

Toronto Public Library Board

Meeting No. 2: Monday, February 26, 2007, from 6:00 p.m. to 7:15 p.m.

Toronto Reference Library, Board Room, 789 Yonge Street, Toronto

Members Present:

Mr. Bill Booth (Chair)
Dr. Kathy Gallagher Ross (Vice Chair)
Councillor Maria Augimeri
Mr. Matthew Church
Councillor Janet Davis
Mr. Murthy Ghandikota
Mr. Okeima Lawrence
Councillor Chin Lee
Councillor Anthony Perruzza
Ms. Kate Wilson

Regrets:

Councillor Paul Ainslie
Ms. Louise Aspin
Ms. Gillian Mason

07-027 Call to Order

Kathy Gallagher Ross, chairing the meeting for Bill Booth, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

07-028 Approval of Agenda

*Moved by M. Ghandikota, seconded by B. Booth, and carried:
That the agenda be approved.*

07-029 Declarations of Interest

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

07-030 Approval of January 29, 2007 Toronto Public Library Board Meeting Minutes

*Moved by K. Wilson, seconded by O. Lawrence, and carried:
That the minutes of the January 29, 2007 Toronto Public Library Board meeting be approved.*

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07-031 Business Arising

There were no Business Arising items at the February 26, 2007 meeting.

07-032 Chair's Report

Kathy Gallagher Ross advised that the *Chair's Report* will be forwarded electronically to all Board members. She noted the following items from the report:

- (1) MacLennan Jaunkalns Miller Architects and ZAS Architects, in joint venture, along with the Toronto Public Library, were honoured with a *Public Library Service Award* for the St. James Town Branch at the recent Public Library Awards Dinner at the Ontario Library Association Superconference.
- (2) At the same awards dinner, Toronto Public Library received the Minister of Culture's Award for Innovation for two publications – *Research Ate My Brain* and *The Research Virtuoso*. These books are filled with research tips, and are written and illustrated in a graphic-novel-type style. The books were a co-initiative of Toronto Public Library and Annick Press.
- (3) In February, Black History Month was celebrated at the Library with programs and displays in many branches. The launch event at the Toronto Reference Library was hosted by Royson James; Okeima Lawrence represented the Board, bringing greetings at the beginning of the event.
- (4) Another highlight of the month was the annual recognition of February's *Freedom to Read Week* with PEN Canada at the Toronto Reference Library on February 23 with an event entitled *Inventory: Writers Tracking War and Conflict*.
- (5) Book Buzz, Toronto Public Library's online book club, highlighted *Black Berry, Sweet Juice* by Toronto writer Lawrence Hill; and the Scott Pilgrim graphic novel series by Bryan O'Malley this month. Both Hill and O'Malley were part of the talent for Keep Toronto Reading. Book Buzz is growing steadily in terms of participation; non-virtual book clubs are growing as well. There are 77 throughout the system, an increase of 20% over 2005, and the variety continues to grow. During 2006, Mandarin, Cantonese, ESL, and Black and Caribbean book clubs, as well as Mothers and Daughters and Boys book clubs were added.

***Moved by M. Ghandikota, seconded by M. Church, and carried:
That the Chair's Report be received for information.***

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07-033 Presentations

There were no Presentations at the February 26, 2007 meeting.

07-034 Communications

There were no Communication items at the February 26, 2007 meeting.

Items for Approval:**07-035 Jane / Sheppard Capital Project**

Moved by M. Augimeri, seconded by B. Booth, and carried:

That the Toronto Public Library Board:

- (1) *approve a \$487,000 debt (\$527,000 gross) funding increase for the Jane / Sheppard capital project, to be funded by a budget transfer from the S. Walter Stewart capital project amounting to \$487,000 debt (\$510,000 gross);*
- (2) *forward to Council a request for approval of a capital budget transfer;*
- (3) *direct staff to enter into negotiations with the landlord for the renewal of the lease at the Jane / Sheppard mall for approximately one year; and*
- (4) *authorize and direct appropriate Library staff to take the actions necessary to give effect hereto.*

Councillor Augimeri expressed appreciation to staff for their efforts in keeping the Jane / Sheppard Branch open during construction of the new branch.

07-036**Closed Meeting Agenda Items**

Josephine Bryant, City Librarian, advised that the *Public Libraries Act* allows for the discussion of labour relations issues in the Closed portion of the meeting; however, Agenda Item #11 – *Options for Communicating to the Board about Labour Relations Issues* can be considered in the public portion of the meeting as the report does not deal with matters of a sensitive labour relations nature.

07-037**Approval of January 29, 2007 Toronto Public Library Board Closed Meeting Minutes**

Moved by Councillor Davis, seconded by B. Booth, and carried:

That the minutes of the January 29, 2007 Toronto Public Library Board Closed Meeting be approved.

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07-038 Options for Communicating to the Board about Labour Relations Issues*Moved by Councillor Davis, seconded by M. Ghandikota, and carried:**That the Toronto Public Library Board adopt, in principle, Option 3 as outlined in the Board report conditionally upon receipt of a report from the City Librarian outlining the membership, terms of reference and mandate for a Committee of the Board and subject to the final approval of the Board in March.***Items for Information****07-039 2007 Operating Budget – Update - Verbal**

Jo Bryant, City Librarian, reviewed tabled documents for the Board providing background information on the 2007 operating budget process to date. Library staff and members of the Board Budget Working Group are meeting with the Library's representatives on the City's Budget Committee on February 27 to discuss the 2007 operating budget.

*Moved by Councillor Augimeri, seconded by B. Booth, and carried:**That the Toronto Public Library Board receive the 2007 Operating Budget - Update verbal report for information.***07-040 Ontario Municipal Benchmarking Initiative –
2005 Performance Benchmarking Report***Moved by M. Ghandikota, seconded by Councillor Davis, and carried:**That the Toronto Public Library Board receive the report Ontario Municipal Benchmarking Initiative – 2005 Performance Benchmarking Report for information.***07-041 Ready for Reading - Verbal**

Anne Bailey, Director, Branches, and Linda Hazzan, Director, Marketing and Communications, reviewed tabled documents for the Board concerning the Library's *Ready for Reading* program. *Ready for Reading* at Toronto Public Library encompasses all programs and services for children from birth to five years including existing and newly developed programs. Board members were shown examples of the promotional materials for the program.

*Moved by M. Ghandikota, seconded by Councillor Lee, and carried:**That the Toronto Public Library Board receive the Ready for Reading verbal report for information.*

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07-042 *Keep Toronto Reading / Book Lover's Ball - Verbal*

Linda Hazzan, Director, Marketing & Communications, provided the Board with the following verbal update concerning Keep Toronto Reading:

- (1) There have been a total of 24 Keep Toronto Reading events since February 1, with five remaining during the week of February 26. Participation has been outstanding including more than 340 in attendance at the Toronto Public Library/CBC Radio 99.1 *Toronto Celebrates Canada Reads 2007* event on February 19, and more than 500 people in attendance at the Toronto Public Library/PEN Canada *Inventory: Writers Tracking War and Conflict* event on February 23.
- (2) *Keep Toronto Reading in the TTC* was a successful venture with more than \$1,200 in revenues from book sales in three TTC subway stations in support of the Toronto Public Library Foundation.
- (3) The Library received extensive media coverage throughout the month including coverage on MTV, CityTV and CBC television and radio.
- (4) A full report will be provided to the Board when all of the information regarding Keep Toronto Reading has been compiled.

Heather Rumball, President, Toronto Public Library Foundation, provided the Board with the following verbal update concerning the *Book Lover's Ball* and related fundraising endeavours:

- (1) The *I Keep Reading Toronto* fundraising campaign is on track to raise \$50,000 during the month of February.
- (2) The Book Lover's Ball on February 15 was well attended with 640 guests.
- (3) Margaret Atwood attended the event via video conference, demonstrating the Long Pen book-signing technology.
- (4) The Mayor addressed the guests providing his endorsement of Toronto Public Library.
- (5) A video of highlights from the Ball will be provided to the Board at a later date.

Moved by K. Wilson, seconded by B. Booth, and carried:

That the Toronto Public Library Board receive the Keep Toronto Reading / Book Lover's Ball verbal reports for information.

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07-043 Toronto Public Library Board Members – Expenses Paid for 2006

Moved by M. Ghandikota, seconded by Councillor Lee, and carried:

That the Toronto Public Library Board receive the Toronto Public Library Board Members – Expenses Paid for 2006 report for information.

Other Business

06-044 Security Measures at Toronto Public Library

In response to a request for information, Josephine Bryant, City Librarian, advised that she would update the Board at a later date regarding security measures at Toronto Public Library.

07-045 Adjournment

Moved by B. Booth, seconded by M. Ghandikota, and carried:

That the February 26, 2007 Toronto Public Library Board meeting be adjourned.

The meeting ended at 7:15 p.m.

Signed: _____