

MINUTES

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Toronto Public Library Board

Meeting No. 2: Monday, February 19, 2001, from 6:03 p.m. to 8:27 p.m.
Board Room, 789 Yonge Street, Toronto

Members Present:

Mr. Rick Goldsmith (Chair)
Ms. Gillian Mason (Vice-Chair)
Councillor Maria Augimeri*
Dr. Ron Chopowick
Councillor Olivia Chow*
Mr. Sandy Douglas
Councillor Mike Feldman*
Ms. Mizan Ibrahim
Ms. Lillian Knight
Councillor Denzil Minnan-Wong*
Councillor Jane Pitfield*
Councillor Kyle Rae*
Mr. Mitchell Weisberg

Regrets:

Bill Buckingham
Councillor Joe Mihevc

**for part of meeting only*

Staff Present:

Ms. Josephine Bryant, City Librarian
Ms. Anne Bailey, Acting Director,
Human Resources
Ms. Suzanna Birchwood, Director,
Marketing & Communications
Ms. Vickery Bowles, Director, East Region
Ms. Nancy Chavner, Director, West Region
Mr. Ron Dyck, Director, Information
Technology & Bibliographic Services
Ms. Linda Mackenzie, Director,
Research and Reference
Ms. Jane Pyper, Director, Service Planning and
Support
Mr. David Reddin, Director, North Region
Mr. Larry Hughsam, Acting Director,
Administration
Ms. Linda Karlinsky, Acting Director,
South Region
Mr. Gary Sim, Acting Director, Development
Mr. Bruce Barnett, Senior Manager, Facilities
Mr. Dan Keon, Senior Manager, Human
Resources
Mr. Harvey Mooradian, Acting Manager,
Budgets & Finance Reporting

01-21 Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 6:03 p.m.

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01-22 Approval of Agenda

Moved by M. Weisberg, seconded by S. Douglas, and carried:

That the agenda be approved as revised to include:

- (1) *Presentations by Councillor Michael Walker, Ward 22; Jack Slaughter, President, Swansea Town Hall; and Councillor David Miller, Ward 13, regarding Agenda Item #18 – 2001 Operating Budget; and the*
- (2) *Reordering of Agenda Item #19 – Children and Youth Action Committee to Agenda Item #13a immediately after Agenda Item #13 – Toronto Report Card on Children – Update 2000; and a*
- (3) *Presentation by Chalo Barrueta, Member, Toronto Youth Cabinet, regarding Agenda Item #13a – Children and Youth Action Committee; and the*
- (4) *Addition of Agenda Item 18a – 2001 Operating Budget – Budget Advisory Committee Requests.*

01-23 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest by members of the Library Board.

01-24 Approval of January 8, 2001 Toronto Public Library Board Special Meeting Minutes

Moved by S. Douglas, seconded by M. Ibrahim, and carried:

That the minutes of the January 8, 2001 Toronto Public Library Board Special meeting be approved.

01-25 Business Arising

There was no business arising.

Presentations

01-26 Toronto Civic Employees Union – Local 416 C.U.P.E withdrew their request to address the Board concerning the *2001 Operating Budget – Reductions to Meet Target*. Instead, a copy of a letter to Josephine Bryant regarding the *2001 Operating Budget – Reductions to Meet Target* was distributed to the Board.

Moved by G. Mason, seconded by M. Ibrahim, and carried:

That the letter to Josephine Bryant, City Librarian, from Christina Duckworth-Pilkington, Chair – Library Division, Toronto Civic Employees Union, Local 416 C.U.P.E., dated February 16, 2001, concerning the Operating Budget 2001 – Reductions to Meet Target be received for information.

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Presentations - continued

01-27 Councillor Michael Walker – Ward 22 – St. Paul’s, addressed the Board concerning the Library’s identification of the Mt. Pleasant Neighbourhood Branch Library for closure in response to the Budget Advisory Committee’s request for a summary of 2001 Operating Budget reduction scenarios (Agenda Item 18 – Minute #01-40). Councillor Walker tabled a letter to the Board expressing his opposition to a closure of the Mt. Pleasant Library.

Jack Slaughter, President, Swansea Town Hall, addressed the Board expressing opposition to the Library’s identification of the Swansea Memorial Library for closure in response to the Budget Advisory Committee’s request for a summary of 2001 Operating Budget reduction scenarios (Agenda Item 18 – Minute #01-40).

Councillor David Miller – Ward 13 – Parkdale-High Park, addressed the Board expressing opposition to the Library’s identification of the Swansea Memorial Library for closure in response to the Budget Advisory Committee’s request for a summary of 2001 Operating Budget reduction scenarios (Agenda Item 18 – Minute #01-40).

01-28 Communications

Moved by M. Weisberg, seconded by S. Douglas, and carried:

That the Toronto Public Library Board receive Communications Item (a) for information:

(a) *Letter from Rosario Marchese, MPP, Trinity-Spadina, dated December 13, 2000 to Rick Goldsmith, Chair, Toronto Public Library Board, regarding the Toronto Public Library Strategic Plan 2000 – 2003, Creating the Future – Treasuring the Past.*

Items for Information:**01-29 2001 Capital Budget – Status Report**

Moved by M. Ibrahim, seconded by G. Mason, and carried:

That the Toronto Public Library Board receive for information the 2001 Capital Budget – Status Report.

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**01-30 Toronto Reference Library Conceptual Design –
The Information Commons and the Toronto Star Newspaper Centre**

Moved by R. Chopowick, seconded by S. Douglas, and carried:
*That the Toronto Public Library Board receive the report and presentation of
the conceptual design plans for the main floor and lower level of the Toronto
Reference Library for information.*

Ajon Moriyama, Moriyama & Teshima Architects, provided the Board with an overview of the conceptual design plans for the Toronto Star Newspaper Room, Lower Level, Toronto Reference Library as well as the Main Floor at the Toronto Reference Library. The City Librarian reminded the Board that the funds for the Newspaper Room renovations were donated by the Toronto Star. The funding for the Main Floor conceptual design plans was provided by the City in the 2000 Capital Budget. The 2001 Capital Budget includes a request for \$500,000 to complete redesign plans for all of the upper floors. The TPL Foundation will be seeking corporate sponsorship to fund renovations.

01-31 TPL Book Bags

Moved by G. Mason, seconded by M. Ibrahim, and carried:
*That the Toronto Public Library Board receive for information the verbal TPL
Book Bags report.*

The sale of cloth TPL book bags, as suggested by Dr. Ron Chopowick, has been a highly successful endeavour for the Library.

01-32 2001 Bookmobile Schedule

Moved by M. Weisberg, seconded by G. Mason, and carried:
*That the Toronto Public Library Board receive for information the 2001
Bookmobile Schedule report.*

01-33 Sunnybrook Community Branch Library

Moved by M. Ibrahim, seconded by G. Mason, and carried:
*That the Toronto Public Library Board receive for information the Sunnybrook
Community Branch Library report.*

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01-34 Toronto Report Card on Children – Update 2000*Moved by G. Mason, seconded by M. Ibrahim, and carried:**That the Toronto Public Library Board receive for information the Toronto Report Card on Children – Update 2000 report.****Item for Approval:*****01-35 Children and Youth Action Committee:**

- (a) **Action Plan 2001 – Expansion of the Leading to Reading Program**
- (b) **Toronto Youth Cabinet – City of Toronto Operating Budget Recommendations for 2001**

*Moved by S. Douglas, seconded by M. Weisberg, and carried:**That the Toronto Public Library Board:*

- (1) *Receive for information the report of the Children and Youth Action Committee – Action Plan 2001 in response to the Toronto Report Card on Children – Update 2000;*
- (2) *Adopt the recommendations of the Children and Youth Action Committee for \$300,000 for the expansion of the Leading to Reading Program, of which \$150,000 is one-time funding for the Leading to Reading Program collection; and*
- (3) *Adopt the recommendations of the Children and Youth Action Committee for \$342,000 for one-time funding for the creation of the Teen Zone – On-line Gateway as proposed by the Toronto Youth Cabinet and the Children and Youth Action Committee.*

Mr. Chalo Barrueta, Member, Toronto Youth Cabinet, addressed the Board in support of the *Teen Zone – On-line Gateway*, an initiative of the Toronto Public Library to create a Youth Gateway on the Internet to serve as an information portal for Toronto youth.

Items for Information:**01-36 TPL Board Members' Remuneration and Expenses for 2000***Moved by Councillor Augimeri, seconded by S. Douglas, and carried:**That the Toronto Public Library Board receive for information the TPL Board Members' Remuneration and Expenses for 2000 report.*

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01-37 TPL Board Meetings – Location

Moved by R. Chopowick, seconded by S. Douglas, and carried:

That the Toronto Public Library Board receive for information the *TPL Board Meetings – Location* report.

After discussion it was:

Moved by Councillor Feldman, seconded by Councillor Pitfield, and defeated:
That the Toronto Public Library Board consider relocating Board meetings
currently held at the Toronto Reference Library to City Hall.

Items for Approval:

01-38 2001 TPL Board Meeting Schedule

Moved by M. Ibrahim, seconded by R. Chopowick, and carried:

That the Toronto Public Library Board meet on the following Mondays in 2001 at 6:00 p.m.:

*March 26
April 30
May 28
June 25
September 24
October 29
November 19
December 3*

01-39 Current Status – *Reinvesting in Our Future: Planning Study: September 1999*

Toronto Public Library Branch

Moved by M. Ibrahim, seconded by R. Chopowick, and carried:

That;

(1) *The Toronto Public Library Board receive the report Current Status – Reinvesting in Our Future: Toronto Public Library Branch Planning Study: September 1999; and*

(2) *The Toronto Public Library Board consider the potential branch closures identified in the report in the context of other service reduction options being presented to the Library Board as part of the 2001 Operating Budget process.*

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01-40 2001 Operating Budget

The City Librarian presented to the Board the 2001 Operating Budget reduction scenarios in response to the Budget Advisory Committee's request for a summary of the implications of:

- (a) a five percent increase over the 2000 budget contribution from the City;
- (b) a zero percent increase over the 2000 budget contribution from the City; and
- (c) a five percent decrease from the 2000 budget contribution from the City.

After considerable discussion, it was:

Moved by Councillor Chow, seconded by M. Ibrahim, and carried:

Whereas the Toronto Public Library Board has reduced its budget by 25 percent and staffing by 23 percent (535 full-time positions) since 1991; and Whereas 198 of the 535 positions have been reduced over the first three years of amalgamation; and

Whereas the population has grown by 230,000 (ten percent), and the collection usage has increased by ten percent;

The Toronto Public Library Board wishes to communicate to City Council through the Budget Advisory Committee that it requests a budget that would not require a reduction of library hours, closure of libraries or decrease of the collection and purchase of materials.

01-41 2001 Operating Budget – Budget Advisory Committee Requests

Moved by S. Douglas, seconded by R. Chopowick, and carried:

That the Toronto Public Library Board:

- (1) *Receive for information the motions from the Budget Advisory Committee concerning the Board's 2001 Operating Budget Submission; and*
- (2) *Direct staff concerning the Budget Advisory Committee request to contact the Province regarding the practice of charging a fee for library books, specifically in Toronto.*

Staff were directed to contact the Province regarding the practice of charging a fee for library books, specifically in Toronto.

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01-42 2001 Fundraising Priorities

Moved by S. Douglas, seconded by Councillor Pitfield, and carried:

That the Toronto Public Library Board approve the 2001 Fundraising Priorities list for the Foundation and Friends to pursue donor support.

01-43 Friends of the Toronto Public Library – Amalgamation Agreement

Moved by S. Douglas, seconded by M. Weisberg, and carried:

That the Toronto Public Library Board approve the Amalgamation Agreement with technical modifications now being developed for The Public Guardian and Trustee and The Companies Branch of the Ministry of Consumer and Commercial Relations.

01-44 Holiday Closures

Moved by S. Douglas, seconded by M. Ibrahim, and carried:

That the Library be closed on Monday, July 2, 2001.

Other Business

01-45 NewsConnect

Gillian Mason commented favourably on *NewsConnect*, TPL's Internet gateway to news from home and around the world.

01-46 Adjournment

Moved by R. Chopowick, seconded by M. Ibrahim, and carried:

That the Toronto Public Library Board meeting be adjourned.

The meeting ended at 8:27 p.m.

Signed: _____