Midland Public Library

Board Meeting
Thursday, September 17, 2026
at 6:00 pm

Present	I. Ayres, B. Desroches (via Zoom), D. Dickinson, B. Kettle, C. MacDonald, V. Patel, K. Weishar
Regrets	None
Staff	T. Hayes, K. Burrell

1. **Call to Order**
   Meeting called to order at 5:57 pm by Board Chair K. Weishar

2. **Declaration of Pecuniary Interests**
   D. Dickinson will recuse himself from the FR – 02 policy approval due to a conflict of interest

3. **Approval of the Agenda**
   Approval of the September 17, 2026 Board Meeting Agenda
   Moved By: I. Ayres
   Seconded by: B. Kettle
   Carried

4. **Approval of June 18, 2026 Board Meeting Minutes**
   Moved by: D. Dickinson
   Seconded by: I. Ayres
   Carried

5. **CEO Report and Security Update**

- CEO T. Hayes provided an update to the Board which was circulated prior to the meeting.
- Security incidents in the library are still trending down. Our regular security guard resigned and Commissionaires is looking into a replacement.
- HVAC issues started at the beginning of the summer, continued throughout and are still ongoing.
- The Discover Local program was rolled out and launched in July.
- We will be hosting an All-Candidates Meeting on October 8th for the upcoming municipal election. We currently have 18 out of 20 candidates attending. Board Members are encouraged to volunteer that evening.
- An insurance claim from 2024 has been settled and the deductible will have to be paid this year.
- MPL is participating in Simcoe Reads again this year.

- T. Hayes, A. Clennett and K. Burrell visited several libraries over the summer to look at their children's departments, what works, what doesn't.
- T. Hayes and F. Shergold went to Huntsville Public Library to look at their Community Impact Lab which was created by Georgian College. This is a great resource for the community but quite expensive.
- T. Hayes has been asked by the Town of Midland to take part in the economic development planning on behalf of MPL.

6. New Business

- None

7. Stats

- Overall stats are looking good and the way they are trending.
- T. Hayes met with Hoopla regarding e-resources and the cost was too high. The cost of Hoopla would be 3x our budget for e-resources and physical books.
- Looking at another e-resource supplier that looks good. Has world languages which is great.

8. Report of Board Committees

- **Assessment and Development**

Motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Corporation of the Town of Midland and the Midland Public Library Board
Moved by: V. Patel
Seconded by: C. MacDonald
Carried

Motion to approve the 2026 – 2031 Midland Public Library Strategic Plan
Moved by: I. Ayres
Seconded by: D. Dickinson
Carried

- Will be sending out a skills assessment and board interview questions next month

- **Finance**

- Spending has been put on hold other than collections and staff mileage due to HVAC issues which will likely be putting us over budget this year.
- The gas utility bill has been unusually high so the Town of Midland has offered to do an analysis for the last 3 years.
- The Town of Midland will be doing a building assessment which has been approved by Council.
- County of Simcoe will be refunding us for the cost of the phone system which should be around $7k.

- **Policy**
  The following policy was circulated prior to the meeting:

- FR – 02 - Administration

  Motion to approve the changes to policy FR – 02 - Administration
  Moved by: B. Kettle
  Seconded by: I. Ayres
  Carried

- **Fundraising**
- The Read-a-Thon will be happening again next March.
- A patron has offered to fundraise for a silent auction for MPL.
- The children's department move has been postponed to November 2027.
- MPL looked into a grant from United Way Simcoe Muskoka but it focuses more on food insecurity.

9. **Adjournment**
   Motion to adjourn the Midland Public Library Board meeting
   Moved by: D. Dickinson
   Meeting Adjourned at 6:42 pm

Signed:

K. Weishar, Chair

T. Hayes, CEO

Date: Oct. 15, 2026