



**Guelph Public Library Special Board Meeting
Minutes
Monday July 29, 2019
Main Branch Programming Room**

Members: Lisa Maslove (Chair), Scott Butler (Vice-Chair), Vivian Webb(Vice-Chair) Aaron Blair, Randalin Ellery, James Gordon, Getu Hailu, Anne MacKay, Danny Williamson

Staff: Steven Kraft (CEO), Dan Atkins (Director of Operations), Nancy Clarke (Director of Customer Service)

Regrets: Gertrude Robinson, Katie Saunders, Linda Cozzarin (Staff) Helen Loftin (Business Development & Enterprise, City of Guelph), Antti Vilkkko (Facilities management, City of Guelph)

Guests: Will McTaggart (DGBA), Doug Minett (DGBA)

1. **Call to Order:** L. Maslove called meeting to order @ 5:30 pm
➤ First Nations Acknowledgement.

2. **Approval of agenda:**

04:19	Moved:	A. MacKay	Seconded:	A. Blair
	To accept the agenda as presented.		CARRIED	

3. **Declaration of Pecuniary Interest:** None

4. **Presentation & Reports:**

- 1) Helen Loftin, Antti Vilkkko Baker District Update and Next Steps

L.Maslove outlined recent developments regarding planning for the new Central Library after H Loftin sent regrets.

This meeting originally called to approve preliminary design for new Library by Diamond Schmitt ahead of presentation to Council but there have been many developments in recent weeks.

City released information about costing of the new Library and indicated that Library would be asked to make cuts to the plans as a cost saving measure. Council then deferred discussion of this topic to a later date.

- S Stewart named Guelph's new CAO – he has “built” 4 libraries in previously held positions, including one multi-tenant facility.
 - Many conversations with City staff recently – key takeaways:
 - There is a desire to “re-set”...
- A) Re: Steering Committee: its Terms of Reference to be ready soon. Two Councillors appointed: J. Hoffland & M. MacKinnon. There will also be a “Project team”: D. Atkins to participate.
- B) Invizij: City feels their work is complete. L. Maslove wants list of deliverables. Cost estimates were derived from Hanscomb. GPL would want any changes to Library plan examined by peer review. L. Maslove: no one wants repeat of past few weeks; project has been under-managed to date; Project Team needs Terms of Reference; What is GPL's role Partner or Stakeholder?
 J Gordon: Library needs to be consistent in role as partner; what happens in the Library is Library's decision alone. The only options for City are funding models.
 L. Maslove: H. Loftin has sent the functional plan to Diamond Schmitt for costing.
 S. Butler: What can City do procedurally? Do they have to re-open a motion? Does being a stakeholder gives GPL more options to take other actions?

2) Presentation by DGBA - Downtown Guelph Business Association
 GPL as Partner in Baker District Economic Development

D. Minett treasurer of DGBA and Chair of DAC (Downtown Advisory Committee) and W. McTaggart of Richardson GMP made presentation:

Misleading information from City Staff's first financial plan relating to the Baker District is now in the public domain. Had drafted a news release to respond but are holding back as City “re-sets”
 DGBA is supportive of new Library in the economic & community aspects of Baker Street Development - how to get that back as the main focus for project? This project more complicated than Tier 1 which only has one customer. A Library and two condos is a fail in terms of tax Density. Need to bring in other partners like College who might cross use GPL's multi-purpose room. GPL needs to change its language: “synergies”; need to find other sources of funding such as other levels of Govt. and business interests. Anything that has kids as a key focus brings interest. Discussion followed. Some themes: Advocate publicly to council in a very positive way and also behind the scenes. Library needs to have more

oversight. Be involved in decision making from the get-go not responding to Staff Reports after the fact.

GPL needs to be proactive and identify partners for synergies.

DGBA as Economic Development engine because City "doesn't have one."

How will we pay for the Library and how will synergies bring cost savings?

GPL needs to approach Federal MP L. Longfield for support.

3) GPL Advocacy Options Central Library Building Committee

See below

4) Staff Report: GPL Response to Cost Estimates

Cost estimate was developed by Hanscomb, as sub-contracted by Invizij. Discussion followed.

What can Steering Committee without a Terms of Reference?

Should GPL have a response to the costing ready in case of questions?

Need to stand firm on Library build and re-jig advocacy plan to include other players to help move the project forward.

Moved:	S. Butler	Seconded:	A. MacKay
To establish a GPL Board sub-committee to promote the development of a new Central Library and to partner with other stakeholders in the Baker District Redevelopment Project to maximize synergies in moving the project forward.			
CARRIED			

Volunteers for this committee to be named the Central Library Building Committee are: D. Williamson; S. Butler; V. Webb; R. Ellery.

05:19	Moved:	A. MacKay	Seconded:	A. Blair
	To extend the meeting past 7:30 pm.		CARRIED	

Next Meeting: Tuesday September 17, 2019 @ 5:30 pm

A. Adjournment:

06:19	Moved:	D. Williamson	Seconded:	
That the GPL Board Special Meeting of July 29, 2019 be adjourned. CARRIED				

Meeting adjourned at: 7:50 pm

Library Board Chair	Date

Library CEO (Board Secretary)	Date