meeting

4e) Add – Warranty refund at The Brick

**CARRIED**

b) Adoption of the Agenda

**MOTION:** Moved by J. Ross that the agenda be accepted as amended.

**CARRIED**

**MINUTES:** **MOTION:** Moved by D. McWhinney that the minutes of the April 18, 2023 meeting be approved as presented.

**CARRIED**

**CONSENT AGENDA:** The following items were presented as part of the consent agenda;

- a) Manager's Report
- b) Financial Reports (Comparative Income Statement April 2023; Balance Sheet April 2023)
- c) Monthly Statistics Summary April 2023
- d) May Program Guide and Calendar

**MOTION:** Moved by A. Gibson that the consent agenda be accepted as presented.

**CARRIED**

**NEW BUSINESS:** a) Friends of the Library Funding Request

Discussion occurred regarding a request that the Library would like to make from the Friends of the Library for items to improve the space and cater to the needs of the community. The request would be as follows:

- Sensory bins (two): for approximately \$40.00
- Ball pit and balls for approximately \$150.00
- Kids table and chairs for approximately \$500.00
- Pop up Tent for outside for approximately \$150.00
- Little Tikes Slide for approximately \$50.00
- Miscellaneous kitchen toys for approximately \$110.00

**MOTION:** Moved by J. Ross that the Didsbury Municipal Library Board ask for assistance from the Friends of the Library to purchase items for the Didsbury Municipal Library in the amount of \$1000.00.

CARRIED

b) Policy Amendments - Personnel

Tabled to June 20, 2023.

c) 2022 Savings to Reserves

As per discussions at the last Board meeting, Member McWhinney and administration met with the Mountain View Credit Union. As a result, it was discovered that the Mountain View Credit Union does indeed have a new account that will increase interest payable. Discussion occurred regarding if the Board would like to transfer funds from the current account into this new higher interest account. There is no penalty to transfer money back and forth.

**MOTION:** Moved by Member McWhinney that the Didsbury Municipal Library Board direct that, going forward, a minimum balance of one month's operating expenses be kept in the Current Account, and that the remainder of available funds be transferred into the new higher interest-bearing reserve account.

CARRIED

d) Challenge Book Form and Policy Surrounding

As a result of media reports and surrounding communities' experiences, the Board was advised that some libraries are being challenged about materials that are made available within their libraries. Many of the materials challenged have content pertaining to gender identity, puberty, etc. The challenges identified are that children shouldn't have access to these materials, and they are viewed, by some, as pornographic.

In some locations, groups are lobbying councils, school boards, governments, etc., to cease funding for these libraries until the subject materials are removed.

Discussion occurred amongst the Board regarding what the Libraries Act says as well as other policies throughout our own organization and higher levels. Further discussion occurred as to what happens if someone were to come in and challenge particular offerings from the Didsbury Library. M. Foster explained that reconsideration must be in writing through our Request for Reconsideration of Library Materials form, and then the Library Manager is tasked with reviewing the request and making a decision.

Discussion occurred amongst the Board and the consensus was that it is our responsibility to provide materials pertaining to all subject matter and, and it's up to the individual patrons and/or their caregivers whether they read it, or they don't read it. It was discussed how in schools, there is an element of being able to control what students obtain; however, in the public library, patrons are not monitored and are left with the principle of intellectual freedom.

e) TV Refund Warranty

M. Foster explained that the Library purchased a large television three years ago, and the warranty for the item has ended. The television was purchased at The Brick in Olds; The Brick contacted the Library to inform that because the warranty was not used, the Library will now have the warranty fee (\$300+/-) as a credit to be spent in-store. M. Foster expressed the desire to look into spending this on new armchairs as the current chairs have almost reached their lifespan. Discussion occurred regarding the Library Manager exploring options for items to be purchased and bringing this item back next month with the understanding that \$300 won't buy very much, and there may be a need to request a top-up from the Friends of the Library.


**MOTION:** Moved by J. Ross that the Library Manager investigate options for items to purchase through the warranty credit from The Brick.

CARRIED

**NEXT MEETING:** The next meeting is scheduled for June 20, 2023.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Chair, M. Crampton, adjourned the meeting at 7:39 p.m.

  
Chair

  
Date