

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

PRESENT: Chair: Melynda Crampton; Vice-Chair: Patricia Brisebois, Secretary/Mountain View County Representative: Alana Gibson; Member-at-Large: Carolyn Massel; Guest: Diane Arbuckle; Guest: Emily Swan; Library Manager: Maia Foster

REGRETS: Treasurer: David McWhinney; Town of Didsbury Representative: Curt Engel

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Chair, Melynda Crampton at 7:01 p.m.

AGENDA: a) Additions/Deletions

MOTION: Moved by T. Brisebois that the following items be added to the agenda:

- 4g) Consent Agenda - Town of Didsbury policy change regarding Town Councillor appointment to Library Board
- 4h) Board Basic Workshop Information
- 5h) In memory of Brad Misener

CARRIED

b) Adoption of the Agenda

MOTION: Moved by T. Brisebois that the agenda be accepted as amended.

CARRIED

MINUTES: **MOTION:** Moved by T. Brisebois that the minutes of the June 20, 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 August 2023; Balance Sheet August 2023
- c) Monthly Statistics Summary June 2023 and July/August, 2023
- d) September calendar
- e) Letter from Minister Mclver
- f) Charlie Janzen resignation
- g) Town of Didsbury policy change regarding Town Councillor appointment to Library Board
- h) Board Basic Workshop

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

CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS: a) September 30: National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

There was an email vote over the summer approving that the Didsbury Library close on September 30, 2023. Discussion occurred whether or not the Board wanted to create a policy for closure on future years so the item doesn't need to come to the board each year. It was emphasized by the board that this day is, in fact, not a holiday, but needs to be acknowledged as a day of remembrance.

MOTION: Moved by C. Massel that the Didsbury Library be closed on September 30, 2024 as a Day of Remembrance for National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, and further, the Board will revisit the closure for 2025 at a future date.

CARRIED

b) Land Acknowledgement for minutes and agenda

M. Foster indicated that there is currently a land acknowledgement on the Didsbury Library website and read the acknowledgement to the Board. M. Foster also noted that she had researched some other verbiage from other organizations and provided such from the Sylvan Lake Library.

I would like to respectfully acknowledge that my home and workplace are situated on Treaty 7 territory, traditional lands of First Nations and Métis Peoples. I am grateful for the Knowledge Keepers and Elders who have gone before me.

C. Massel further suggested that a visual land acknowledgement be placed in the library. Discussion occurred of how a past Library Manager, Inez Kozinski, donated her retirement gift to the library which was a painting by Delree Dumont, a Cree artist, who at the time had an art gallery in Didsbury.

MOTION: Moved by C. Massel that the Didsbury Library Board include the land acknowledgement, formatted after Sylvan Lake's, on all board documents and further, that signage with the land acknowledgement be placed upon entrance to the library.

CARRIED

c) Board Recruitment

M. Crampton, Chair, informed the Board that Julian Ross has submitted her resignation. It was further noted that Carolyn Massel's term expires at the end of October. Alana Gibson also provided to the Board that her term is up at the end of October, and she too will sadly not be reapplying for her position.

Discussion occurred about four potential interested new members; however, current members and guests were asked to actively continue pursuing other people who may be interested in joining the Board.

Discussion occurred pertaining to the notice that Town of Didsbury Council has provided of their intent to change their policy to the Town of Didsbury representative for the Library being either a Councillor or a Town of Didsbury resident. A. Gibson provide that she had actually provided feedback to Mountain View County regarding her experiencing being the County Council representative, and how she believes that it would actually be best for the Library, and the Council, for it to be a Councillor and not a resident of the County. A. Gibson noted how it would be better to have someone who has first hand information on how the municipality runs, the budget implications and abilities, etc.

The Library Board discussed inquiring with the Town of Didsbury as to the reasoning for this change in policy, if they are pursuing this avenue for their other boards, and if there will be parameters for reporting between the Library and Council.

MOTION: Moved by T. Brisebois that the Didsbury Library Board Chair write a letter to the Town of Didsbury asking for clarification on the change in policy of appointment of Town of Didsbury Council representative on the Library Board.

CARRIED

d) Library Closure Request: November 3, 2023 – Stronger Together Conference

M. Foster, Library Manager, stated that the Stronger Together Conference is a conference for Library staff with sessions and networking opportunities. During Covid, this conference moved online. The conference is being held in-person on November 8, 2023 and November 9, 2023 in Edmonton.

Some libraries are opting to remain doing an online conference, and those libraries are proceeding with this on November 3, 2023.

MOTION: Moved by C. Massel that the Didsbury Library close on November 3, 2023 for professional development.

CARRIED

e) Parade Closure

This year, a motion was made over the summer to close the library for the morning of the parade. Discussion occurred how it is a nice opportunity to showcase the library in the parade, partake in the community event, and further, the traffic in the library is non-existent.

MOTION: Moved by A. Gibson that the Didsbury Library update the policy to include the annual closure of the Library on the morning of the Didsbury parade.

CARRIED

f) Friends of the Library update/AGM

M. Crampton reported that she and M. Foster attended the Friends of the Library AGM last Wednesday. M. Crampton reported that she is very impressed with their operations. They are about to celebrate their second year at their current location. The executive for the Friends of the Library is remaining the same. They are currently recruiting volunteers; they would like to continue to offer their Wednesday 4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. hours. They are very supportive of the Library and enjoy when the Library Manager comes and outlines the funding requests.

g) AGM – Didsbury Library

Discussion occurred on how the Library AGM used to be held in the Spring.

MOTION: Moved by T. Brisebois that the Didsbury Library Board Annual General Meeting be scheduled for the April, 2024 Library Board meeting date.

CARRIED

h) Brad Misener – In Memory

C. Massel met with the family of Brad Misener and reported back to the board that Brad had kept a list of every book he had ever read; he had a very eclectic repertoire. He kept a list of his top ten favourite books.

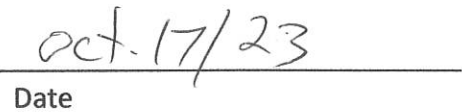
The family of Brad Misener would like to make a donation to the Didsbury Library. C. Massel asked if there were any ideas for possible suggestions to purchase that she could approach the family with. M. Foster noted that either remodeling the children's shelving or computer desk upgrades would be worthy improvements. C. Massel will take these suggestions back to the family. C. Massel also asked if we have a policy on how to recognize contributions to the library. The Library Manager reported that she would look into in there was anything already existing.

NEXT MEETING

DATE: The next meeting is scheduled for October 17, 2023.

ADJOURNMENT: Chair, M. Crampton, adjourned the meeting at 7:58 p.m.


Chair


Date