

**Minutes Madawaska Valley Public Library Board Meeting
March 27, 2023 at 3:30 pm (online/in-person)**

Present: Bill Houle, Mary Conway, Hanna Domagala, Claire Sullivan, Betty Kirby
 Council representatives: Mary Blank
 Staff: Natalie Barrington, CEO/Secretary/Treasurer
 Absent: Kevin Quade

1. Call to order 3:30pm by Chair Bill Houle.
2. Acknowledgement Statement: *“I would like to begin by acknowledging that the land on which we gather is the traditional territory of the Algonquin people. We recognize and respect the history, languages, and cultures of the First Nations, Metis, Inuit and all Indigenous peoples whose presence continues to enrich our communities.”*
3. Declaration of conflict of interest: None
4. Hanna Domagala approved of agenda for the March 27, 2023 Board meeting, with changes, and meeting minutes from the February 27, 2023 Board meeting. Seconded by Claire Sullivan. Carried.
5. Business arising from the minutes
 - a. Policy: Bill Houle approved policies FR-03; OP-14 with changes; HR-11; HR-14; and Vol-02 as presented. Seconded by Betty Kirby. Carried.
 - b. Strategic Planning: Hanna Domagala provided an update on the New Build Committee: they are researching other library builds and work for a business case.
 - c. Cabin Fever Trivia Night Update
 - d. Budget questions from Council members after budget presentation: CEO will respond to council’s questions by email.
6. Correspondence:
 - a. Little Branches Rural Roots conference, May 4-6, schedule available online.
 - b. MV Township was not successful in securing a grant for the library ramp and accessible door; however, the upgrades were included in the budget proposal. They will also try to reapply to the grant.
7. Mary Conway approved the Librarian’s Report for February 2023. Seconded by Claire Sullivan. Carried.

	February
Computer Sessions	50
Personal Devices	3
Library Visits	422
# items checked out	1,047
Interlibrary Loans	66
Borrowed	32
Lent	34
OverDrive/Libby	242 ebooks 76 audio books 0 magazines
E-Resources:	
DIY Centres	1 (Hobbies & Crafts Centre)
Mango Languages	18 sessions
Novelist	26 sessions
Kanopy	30 accounts, 2 new accounts, 57 videos played
CBC Corner	13

- We held a BIAK drumming session at George Vanier; 14 of the kindergarten/grade 1 students joined us.
- Brianna ran a Valentine craft workshop, 7 children attended. We handed out 45 Valentine craft kits, which Brianna prepared.

- Book club read *Piau* by Bruce Murray; w had 7 attendees at the meeting. We are now meeting at the library the first Thursday of the month, with coffee/tea and a snack.
- Only 6 patrons participated in Blind Date with book. We are going to try a different format next year, which seems to work better for other libraries, where the mystery books are packaged in advance and on display to pick up spontaneously, and no registration is required.
- We added CBC Corner to our e-resources. This is a free resource provided by CBC to libraries, which repurposes their content into a user-friendly, social media kind of user format. They include usage statistics. There is no cost to the library for this resource.
- I updated the website policies and minutes, so they are now current. I added more information about services and resources, and cleaned up some of the navigation/menu buttons.
- We distributed books to schools and the Eganville library, courtesy of MV Hospice Palliative Care. The books were about a child losing a parent and dealing with loss and grief. Thanks to our volunteer Marie Landon for acquiring the books and letting us know about them.
- Elevator maintenance was completed.
- We have a new person taking care of snow shoveling walkways: Daniel Sucker. He is being paid the same rate - \$100/month. I am considering reducing the shoveling arrangement to Nov/Dec to March, (currently it is October to April) so save some funds. The little bit of snow we get in October/Nov and April can be managed by staff.

8. Mary Conway approved the February Financial Statement. Seconded by Betty Kirby. Carried.

9. New Business

- a. Claire Sullivan approved the annual increase for custodian services by \$25 per month. Seconded by Betty Kirby. Carried.
- b. Bill Houle provided clarification on OLG regulations regarding libraries and raffles/lotteries. Mary Blank suggested some alternative fundraising ideas that could be incorporated into other events.

10. Hanna Domagala moved to adjourn at 4:30pm.

11. Next meeting date Monday, April 24, 2023 at 3:30 pm.

Chair William Houle

Secretary / Natalie Barrington