King Township Public Library Board Meeting
APPROVED MINUTES – March 18, 2025
VIRTUAL

Board Present:	Aleisha Richards (VC), Irene deGeus, Rose Grimaldi, Patti Skrypek, Danielle Donadio, Councillor David Boyd, Councillor Jordan Cescolini
Staff Present:	Adele Reid, Pat Chan, Domenica Lollo
Regrets:	Caroline Anderson (C), Michael Tedesco (FC), Mayor Steve Pellegrini
Absent:	Ø
Guests:	Ø

1. Call to Order

Vice-Chair Aleisha Richards called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

2. Approval of the Agenda

Motion 2025-03-01: Board meeting agenda

Moved by Patti Skrypek, seconded by Councillor David Boyd, that the Board approve the agenda as amended. Carried.

3. Declarations of Conflict of Interest – Ø

4. Approval of the Minutes

4.1 Approval of the Preceding Board Meeting minutes – February 18, 2025

Motion 2025-03-02: Board meeting minutes – February 18, 2025

Moved by Councillor Jordan Cescolini, seconded by Rose Grimaldi, that the Board receive and approve the meeting minutes as presented. Carried.

4.2 Approval of the Advocacy and Fundraising Meeting Minutes – February 19, 2025

Motion 2025-03-03: Advocacy and Fundraising Meeting Minutes – February 19, 2025

Moved by Rose Grimaldi, seconded by Patti Skrypek, that the Board receive and approve the Advocacy and Fundraising Committee meeting minutes of February 19, 2025, as presented. Carried.

5. Business Arising from the Minutes

5.1 April Board meeting – Conflict w/Twp Master Facility Plan Meeting

Motion 2025-03-04: April Board meeting – date change

Moved by Irene deGeus, seconded by Councillor Jordan Cescolini, that the Board agree and approve moving the date of the April meeting from April 15, 2025 to April 22, 2205. Carried.

5.2 Advocacy & Fundraising Committee Update

Advocacy and Fundraising Chair, Rose Grimaldi, provided the Board with an update on the ongoing 'Celebrate King' initiative. Funding for the project has been successfully secured through the Mayor's annual golf tournament. As a result, the selected artists have been notified of their participation in the art display at the King City branch.

The next steps include a photography session scheduled for Sunday, March 23, and Monday, March 24, during which the selected artworks will be professionally photographed for reproduction onto the sound baffle canvas. The unveiling event has been confirmed for June 19, with details to follow it the coming weeks.

The CEO expressed gratitude to the Advocacy and Fundraising Committee for their exceptional efforts and continued support, which have been pivotal to the success of this initiative. Mrs. Reid also took the opportunity to thank Mr. Rick Marejka for his invaluable contributions in designing the artwork layouts for the central staircase and Legend wall.

Motion 2025-03-05: Advocacy & Fundraising Committee Update

Moved by Aleisha Richards seconded by Patti Skrypek, that the Board receive the Advocacy & Fundraising Committee update for information, as presented. Carried.

6. Correspondence – Ø

7. Reports

7.1 2025 Business Objectives

The 2025 Business objectives were shared with Board members.

Motion 2025-03-06: 2025 Business Objectives

Moved by Irene deGeus seconded by Councillor Jordan Cescolini, that the Board receive the 2025 Business Objectives for information, as presented. Carried.

8. Policy Review and Updates – Ø

9. Information

9.1 CEO Report (Verbal)

Ms. Reid informed the Board of the following:

- Initial reviews show March Break was exceptionally busy, with door counts up over 12%, and a 20% increase in participants compared to 2024. The Manager of Engagement & Connections will provide a full review at a future meeting.
- 2024 financial reconciliation complete – our favourable variance has increased to $8500, primarily due to some errors within A/P, which will be rolled into Reserves
- There has been significant community engagement over the past month, with the 'Contact Us' feature on the website directing inquiries straight to the CEO's inbox. Examples of the interactions include:
    - The CEO engaged with a concerned mother and the local pastor regarding the perceived lack of Christian content in our libraries. The meetings were productive, and staff were able to provide comprehensive information

demonstrating that we have a robust collection of materials to meet the needs of the community.

- A concern was raised regarding the absence of Sunday hours at the Schomberg branch. The CEO connected with the patron to explain that we are currently conducting an analysis to determine if it's feasible to adjust our existing hours, shifting lower-traffic times to Sundays. Additionally, Councillor David Boyd suggested the possibility of rotating Sunday hours between branches, or at least between Nobleton and Schomberg.
- Positive feedback was received from a local mother, who expressed her satisfaction with the 3D printing program her son attended at the Nobleton branch. She was informed about the regularly scheduled programs available at the King City branch.
- A Schomberg resident inquired about early access to the Best Sellers list. The individual was provided with guidance on how to regularly check new releases on our website, allowing them to stay updated without waiting for the official Best Sellers list, a new service of which they lauded.

- The CEO recently attended the Bracebridge Public Library newest branch located in Muskoka and received a tour of the branch,
- The N6 Library CEOs are hosting a joint-Board session on the Information of Freedom and the implications for Boards like the one Caledon PL recently hosted, featuring guest speaker James Turk. This session will take place at the East Gwillimbury Community Centre on Saturday, October 25th ,2025.
- N6 also hosting a staff training session at Whitchurch - Stouffville PL, March 31 focused on critical thinking and budgeting. All KTPL manager and supervisory staff will be in attendance

9.2 People & Spaces (Verbal) – Zero Tolerance Campaign

Patricia Chan, Manager of People and Spaces, updated the Board on the ongoing challenges staff are facing with disruptive behavior from high school students at the King City branch during the lunch hour (11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.). During this time, the branch sees an influx of approximately 100 students, resulting in excessive noise, belligerent behavior, and at times, verbal abuse toward staff. Staff burnout and frustration have reached an all-time high.

Despite Mrs. Chan's proactive efforts to collaborate with local schools and the York Regional Police (YRP) Community Substation, the issues continue to escalate. Even with the installation of a large banner displaying library rules and additional staff patrolling the area, the situation has not improved. Given conflicting priorities and privacy considerations, school administration and the YRP support has been minimal, limiting the effectiveness of issuing notice of trespass. As a result, KTPL has introduced a 'Zero Tolerance' procedure. The schools adjacent to the branch have supported these efforts

by communicating the new policy to students through morning announcements/communications, and the school newsletter.

The objective is that this new procedure, combined with the recent purchase of two-way communication radios for staff, will drive better student behavior and ensure a more respectful environment for all visitors to the library.

Motion 2025-03-07: Information Reports – March 2025

Moved by Patti Skrypek, seconded by Rose Grimaldi, that the Board receive the staff reports for information as presented for March 2025. Carried.

10. New Business

10.1 Congratulatory letters to re-elected MPP's

The Board members reviewed and agreed to send the congratulatory correspondence to the newly re-elected MPP's for both York-Simcoe and King-Vaughan areas.

Motion 2025-03-08: Congratulatory letters to re-elected MPP's

Moved by Patti Skrypek, seconded by Councillor Jordan Cescolini, that the Board receive and approve that congratulatory correspondence be sent to the newly re-elected MPP's. Carried.

11. Member Announcements

11.1

- *Patti Skrypek*
  - Concert in King tickets are on sale now for the March 29th concert being held at the Kingbridge Centre. Tickets are available at christmasinking.ca/
  - Art Society King presents the 20th annual Studio Tour King Art Show and Sale on April 5th & 6th. The show will feature a record 45 local artists and artisans participating at 6 public venues and 5 home studio tours throughout King Township. This is a free community event, open to all.

12. **Adjournment**

Motion 2025-03-09: Adjournment

Moved by Rose Grimaldi, seconded by Patti Skrypek, that the Board meeting be adjourned. Carried.

The meeting adjourned at 7:09 p.m.

Caroline Andrus

Board Chair

Chief Executive Officer

June 22/2025.

Date