

ORILLIA PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD

MINUTES of May 20, 2026 MEETING

A regular meeting of the Board was held in the Library commencing at 4:00 p.m.

PRESENT - BOARD - Mike Stahls, Chair; Deborah Watson; John Bard; Don McIsaac;  
Wanda Minnings

STAFF Meagan Wilkinson, Chief Executive Officer  
Alexandra Gilston, Director of Children’s & Youth Services  
Melissa Robertson, Director of Corporate & Operational Services  
Kelli Absalom, Director of Information Services  
Amy Lambertson, Co-ordinator of Circulation Services  
Tasha McGillivray, Human Services Co-ordinator  
Janis Holohan, Recorder

VIA ZOOM Ryan McVeigh; Meghan Edwards; Elaine Bremer; Whitney Smith

ABSENT - Catherine Allman, Vice-Chair

CONVENING OF THE MEETING – M. Stahls welcomed those in attendance and via Zoom.

Land Acknowledgement Statement – M. Stahls read the Library Board’s statement.

Call to Order – M. Stahls called the meeting to order.

Approval of the Agenda

*Motion #2026:38*

*Moved by W. Minnings and seconded that the Orillia Public Library Board approve the Agenda of the May 20, 2026 meeting.*

CARRIED

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof – none

CONSENT AGENDA

Highlights:

M. Wilkinson reported the successful public launch of the Library’s new website in April.

M. Wilkinson on behalf of A Gilston, reported that the PD Day “Kidchella” program welcomed over 129 participants.

M. Robertson advised that the Library received three spring grants from the Community Foundation of Orillia and Area in support of Makerspace equipment, the TD Summer Reading Club, and Human Services programming.

K. Absalom reported that the June 26, 2026 Drag Queen Bingo event is fully sold out.

*Motion #2026:39*

*Moved by D. McIsaac and seconded that the Consent Agenda of the May 20, 2026 meeting be adopted.*

CARRIED

## DISCUSSION AGENDA

### BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

2025 Annual Report - The final version of the 2025 Annual Report was presented, highlighting the Library's Social Return on Investment (SROI), as calculated using the Valuing Ontario Public Libraries Toolkit (VOLT) developed by Ontario Library Service.

*Motion #2026:40*

*Moved by D. Watson and seconded that the Orillia Public Library Board approve the 2025 Annual Report.*

CARRIED

### REPORTS OF BOARD COMMITTEES AND REPRESENTATIVES

Finance Committee – The April 2026 financial statements were presented for review and discussion.

*Motion #2026:41*

*Moved by W. Minnings and seconded that the Orillia Public Library Board receive the April 2026 financial statements as presented.*

CARRIED

Letter to Mayor and Council – A draft letter regarding the denied carry-over request was presented for review and discussion.

*Motion #2026:42*

*Moved by W. Minnings and seconded that the Orillia Public Library Board receive the letter to Mayor and Council as information.*

Policy Committee – Revisions to select policies were presented as part of the ongoing policy review process to ensure alignment with current best practices. The proposed policy on Artificial Intelligence will be returned to the Committee for further review.

*Motion #2026:43*

*Moved by D. Watson and seconded that the Orillia Public Library Board approves the revisions to the following policies:*

- *HR-07 Prevention of Workplace Harassment and Discrimination*
- *HR-08 Addressing Violence in the Workplace*
- *HR-09 Health and Safety*

*Further, that consideration of the new policy, AI in the Library, be deferred back to the policy committee.*

*CARRIED*

Fundraising Committee – The Fundraising Committee reported on planning efforts for the upcoming Book Sale scheduled for June 27, 2026 and discussed future fundraising initiatives.

## NEW BUSINESS

2025 Year in Review Report – The Board received the 2025 Year in Review Report, outlining key achievements and organizational impacts.

*MOTION #2026:44*

*Moved by W. Minnings and seconded that the Orillia Public Library Board approve the Year in Review report as information.*

*CARRIED*

Board Skills (verbal report) - M. Wilkinson to send out a survey to the board for those with interest in reapplying for board membership at the end of June 2026.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Strategic Plan Surveys – To be distributed on May 21, 2026.

Ontario Library Association: Digital Odyssey Virtual Conference – M. Wilkinson to attend with E. Bremer June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2026.

Ontario Library Association: Library as Place Conference – M. Wilkinson to attend from June 15 – 16, 2026.

IN CAMERA SESSION – Property

Motion #2026:45

*Moved by D. Watson and seconded that the Orillia Public Library Board enter an in-camera session at 4:40pm.*

Motion #2026:46

*Moved by D. Watson and seconded that the Orillia Public Library Board leave an in-camera session at 5:02pm.*

Motion #2026:47

*Moved by D. McIsaac and seconded that the Orillia Public Library Board approve Option 2 as presented.*

Adjournment at 5:05pm

Motion #2026:48

*Moved by J. Bard and seconded that the Orillia Public Library Board approve the adjournment of the May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2026 meeting.*

CARRIED

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BOARD CHAIR

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CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER