NIAGARA FALLS PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
October 15, 2025
CONFERENCE ROOM 3, VICTORIA AVENUE LIBRARY & GOOGLE MEET

PRESENT: A. Andres-Jones (Chair), J. Anstruther (Vice Chair), M. Fraiman, L. Lococo, B. Ness, J. Roddy, T. Tredwell, K. Tsiantoulas

REGRETS: S. Mongrain

STAFF: C. Lee, M. MacLaren, K. Rimnyak

Meeting was chaired by A. Andres-Jones

CALL TO ORDER:
Meeting called to order at 4:34 pm

THE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT WAS READ INTO THE MINUTES
The Chonnonton people have called these lands where we are gathering home for thousands of years and more recently, the Anishinaabe and the Haudenosaunee have been sharing the land as One Dish, One Spoon Treaty territory. We would like to acknowledge the enduring resilience of the First Nations, Metis and Inuit people who call this territory home.

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: 2025-160 To approve the agenda of the October 15, 2025 Board Meeting
MOVED BY: J. Roddy
SECONDED BY: K. Tsiantoulas
MOTION CARRIED

2. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY AND CONFLICTS OF INTEREST
None.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
3.1. Regular Minutes of September 17, 2025 Board Meeting

MOTION: 2025-161 To approve the minutes of the September 17, 2025 regular meeting
MOVED BY: J. Anstruther
SECONDED BY: K. Tsiantoulas
MOTION CARRIED

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

None.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

5.1. Department Reports

5.1.1. 2025 Summer Reading Club Impact Report, B. Dixon, Manager of Operations

5.1.2. Class Visit / School Wrap Around Report, B. Dixon, Manager of Operations

5.1.3. NFPL In the Media, Sep 2025, K. Stewart, Communications Associate

M. Fraiman arrived at 4:39pm

5.2. Board Correspondence and Information

5.2.1. Signed Statement of Joint Integrated Library System, St Catharines Public Library and Niagara Falls Public Library

5.2.2. 2025 EarlyON One-time Funding Technology & Play Based Learning Materials Refresh Letter, Niagara Region – Community Services

5.2.3. Canadian Library Month Email, Dina Stevens, Federation of Ontario Public Libraries

5.2.4. Ontario Public Library Week Flyer, Niagara Falls Public Library

5.2.5. Public Library Operating Grant 2025-26 Submission Confirmation, Transfer Payment Ontario

5.2.6. Culture Days – NFPL 2025 Events, City of Niagara Falls

5.2.7. NRPS Introduces No-Tolerance Approach to Open-Air Illicit Drug Use to Enhance Community Safety, Niagara Regional Police Service

5.2.8. Books & Brews External Fundraiser Advertisement, C. Tudman, Community Member

5.3. Articles

5.3.1. Workday ai lawsuit explained: implications for hr, Outsolve.com

5.3.2. What The Workday Lawsuit Reveals About AI Bias—And How To Prevent It, Forbes

The Board expressed appreciation for the extra weight given to priority schools in the Class Visit / School Wrap Around Report, the one-time funding received from EarlyON for learning materials, and the Books & Brews fundraiser held independently by community member C. Tudman.

MOTION: 2025-162 To receive the consent agenda of October 15, 2025
MOVED BY: T. Tredwell
SECONDED BY: J. Roddy
MOTION CARRIED

6. ACTION ITEMS

6.1. Revised Capital Budget, K. Rimnyak, Finance and Administrative Coordinator

K. Rimnyak advised of revisions to this report as recommended by City staff, including the addition of project timelines and impacts to service, removal of supplier names, and general formatting work. The resulting budget was increased by approximately $4,000. K. Rimnyak reported positive engagement from City staff regarding the drafted budget.

MOTION: 2025-163 To approve the revised 2026 proposed capital budget submission as presented at the October 15, 2025, regular board meeting
MOVED BY: T. Tredwell
SECONDED BY: M. Fraiman
MOTION CARRIED

6.2. 2026 Library Closure Calendar, M. MacLaren, Finance and Administrative Assistant

MOTION: 2025-164 To approve the 2026 Library Closure Calendar
MOVED BY: T. Tredwell
SECONDED BY: J. Anstruther
MOTION CARRIED

6.3. Niagara Falls Public Library Board Scholarship Program Proposal, B. Dixon, Manager of Operations

C. Lee introduced the report which proposes that that the Niagara Falls Public Library Board scholarship awards be redirected toward our youth volunteers. It was confirmed that the successful candidates and overall spending would continue to be reviewed by the Board on a yearly basis.

MOTION: 2025-165 To establish the Niagara Falls Public Library Board Scholarship Program as an ongoing annual initiative, replacing the previous student book prize program
MOVED BY: J. Anstruther
SECONDED BY: T. Tredwell
MOTION CARRIED

6.4. Reciprocal Service Agreement, Port Colborne Public Library and Niagara Falls Public Library

C. Lee noted that with this agreement the Niagara Falls Public Library will have reciprocal agreements with all public libraries in the Niagara Region.

MOTION: 2025-166 To approve the Reciprocal Borrowing Agreement with Port Colborne Public Library scheduled to commence in 2026
MOVED BY: M. Fraiman
SECONDED BY: J. Anstruther
MOTION CARRIED

7. COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE SESSION

MOTION: 2025-167 To move into Committee-of-the-Whole
MOVED BY: J. Anstruther
SECONDED BY: L. Lococo
MOTION CARRIED

The Niagara Falls Public Library Board went “in camera” at 4:57 pm in order to address matters pertaining to:

- Personal matters about an identifiable individual; and

- A proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the board.

K. Tsiantoulas departed at 5:33pm
L. Lococo departed at 5:49pm

MOTION: 2025-175	To rise from Committee-of-the-Whole
MOVED BY:	T. Tredwell
SECONDED BY:	J. Anstruther
MOTION CARRIED	

The "in camera" session was completed at 5:50 pm.

MOTION: 2025-176	To accept the business conducted in-camera on October 15, 2025
MOVED BY:	M. Fraiman
SECONDED BY:	J. Roddy
MOTION CARRIED	

8. NEW BUSINESS

None.

9. OTHER BUSINESS

The Board noted upcoming events including a trivia night scheduled for November 22, 2025, and Library Day, scheduled for October 22, 2025.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 5:58 pm

NEXT MEETINGS

November 19, 2025
December 17, 2025
January 21, 2026