

# Minutes of Twp. of Madawaska Valley Public Library Board August 30, 2021 Board Meeting

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Present: Frances Mawson, Natalie Barrington, Shawn Eagles, Andrea Buderick, Peter Fright, William Houle

Staff: Karen Filipkowski, CEO / Secretary Treasurer

1. Online meeting called to order at 1:00 pm by Frances Mawson
2. Declarations of Conflict of Interest: None
3. Motion from Mark Willmer to accept the August 30, 2021 meeting agenda and the meeting minutes from the June 28, 2021 Board meeting. Seconded by Shawn Eagles. Carried.
4. **Business arising from the minutes.**
  - a. **Policy:** No Policy
  - b. **Strategic Planning:** Alternate location in town discussed. Better location but there is an issue with contamination on site. Cost of remediation and possible grants for this will need to be investigated.
  - c. **60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Report:** Report Attached
5. **Correspondence:**
  - a. **Letter of Resignation from Library Board by Peter Fright**
  - b. **Letter of Resignation from Library Board by Frances Mawson**
  - c. **Thank you letter from Madonna House**
6. **Librarian's Report:**
  - Connecting Public Libraries initiative – \$4.85 million dollar investment in Ontario's Public Libraries. MVPL has been selected for site assessment. Survey to support our application completed August 23/21
  - Operational Review by Township. Information forwarded to CAO upon request.
  - Annual Report to Province (statistical & financial report) completed July
  - Provincial Library Operating Grant completed August 18/21

## **Programs:**

- TD Summer Reading Program – 18 children ages 7+ registered & 19 children ages 3 – 6 registered.
- Summer Craft Kits – 1100 kits were made and picked up. This year we asked folks to register but there were always additional kits on hand for drop-ins. Registration numbers were high. Infant Toddler Crafts 14 registered, 3-6 year olds had 24 registrations and 7 + had 19 registrations.
- BAIK Indigenous Drumming & Teaching session for children. Held outdoors and had 15 participants
- A big hit was the stuffie sleepover. Twenty two children registered their stuffies for a night of fun and partying with the library stuffies Sir Monkton & Lady Sarah.

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- Story Walk – Two sessions – one at the library and another at Zurokowski Park. Very low turnout. Both were on very hot days. Lots of car traffic but not a lot of foot traffic.

**Other News:**

Julia is officially off to attend university this semester. She has done an amazing job with programs and program promotion and I will miss having her on staff. She has boundless creativity and organizational skills. We are happy to have on board Hayden Smith who was hired in July. Hayden has been working with Julia throughout the summer and is a great addition to our staff. We will be posting for a second student position this week.

Our amazing volunteers Marie Landon and Betty Kirby have put in countless hours keeping the Book Sale Room organized throughout the summer. We receive lots of compliments about the selection and how organized it is. Much needed revenue from the book sales from July 6 to August 24<sup>th</sup> is \$1166.

	June	July
Computer Sessions	55	55
Personal Devices		
Library Visits	Closed in June	728
# items checked out	420	1495
Interlibrary Loans	40	76
EBooks & Audio EBooks Circulated	343	312

**Motion** from Peter Fright to accept the Librarian’s Report. Seconded by Natalie Barrington. Carried.

**7. Financial Report June 2021:**

Opening Balance	\$117,055.40
Deposits	\$890.97
Expenses	\$17,067.38
Bank Balance	\$100,878.99
Outstanding	\$8,714.73
Book Balance	\$92,164.26
Growth Savings	\$5,801.03
	\$97,965.29

**Financial Report July 2021:**

Opening Balance	\$100,878.99
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Deposits	\$3,403.20
Expenses	\$20,726.82
Bank Balance	\$83,555.37
Outstanding	\$3,801.14
Book Balance	\$79,754.23
Growth Savings	\$5,777.75
	\$85,531.98

Donations:

Grants: Canada Summer Jobs installment \$2,202.00

Motion from Shawn Eagles to accept the June & July 2021 financial statements. Seconded by William Houle. Carried.

## **8. New Business:**

- a. **Appointment of Board Chair:**
  - b. **Storage space for newspaper archives:** The building we use as an offsite location to store the newspaper archives has been sold so we need a new home for this by November 1<sup>st</sup>. Karen has been in touch with the CAO who also needs additional storage space for files. Will update when more is known.
9. Motion from Mark Willmer to enter into Closed Session at 2:00 pm. Seconded by Natalie Barrington. Carried.
  10. Motion from Natalie Barrington to return to Open Session at 2:15 pm. Seconded by Shawn Eagles. Carried.
  11. Motion to adjourn by Natalie Barrington at 2:20. Seconded by Shawn Eagles. Carried.
  12. Next meeting date, Monday, October 25 at 1:00 pm via Video Conferencing.

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**Chairman / Natalie Barrington**

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**Secretary / Karen Filipkowski**

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### 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Report

Celebrations for the Library's 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary took place the week of August 16 – 21. This week was chosen as the Library officially launched in August of 1961.

With COVID restrictions we had to be very creative. Typically, accommodating a function or program in the library can be challenging because of the lack of space. The need for social distancing during COVID made indoor gathering and programming almost impossible so online and outdoor options were used.

Julia put together an online photo gallery of the library through the decades. She scoured through boxes and files of photos, sifted, sorted and questioned as many people as she could to identify photos and put them into the correct decades. It was hours and hours of work but we have a lasting legacy of photos of the past 60 years that are visible to the public. The gallery is on the website's event page <https://www.madawaskavalleylibrary.ca/events-programs/>

The photos were also on display in the library along with some 60s themed displays courtesy of the very talented and creative Julia Beggs.

A new library podcast was launched on the 17<sup>th</sup> and featured a reading from the Barry's Bay Review newspaper about the opening of the library. The podcast, Old, New, Borrowed, Blue, is currently being hosted on The Opeongo Line but will have its own platform in the new year. The podcast features readings from the newspaper archives, including advertisements as well as what is new in collections and programs what is popular on the reading lists and finishes with a story from the Blue Book of Fairy Tales. Podcasters are myself, James, Julia & Frances. The podcast had 50 downloads which represents between 250 – 300 listeners. Like the photo gallery the podcast can be accessed from our website event page.

<https://www.madawaskavalleylibrary.ca/events-programs/> .

The week finished with an outdoor reception on possibly the hottest and most humid day of the summer. Despite that we estimated a turnout of 45 people. The reception was an opportunity for people to drop by and see a photo display of the past 60 years, chat with staff and board, listen to some live 60s music and enjoy a refreshment. Lots of positive feedback and we all survived the heat.

Karen Filipkowski