

MINUTES

Waterloo Public Library Board Meeting

Wednesday, March 26, 2025 at 5:00pm | Main Library

Attendance

Attending

K. McManus; R. Chambers; D. Charlton; Councillor Wright; N. Campbell

Regrets

F. Mensink; L. Li; J. Murphy; M. Kelly

Staff

K. Kipfer (CEO); L. Dick (Deputy CEO)

Minutes

1. Call to Order

K. McManus called the meeting to order.

2. Approval of the Agenda

Moved by N. Campbell, seconded by D. Charlton that the agenda be approved.

Motion carried

3. Disclosure of pecuniary interest and the nature thereof

None.

4. Approval of Past Minutes

Moved by N. Campbell, seconded by R. Chambers that the minutes of the regular February 26, 2025 meeting be approved.

Motion carried

5. Business arising from the minutes

There was a request for the CEO to circulate the Board Education presentation from last month's meeting on Gen Z to the board.

6. Correspondence

None.

7. Chair Update – F. Mensink

Deferred.

8. Board Education: Older Adults – R. Chambers

R. Chambers shared a presentation on Older Adults highlighting opportunities and challenges that older adults face in Waterloo and more broadly in the Region.

9. CEO Report – K. Kipfer

K. Kipfer spoke to the pending work, in conjunction with the City, on developing an RFP for a feasibility study to address the Main Library renovation project. She also flagged a future conversation for the board about the board's potential response to a cyber attack situation. The Board asked for a report to be presented to the Board before the summer break with recommendations re: appropriate responses.

Additionally, in her written submission distributed with the board package, K. Kipfer highlighted the following:

- In response to the ongoing conversation about tariffs, library staff created a helpful and [popular guide](#) to help our community shop Canadian. The guide has been shared extensively online and beyond our region
- We held the official public launch of our permanent and rotating art collections at Main on March 1. Both artists of our permanent pieces were in attendance as well as our partners from the Canadian Clay and Glass Gallery.
- The leak issues that had been a substantial problem at both the Main library and the John M. Harper Branch have subsided. There has been some stop-gap attention

given to these issues but the larger problems around ice damming, drainage and challenges with the green roof at Harper are unresolved.

- [IFLA](#) (The International Federation of Library Associations) [ALA](#) (The American Library Association) and other library associations have issued statements about the significant cuts made to federal funding for libraries and museums in the US this month.

10. AMCC Update – K. Kipfer

K. Kipfer provided an update on the AMCC renovation and informed board that the date for this project going to Council for approval has changed to May 12, 2025. N. Campbell and F. Mensink will delegate at this meeting and speak to the value of the project to the community. The Board asked if there were other library champions in the community who could also be approached to also delegate. The CEO will work with staff to identify and connect with possible partners and stakeholders.

11. Other Business

None.

12. In Camera

Deferred.

13. Date of Next Regular Meeting – May 28, 2025

14. Adjournment

Moved by Councillor Wright, seconded by D. Charlton that the meeting be adjourned.

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