

MINUTES

Waterloo Public Library Board Meeting

Wednesday, April 22, 2026 at 5:00pm | Main Library

Attendance

Attending: F. Mensink (Chair); K. McManus (Vice Chair); M. Kelly; J. Murphy; R. Chambers; L. Li; Councillor J. Wright

Regrets: D. Charlton, N. Campbell

Staff: Kelly Kipfer (CEO), L. Dick (Deputy CEO)

1. Call to Order

F. Mensink called the meeting to order at 5:03

2. Approval of the Agenda

Moved by K. McManus, seconded by M. Kelly that the agenda be approved.

Motion carried

3. Disclosure of pecuniary interest and the nature thereof

None.

4. Approval of the minutes of the regular March 25, 2026 meeting

Moved by K. McManus, seconded by R. Chambers that the minutes of the regular March 25, 2026 meeting be approved.

Motion carried

5. Business arising from the minutes

None.

6. Correspondence

None.

7. Chair Update – F. Mensink

The Chair expressed thanks to staff and fellow Board members who attended WPL's 150th Birthday Bash on April 18th.

8. Committee Reports

8.1 Governance Committee – Fore sighting planning (J. Murphy)

J. Murphy presented a revised plan for the Board's signal input contributions via a google form in preparation for the May 30th Board workday.

9. CEO Report – K. Kipfer

In her writing submission distributed with the board package, K. Kipfer highlighted the following:

- Main Library Feasibility Study: Spacing concepts have been finalized and were shared at the April 18th Birthday Bash to gather feedback from customers
- McCormick Branch Renovation Operating Budget: Updated operating cost projections were submitted for the renovation McCormick Branch including a projected increase in 2027 to support staffing and related operating costs
- McCormick Branch Capital Budget: Class C project estimates indicate the current project scope can fit within the planned capital budget, avoiding the need to identify features for removal at this stage
- Sector News/Social Impact Report: WPL, KPL, and CPL are collaborating on a Waterloo Region-specific social impact report, with a strategic release planned during the municipal campaign period
- Board Engagement/WPL 150th Birthday Bash: Board members are invited to engage with customers during the April 18 celebration by discussing Main Library feasibility concepts and gathering feedback on community hopes and concerns

In addition to the pre-circulated report, K. Kiper also discussed the impact Bill 28 will have on public libraries in Alberta and shared the statement TPL is asking their Board to endorse in opposition to the Bill. The Board committed to a further discussion on this issue after the CEO reports on conversations about the Bill at the upcoming CULC meeting in Calgary. The Board also wants to understand the position of the other local library Boards on this matter before proceeding.

10. Other Business

None.

11. In Camera

Moved by M. Kelly, seconded by L. Li that the Board go In Camera to discuss a matter pertaining to an identifiable individual.

Motion carried

Moved by L. Li, seconded by K. McManus, that the Board come out of In Camera.

Motion carried

12. Date of Next Regular Meeting – May 27, 2026 at Main Library

13. Adjournment

Moved by M. Kelly, seconded by L. Li that the meeting was adjourned.

Motion carried

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