

County of Grande Prairie No. 1 Library Board  
December 11, 2023  
Evergreen Park, AB

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Present:

Leanne Germann	Chair
Sharon Mittelstaedt	Vice-Chair
Tanya Bain-Leuchter	Trustee
Kristen Yaceyko	Trustee
Brian Peterson	Trustee
Leanne Beaupre	Trustee
Judy Hein	Trustee
Serena Boyte-Hawryluk	Library Services Team Lead
Gail Perry	Valhalla Library Coordinator
Michelle Gillis	Elmworth Library Coordinator
Debra de Ruiter	Hythe Library Coordinator
Kathleen Turner	FCSS Director/Library Manager
Wanda Penner	La Glace Library Coordinator
Louisa Robison	PLS Director

Guests:

Tracy Deets	Beaverlodge Library Manager
Sheryl Pelletier	Sexsmith Library Manager
Brett Surbey	Sexsmith Board Chair
Debbie Normington	GPPL Board Chair
Hayley McCullough	Acting GPPL Director
Anna Underwood	Wembley Library Manager
Becky Ketchum	Wembley Board Chair
Martina Brewer	Wembley Board Treasurer

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The meeting was called to order at 12:05.

1. Approval of agenda –

Motion by T. Bain-Leuchter to approve the agenda. Seconded by S. Mittelstaedt.

Carried. 42/12/11

2. Election of officers

- a. Chair – B. Peterson nominated L. Germann. A second and third call for nominations were made. L. Germann was acclaimed as board chair.

- b. Vice-Chair – L. Germann nominated S. Mittelstaedt. A second and third call for nominations were made. S. Mittelstaedt was acclaimed as vice-chair.
- 3. Minutes approval – Minutes of the September 13 board meeting were reviewed.  
Motion by T. Bain-Leuchter to approve the minutes as presented.  
Seconded by B. Peterson.  
Carried. 43/12/11
- 4. Correspondence – N/A
- 5. Financial Update –
  - a. Recent bank statements were provided to the board.  
The board accepted the bank statements for information.
- 6. Business Arising –
  - a. 2024 Budget – The complete 2024 budget was shared with the board. It was noted that staffing estimates will have further revisions before the final budget goes before Council in April. Question RE disclosure of ATB accounts to Council. Process is evolving, but accounts are disclosed to County finance and the County-appointed accounting firm each year.  
Motion by T. Bain-Leuchter that the updated 2024 budget be approved, as presented. Seconded by B. Peterson.  
Carried. 44/12/11
- 7. New Business –
  - a. Holiday Library Closures – Discussion about previous practices. Each library attempts to balance community needs with staff availability when determining holiday hours.  
Motion by T. Bain-Leuchter that the County Libraries adopt adjusted hours during the period of December 23 to January 2, as presented. Seconded by J. Hein.  
Carried. 45/12/11
  - b. 2024 Meeting Schedule –  
Motion by L. Beaupre that the library board have meetings at 1:00 pm on the third Wednesday of February and the second Wednesday of the months of April, June, September, and November with an option for virtual attendance. Seconded by B. Peterson.  
Carried. 46/12/11
  - c. 2024 Horse Lake MOU –  
Motion by B. Peterson that the 2024 Memorandum of Understanding between PLS and the Library Board for the provision of library outreach services to Horse Lake First Nation be approved as presented. Seconded by K. Yaceyko.  
Carried. 47/12/11

8. Reports -

- a. Sexsmith – Partnership with Sexsmith Wellness to do summer programming – multiple part time students, drop in programs, stress free; Croc charms as a prizes helped kids stick with the program throughout the summer; Camp Not-A-Book allows kids to collect badges for life-skills; Chinese New Year program coming up; Play with me for families; Family Movie night once per month; card-making workshops, beekeeping information; two book clubs; Changes to staffing; over 51,000 books circulated in 2023 so far; introduction of Brett Surbey, the new library board chair (9 total trustees on the board); renovations at the front end of the library; custom circulation desk; new plan of service coming for 2025; still working to get Sexsmith Council to assist with a new library space.
- b. GPPL – Increase in County memberships (plus 200 to 2213) and circulation; 187,000 visitors to the building in 2023 (increase of 20%); cat-themed storytime; all ages bingo night; NERF nights, English for Ukrainians, soup-making skills; Inclusive community award; Passionate Heart Award given to Community Services Librarian Jill Kergan; added to children’s world languages collection; teen collection re-organized by genre; expanded the fibre internet; gaming computers for teens; in process of hiring a new director and other new staff; expecting new appointees from the City to bring the board up to 10 members.
- c. Beaverlodge – Getting back into children’s programming; take-away crafts very popular; adult programming very well attended (highly supported in the plan of service); home roots concerts (sponsored by Fosters); pub trivia night (76 people played); artisan fair; a staff member writes back to Santa letters;
- d. Valhalla – See attached report; 10 people attended Poinsettia paint night;
- e. La Glace – See attached report
- f. Hythe – See attached report;
- g. Elsworth – See attached report
- h. Peace Library System – New routes for the van delivery; 2024 is a plan of service year, hoping to have one session per County; System Directors meeting held in GP recently; May 31<sup>st</sup> public library meeting and RLC together; another Stronger Together in the fall; new TAL director; TRAC 2024 budget passed; warning that Insignia Systems has been phoning libraries to offer a new ILS, which is inferior to Polaris
- i. Wembley – working with a variety of community groups and organizations in Wembley; had a renovation of the library space within the school; over 200 people attended the grand re-opening with storytimes and earth day themes; partnered on street performers festival; foam machine available for community groups and helps to create community; sour dough program for adults, macrame, take and make vases; youth crochet club, DND groups, button making; micro greens; upcoming charcuterie, arm-knitting, crochet, etc.; the board did a team-building experience with the Currie museum rafting; animals in the library

9. Roundtable - NA

10. Meeting adjourned at 14:29.

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Board Chair

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Date