

Ottawa Public Library Board Meeting

Minutes 23

Tuesday, 31 January 2017

5:00 p.m.

Andrew S. Haydon, Ottawa City Hall, 110 Laurier Avenue West

Notes: 1. *Underlining indicates a new or amended recommendation approved by the Board.*

Present: Chair: Tim Tierney
Vice-Chair: André Bergeron
Trustees: Steven Begg, Kathy Fisher, Allan Higdon,
Catherine McKenney, Scott Moffatt, Pamela Sweet,
Marianne Wilkinson

DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No Declarations of Interest were filed.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Minutes 22 - Tuesday, 6 December 2016

CHAIR'S VERBAL UPDATE

There was no update provided.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

There was no update provided.

Chair Tierney opened by stating that Mayor Watson has been instrumental in putting the Central Library Development Project back on the city's agenda, after being dormant for many years. The Chair then asked the Board if the Mayor could sit at the meeting table. The Board had no objections.

REPORT

1. CENTRAL LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT PROJECT: OTTAWA PUBLIC LIBRARY-LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES CANADA JOINT PROJECT

OPLB-2017-0101

Chair Tierney stated that the Board will consider recommendations which require Council consent and approval on 8 February 2017. He noted that if the Board was unable to approve the report in the time allotted, staff have secured Wednesday, 1 February 2017 at 5:00 pm for a continuation of this evening's meeting.

Before turning to Monique Désormeaux, Deputy CEO, of the Ottawa Public Library (OPL), for a presentation Chair Tierney advised that Danielle McDonald, CEO has been off work recovering from an injury. He wished her well and hoped to see her back at the Board table soon.

Chair Tierney advised that during the Deputy CEO's presentation, the Board will hear from John Smit, Manager of Planning Policy, and Acting Director of Economic Development, who will provide the City's planning context, as requested by some members of the Board to inform decision-making. In addition, Nik Nanos, from Nanos Research will present the results of the survey undertaken to determine public opinion on the recommendations in a scientific fashion.

Ms. Désormeaux, Deputy CEO provided an overview of the Central Library Development Project: Ottawa Public Library-Library and Archives Canada Joint Project. *(Held on file with the Chief Executive Officer)*

Key highlights of the presentation included:

- Overview of services and spaces of OPL;
- Background / history of the decisions to-date;

- Overview of today's libraries, and examples of libraries from around the world that are transforming societies and cities;
- The vision for the Ottawa Central Library joint facility with Library and Archives Canada (LAC);
- Mr. Smit provided an overview of the city's urban design plans and how the Ottawa Central Library can help achieve that vision;
- Overview of the key recommendations of the report; and,
- Mr. Nanos provided the results of the public survey that showed city-wide support for the potential partnership with Library and Archives Canada, the spaces and uses of the joint facility, and the recommended site.

Chair Tierney thanked Ms. Désormeaux, Mr. Smit, and Mr. Nanos. He said there was a lot of information in the 600 pages of the Board report and the presentation. He noted that when Halifax Regional Municipality was considering a location for its new Central Library, the eventual site was considered an important "hinge" connecting the then downtown area to the Spring Garden Road area. Much like the OPL staff recommendations, Halifax was aiming to balance land use objectives with the goal of creating a liveable, vibrant, and attractive urban area. Chair Tierney said that the Board has seen the most robust site selection process for a public library; a process that involved experts, and was overseen by a fairness commissioner. He mentioned that 12 sites were evaluated against criteria and weightings that were developed with public input. He reiterated that Confederation Park was not one of those sites. Chair Tierney said more than 5,000 voices were shared in the process, and that OPL has spent \$500,000 on public consultation and research since 2012. He pointed out that to ensure the integrity of the process the Board approved the site evaluation criteria and weightings prior to being informed of the sites. From the beginning, it was the Board's role to recommend the best possible site to Council for approval. Chair Tierney said while concerns have been raised with respect to accessibility to the site, Mr. Smit advised that the City is undertaking a complete redesign of the area as part of the transition to Light Rail Transit, and that Mr. Nanos reported that there is overall public support for the recommendations.

The Board then heard from the following delegations:

Matthew Don Trapp, President, The International, Political and Policy Studies Student Association (IPPSSA), spoke in favour of the proposed location as students will benefit greatly, noting that they all have access to a U-Pass. He is excited for the project to move ahead and supports the Ottawa Public Library (OPL) and Library and Archives Canada (LAC) partnership.

Chantal Cloutier, Friends of the Ottawa Public Library Association (FOPLA)*, shared thoughts about the progress to-date, and how FOPLA intends to support the project during the course of the year. She provided a breakdown of funds raised for OPL and encouraged the Board to support the staff recommendations. FOPLA is excited by the innovative partnership decision with LAC, as customers will be the biggest winners. Ms. Cloutier raised some concerns with respect to parking, saying it is a necessary service, however, it should not be seen as a revenue opportunity.

Chair Tierney thanked Ms. Cloutier for FOPLA's continued hard work.

Maria Ricci, resident of Nepean, said the Board has reached a recommended site by democratic means and must approve it in the best interest of all residents and not just one group. She provided statements in support of the proposed location, such as the new library will remain in the downtown perimeter; it will be close to light rail transit; it will have parking; it will have greenspace, natural light, and view of the river; and it will add to the redevelopment of LeBreton Flats. For taxpayers, the recommended site is the least costly of options, and the facility will incorporate a coffee shop that will support the library without competing with downtown businesses.

Linda Standing, retired OPL Manager for more than three years, and regular library customer of the Beaverbrook Branch, was supportive of the recommended site for the joint facility. She expressed fatigue at hearing negative input from media as the primary function of a central library is to serve the city as a whole. She said the new facility will need to be functional, but should have flexibility to adapt as the city will change. Ms. Standing said having a branch for the catchment area will be hard to accept and identified reasons why. She concluded by saying it would be a shame if the Board were not to proceed as Site 8 is the best possible option.

In response to Trustee Wilkinson regarding the importance of public input into

design, Ms. Standing advised it is absolutely critical, given her experience with previous library builds.

Trustee Sweet asked Ms. Standing to comment on accessibility. Ms. Standing noted that she uses a cane, and said the site has minor accessibility issues and does not think that it will be an issue, given planned city upgrades.

In response to Trustee McKenney's question on how the delegation gets to her branch, Ms. Standing advised that she drives.

Joan Gullen*, retired social worker addressed her concerns with the LeBreton Flats proposed site. She said there is a compelling case to see a central library in Confederation Park and she encouraged the Board to consider that site as it would be central and accessible. Ms. Gullen asked the Board to not let a golden opportunity slip away as it may regret it in the future.

Trustee Fisher asked Ms. Gullen to speak to walkability and how she gets to her branch. The delegation said she lives in the suburbs, she uses a walker, and needs assistance to access the library.

Councillor Keith Egli, Ward 9 Knoxdale-Merivale, and former OPL Board member, spoke in favour of the proposed site. He said the Board and staff have been very diligent in identifying the best site possible for all residents of Ottawa. Mr. Egli mentioned the process has been exhaustive and won't satisfy all residents, but has been fair and reasonable in approach, and in reaching the recommendations proposed. He was supportive of enhancing City Hall with a smaller library branch. Mr. Egli encouraged the Board to continue intensive ongoing consultations throughout the process. He said it's time to start a new chapter and get the library built.

Tony Griffiths retired architect and long time resident of Centertown*, said libraries are among the most important civic buildings and believed that they should be located on central sites of great civic importance. Mr. Griffiths mentioned that recommending Site 8 to City Council would be categorically wrong. He provided three possible alternative central sites and illustrated

each with coloured plans. (*Held on file with the CEO*). Mr. Griffiths said the design should be the result of an international competition. He stated that the site at 557 Wellington is far too remote from the city's traditional core. The Central Library deserves a far more central site bound by Wellington Street, the Canal, Somerset Street, and Bronson Avenue.

Renée Ladouceur-Beauchamp, Executive Director, Eastern Ottawa Resource Centre (EORC) spoke in favour of the recommended site and to the importance of the proximity to light rail. She made parallels between the Central Library process with the EORC's recent relocation to the Gloucester Center near light rail transit. She said a new site can help connect people from all areas of the city, and light rail transit will significantly change movement through the city.

In response to a question from Trustee McKenney on affordability concerns for residents who cannot pay for light rail transit, Ms. Ladouceur-Beauchamp stated that EORC provides free passes to facilitate residents who need the service. She said it will be key to continue to find ways to assist residents in accessing the library regardless of their ability to pay.

Edward Pollitt, retired planner and a resident from Kanata, expressed concerns regarding the City's preferred site saying it is not in the heart of core and is difficult to access. He provided alternate options (Confederation Park, Major's Hill Park) stating there is significant development potential that have been overlooked.

Jevone Nicholas, Bookmark the Core* said the recommendation for a LeBreton Flats site for Ottawa's new Central Library is based on viewing the library as a driver for private-sector development, rather than seeing it as a public institution to meet the needs of city residents. Mr. Nicholas provided in detail, statements that Site 6 deserved higher ranking than it received based on accessibility factors alone. He raised concerns with bias in the assessment of the recommended Site 8, as well as Site 9 in comparison to Site 6. Mr. Nicholas said there was support for alternate sites in the downtown core at the councillor-led public meeting on January 18, 2017. He urged the Board not to rush the decision and to take the time to properly evaluate the prospective sites and get the \$100M decision right.

Mike Pyndus* questioned the 132,000 square feet footprint for the new Central Library. He opined that OPL did not prepare an appropriate space analysis and instead submitted unsolicited programming wish lists. He provided information regarding site options, specifically site versus size, stating it would be less costly to reduce the size of the library, and that other sites would have been eligible. Mr. Pyndus expressed confusion with the desire to sell off tangible assets (the current facility) as a revenue stream, stating the revenue can be used for something other than a library.

Mariam Zohouri did not support the recommendations and spoke on the site selection and the decision-making process to-date. She commented on OPL staff not being in attendance at the councillor-led session on January 18, 2017 and asked the Board to delay their decision. Ms. Zohouri pointed out that many people walk to the library and many will not be able to afford a transit pass. She indicated that the Board cannot isolate the most vulnerable people in the city, and urged the Board to reconsider the location because of accessibility issues. She said people can disagree respectfully with what was proposed.

Trustee Wilkinson indicated she had planned to attend the councillor-led session but as she had another event was unable to, and further commented that there are often valid reasons for why staff are not in attendance.

Chair Tierney thanked the delegation for her comments and urged her to continue to attend future meetings.

Deirdre Foucauld addressed her concerns regarding the preferred site and played a video by Bookmark the Core. (*Held on file with the Chief Executive Officer*)

Peter Thorne, resident of Centretown, disagreed with the OPL-LAC partnership. He recognized the efforts of Councillor McKenney of organizing the only public meeting for consultation and expressed concern that staff were not in attendance. Mr. Thorne expressed his views on accessibility and financial aspects of the proposed site. He said Centretown will be losing a branch and would like another site proposed.

Joan Spice, Centretown Citizens Community Association, spoke in opposition of the proposed site. She believed that there are compelling public policy reasons for locating the new Central Library in Centretown, such as vulnerable and disadvantaged persons, population and density figures, and accessibility. She quoted an article in the Globe and Mail from December. Ms. Spice said her principal objective is that the new Central Library should be located in Centretown, supporting Site 6. She concluded her presentation by providing numbers at a glance.

Joyce Crago, a lawyer, library customer, and resident near Albert and Bronson, indicated LeBreton Flats is the wrong site. She respects the work that has been done to-date, and voiced concerns regarding accessibility and problems with walking down the steep hill, to the disadvantage this will cause for low-income people, and to a Central Library that should go where people are, and not to where people should be in the future.

Bonnie Mabee, a resident who lives on eastern edge of Centretown, expressed concerns about the location for the new Central Library. She said the core is served well with respect to transit buses. Ms. Mabee discussed her concerns with the escarpment indicating preference for a location that is less steep. She expressed worry that LAC was only bringing the genealogy collection to the shared space and that was not good enough for students. She urged the Board to have the location closer to the core or consider a satellite branch at City Hall. Ms. Mabee asked about the Technical High School opportunity as she believed it would be offered for sale when decommissioned.

Chair Tierney said staff will address the genealogy collection and Technical High School subjects during the question period.

Stephen Thirlwall, a Centretown resident did not support the location saying it is a 15-to 20-minute walk from where he lives to Site 8 and the hill is not safe. He stated that approximately 75% of people in Centretown will be denied access to the library and will be losing their hub. Mr. Thirlwall asked why the library is being taken away and being put in a peripheral area.

Peggy Coupland, a Centretown resident expressed concerns with the proposed location, and indicated she did not support it for accessibility reasons. She preferred Site 6 as it is flat, near bus service, and future light rail transit.

Jared Denison said the site is not accessible for people with disabilities. He felt that consultation was not done for everyone; however, the meeting held on January 18, 2017 was well received. Mr. Denison added that a library is needed between Bronson and Elgin, and it should stay where there are people, not where people will be in the future.

John Westeinde thanked OPL for the work accomplished thus far. He said the common denominator today is accessibility. He supported the discussion of Confederation Park but said the library has no chance of being located there. Mr. Westeinde mentioned that if it is to go at LeBreton Flats, the library would not be completed for five years. He provided his views on walkability to Site 8, and to the planning period of development. He asked why Site 9 would be \$9M more, indicating that the difference would be lower if the potential resale value was included.

*[*Individuals / groups marked with an asterisk above either provided comments in writing or by email; all submissions are held on file with the CEO.]*

In addition to that provided by the individuals marked with an asterisk above, written correspondence was also submitted by the following, as noted:

- Mr. Tom Whillans, President, Centretown Citizens Community Association* (letter to the Mayor and OPL Board dated 12 December 2016 in opposition to the future Central Library being located outside of Centretown).
- Stig Harvor and Anthony Griffiths* (correspondence to Councillor Catherine McKenney and to the OPL Board dated 2 January 2017 from concerned architects with respect to a letter to the editor of the Ottawa Citizen published 31 December 2016, which reads: "Why the library got it right with its new location").
- Yves Potvin* (correspondence to Councillor Moffatt dated 20 January 2017 regarding the City's priorities and size of a new Central Library, and correspondence to members of Council dated 19 January 2017 reiterating

his concerns with the proposed size of the new Central Library).

- Marilyn Hart* (correspondence to the Mayor and to the OPL Board dated 19 January 2017 with respect to her personal review of Councillor McKenney's councillor-led meeting held in January and opposing the proposed site).
- Alexander Killby* (correspondence to Councillor McKenney and to the OPL Board dated 23 January 2017 in opposition to the architectural praise of the proposed main library site).
- Ms. Rosemary Kralik* (correspondence dated 23 January 2017 in support of the proposed site for the new Central library, adding that the location gives architectural freedom to incorporate features not possible in higher density areas and becomes a destination, a pivotal centre in the community close to the river. She added that the site is large enough to allow a good balance of density and visual relief without compromising existing parks).
- Pat Zakaib* (correspondence dated 30 January 2017 in support of the proposed site for the new Central library, adding his opposition to the library in Confederation Park).
- Christian Nicholson* (correspondence dated 30 January 2017 regarding concerns with the pending decision that the new library will be at LeBreton Flats when there are several options within blocks of the current location).
- Alexandre Laquerre* (correspondence dated 30 January 2017 voicing strong support for the central library to stay in Centretown).
- Katrina Barclay* (correspondence dated 30 January 2017 in support of the proposed plan for the new facility at 557 Wellington Street).
- Jenna Sudds* (correspondence dated 30 January 2017 in support of the location of 557 Wellington Street for the new Central Library).
- Stig Harvor* (correspondence dated 30 January 2017 in opposition to the proposed site)
- Sinjin Dixon-Warren* (correspondence dated 31 January 2017 expressed support for the location in LeBreton Flats).
- Carl Frizell* (correspondence dated 31 January 2017 in support of the responsible and economical choice of the proposed central location at 557 Wellington Street).
- Erin Junker* (correspondence dated 31 January 2017 in support of the location on Wellington Street, and the value and potential it has for the City)
- Michèle Lanoue* (correspondence dated 31 January 2017 encouraging the Board to consider the Tom Brown Arena location).

- Alison De Linden, Executive Coordinator, Centretown Community Health Centre (correspondence dated 31 January 2017 in opposition to the proposed site and concerned about the possibility of the Central Library moving away from the downtown core).
- Michael Powell, President, Dalhousie Community Association (correspondence dated 31 January 2017 in support of proposed location, recognition of the future potential; however, raising concerns of reduction in level of service for those who live and work in Centretown).

In addition to correspondence listed above, 99 pieces of written correspondence were submitted through the Central Library Development Project email address.

The Board, having reached the three-hour scheduled time for the meeting, moved the following motion at 7:58 p.m. :

MOTION OPL 20170131/1

Moved by Trustee Wilkinson:

Whereas pursuant to Section 35(4) of the Ottawa Public Library Board's Procedure By-law that upon the expiration of three hours after the scheduled time for the commencement of a meeting, the Chair shall put the following motion without debate, amendment or any procedural motion: "Shall this meeting be continued for a further hour?"

CARRIED

Prior to questions from the Board being put to staff, Chair Tierney reminded the Board that the information presented by staff includes and considers public input. He also reminded the Board of their role to accept fiduciary responsibility including making decisions in keeping with the best interests of the OPL and to act as a bridge between the library, the community, and City Council.

Chair Tierney named the staff and consultants in attendance to respond to questions:

- Elaine Condos, Division Manager, Central Library Development Project;
- John Smit, Acting Director, Economic Development, and Manager

Planning Policy;

- Gordon MacNair, Director, Corporate Real Estate Office;
- Bing Bing Wang, Deloitte – Chair of the Site Evaluation Committee, including experts from the Site Evaluation Committee, members David Leinster and James Parakh;
- Peter Woods, Fairness Commissioner;
- Bronwen Heins, Tiree Facility Solutions;
- Nik Nanos, Nanos Research Group;
- Isabelle Jasmin, Deputy City Treasurer
- David White, Deputy City Solicitor;
- Staff from the City's Infrastructure Services team, Parking, Supply / Procurement branch; and,
- Representatives from Library and Archives Canada.

In response to a question from Trustee Wilkinson on how design will be addressed and having sufficient time to consult the public on design, Ms. Condos advised that details of the public consultation on design is premature, however, staff will continue to ensure a robust consultation process.

Trustee Wilkinson cautioned staff to have the design person lead the public consultation and include that in the Request for Qualifications (RFQ) and Request for Proposals (RFP) so firms know what expectations are. Ms. Condos agreed that the public consultation process will be outlined in the RFQ/RFP.

Trustee Fisher posed a question on connectivity between LeBreton and the core, as raised by members of the public, and how that connectivity would look in the future. Mr. Smit said although there is no detailed plan, it is a city priority to do a complete rework of the escarpment and explained in detail several ways that could be achieved.

In response to a question from Trustee Sweet on how costs were calculated to derive the cheapest site, Mr. MacNair pointed out that looking for the best site for the library was Stage 1 of the evaluation process. Stage 2 had a number of factors including market value consideration. He explained each of the three site estimates.

Trustee Sweet asked staff to comment on the accessibility factor as per delegations' concerns. Marco Manconi, Manager, Design and Construction,

Infrastructure Services reported that staff asked accessibility consultant Betty Dion (BDEL) and a colleague who uses a wheelchair, to visit the site. He indicated that while there were challenges, she found the site to be accessible and looked forward to having it made even more accessible.

Trustee McKenney thanked staff for the work that has gone into the project. She said she was in the inenviable position being the Ward Councillor for both areas: Centretown and Dalhousie. She thanked the residents for submitting their views in opposition to, or in support of, via email, and for attending the public open house that she held with fellow councillors. With respect to 557 Wellington, she asked staff how the location will be serving the vulnerable population. Ms. Condos advised that staff will be addressing the vulnerable population the same as they serve them today for every branch in the city: inclusively as everyone is welcome. She added that in the new facility there will be a new component called Community Services to assist people facing barriers to library services due to various disabilities, as well as developing additional expertise serving those communities.

In response to a question from Trustee McKenney regarding the difference in scores between Site 6 and Site 8 for proximity to transit, Ms. Wang stated that the difference in scoring was related to the integration with light rail transit.

Trustee McKenney asked a similar question with respect to accessibility by walking. Ms. Wang mentioned that Site 8 is surrounded by major roads and there are plans to upgrade access to the site. Mr. Smit added that the scoring considered a combination of what exists today and what will be there in the future. He said Site 8 has an open space system corridor, fully comprehensive and integrated below an escarpment with an aqueduct corridor for multi-use. He indicated that opportunity is available for Site 8 that is not available surrounding Site 6 because of the road system.

Further to a question from Trustee McKenney regarding environmental encumbrances for Sites 6, 8, and 9, Mr. MacNair advised that the City is aware of the environmental issues. His team investigated all three sites and presented the data to the evaluation committee for information. In response to whether all three sites had the same level of environmental encumbrances, Mr. MacNair responded yes.

Trustee McKenney asked a question about cost for Site 6, Mr. MacNair said it is a land assembly that has three properties involved. He explained that based on public information, the market value for all three properties was more than \$20M. .

In response to a question from Trustee Begg regarding comments made by the public on demographics of Site 8, Mr. Smit noted that the City undertook an assessment of the population and jobs per site by radii of 400, 800, and 1,200 meters. The development in the emerging west has potential population of 17,000, noting that it is the only area of downtown facing growth.

Trustee Begg asked what additional costs would there be with a multi-storey library. Ms. Condos advised there is greater operating and staffing costs.

In response to Trustee Begg's question with respect to next steps if there is no agreement with LAC, Ms. Condos said if a relationship agreement is not reached with LAC, OPL will return to the Board with recommendations for a stand-alone facility, noting that all planning studies have been completed.

Trustee Fisher asked whether the reference to 4,500 to 4,800 visitors is an anticipated daily visitor count or capacity number. Ms. Condos said it is a daily visitor metric, and conservative in nature.

In response to a question posed by Trustee Fisher whether a Terms of Reference will be defined in the agreement with LAC, Ms. Heins responded in the affirmative.

Trustee Fisher posed a question with respect to funding strategies and the differences in naming rights for OPL/City and LAC. Ms. Condos advised that in the planning phase there is a fund-raising framework identified for development. Serge Corbeil, LAC stated that the federal government has a naming convention for buildings but this did not extend to naming of rooms.

Vice-Chair Bergeron mentioned that access to transit is a common theme and asked whether 557 Wellington would allow for an enclosed tunnel to the LRT. Mr. Smit responded that it is too early to comment, however there will be opportunity to consider it, and this will be on the City's radar to capitalize on; however it is premature to suggest commitment at this time.

In response to a question from Vice-Chair Bergeron regarding the degree of

consultation with the public for redesigning an intersection, Mr. Smit said he is not a road expert, however full road reconstruction has specific requirements, standards, modifications, and development initiatives that seek public consultation for additional insight. Mr. Manconi confirmed that public consultation is conducted and will be for this project.

Vice-Chair Bergeron spoke further to accessibility of the site and referenced the escarpment map, asking whether changes will only be made at the intersection. Mr. Smit said the site presents many opportunities but said it was premature in the discussion at this point.

With respect to the population and demographics mentioned earlier, Vice-Chair Bergeron asked if it was fair to say that people living west of Kent Street are closer to the proposed site. Mr. Smit said from Metcalfe Street, it is 1,200 meters (15 minute walk), and from Kent it was approximately a five minute walk. He then replied in the affirmative for the distance being fairly similar to the Metcalfe location.

Vice-Chair Bergeron cautioned staff to be mindful of public delegations here today and in April, specifically of the vulnerable population and asked what measures staff see to address this. Ms. Condos stated that in addition to points made earlier, staff will develop a transition plan over the next five years and are working with the local population to ensure that nobody is left out.

Chair Tierney asked staff to comment on the LAC genealogy component for the library. Ms. Condos began by saying that the intention is that LAC would bring its public services functions, including research, orientation centre, genealogy, 50,000 volumes of items from its current location at 395 Wellington Street, and the facility would also feature a joint exhibition gallery. Mr. Corbeil confirmed those facts adding that intention is to move the public services from 395 Wellington to 557 Wellington.

Chair Tierney then asked staff to comment on a query from a member of the public regarding the scoring for the Technical High School (Site 7 in the Candidate Site Inventory). Ms. Wang said in the evaluation for the joint facility, the site ranked 7th out of 7 sites considered. Rationale for the rating included limited contextual suitability as the site is primarily located in a residential area, the nature of facilities in the area in terms of opportunity for

development, and significant encumbrances (e.g. environmental).

Trustee Wilkinson asked if the design and site plan can be done as one package. Mr. Smit said that is a fair comment and staff could look at that and collectively move forward.

Trustee Fisher inquired about the valuation of 557 Wellington, asking if it was based on the entire parcel of land (3.56 acres), or the portion required for the joint facility. Mr. MacNair responded that the valuation of \$9M represents only the 2.22 acres required.

Chair Tierney thanked staff for their expertise in responding to all the questions.

The Board having reached the additional hour scheduled time for the meeting, moved the following motion at 8:57 p.m.:

MOTION OPL 20170131/2

Moved by Vice-Chair Bergeron:

Whereas pursuant to Section 35(4) of the Ottawa Public Library Board's Procedure By-law that upon the expiration of three hours after the scheduled time for the commencement of a meeting, the Chair shall put the following motion without debate, amendment or any procedural motion: "Shall this meeting be continued for a further hour?"

CARRIED

Chair Tierney asked the Board to provide their final remarks:

Trustee Sweet began by thanking staff for working on the project for many years. As a Planner, she is very interested in the future of the community and said the site may not be perfect but in the future, we can say we got it right. She mentioned that she had the opportunity to walk all of the sites and was impressed with Site 8: a beautiful, lovely location, with the Fleet Street pumping station, the wonderful view from the escarpment, and stated that it will have local and national interest. Trustee Sweet said the size for the location was determined in 2015 based on the program framework, and that the public has been engaged in many ways, and the process has been fair.

She reiterated that this was the best site.

Trustee Higdon said the process has been thorough with several public meetings, public engagement, and online surveys – and compared it to Halifax which did not have any consultation on the site decision. He said the staff work has been amazing. He expressed confidence in the new site as it has potential to support an iconic building. He indicated excitement at moving forward as this has been a long time coming. Trustee Higdon noted that the Board received all the information to make a decision, and stated he will be supporting the recommendations.

Trustee Begg echoed the previous Trustees' comments about a very comprehensive process. He indicated that while he was not sold initially on Site 8 and that he recognized the challenges, he was pleased to hear the actions that will occur for accessibility. He said the Vancouver Central Library was wonderful for him as a kid. He stated that when it was built, there was no infrastructure around it, on the edge of downtown, and it now is a vibrant part of eastern downtown. He said the cost of building was an important factor, and indicated he is keen to see the project go ahead as current facility is challenging and not accessible.

Trustee Fisher thanked staff for the incredible work that went into this report. She expressed appreciation for all the public feedback received, indicating that she followed Twitter and appreciated the different perspectives. She said the Board has been given significant information and it is their role to look at the entire network to make sure the right decision is made. She expressed pride in being part of the process and thinks the joint facility will provide customers with a wonderful experience.

Trustee Wilkinson said a new central library has been talked about since 2006 when she joined the Board and libraries have changed a lot, for example, less space is needed because of digital technology. She stated that previous Boards recognized that putting money into the current facility would be wasteful. She expressed appreciation for all the hard work by staff and the due diligence of the process. She said some people will be disappointed in the site choice but their feedback assisted with the process, and she hopes that the public will continue to be engaged. She thanked those who were at the meeting for providing their comments and working together. Trustee Wilkinson assured the public that she has walked to the

site and understands the issues, and will keep a close eye on accessibility of the site in the future, as planning will be for the entire area and not just the site.

Trustee McKenney said she has struggled with this decision. She stated LeBreton is a great neighbourhood, but an area less travelled. She said she cycles year-round but has been doing a lot of walking since her winter bike was stolen. She said the central area is unique in walkability; 500 meters is a lot even though on a map does it not look like much. She said moving the library will be leaving people behind, people who cannot walk or cannot afford transit. She stated that Centretown is losing its local library. Trustee McKenney stated a better site could be picked as the recommended one is not the best site, and said she has to vote with her conscience and will not be supporting the recommendations.

Chair Tierney thanked the Trustees and in recognition of concerns heard, asked staff to explore some options for service.

Direction to Staff:

That staff explore options for alternate services delivery in Centretown as part of the next Facilities Growth and Investment Study.

Prior to the vote being taken, Chair Tierney said the Mayor wished to provide a few comments.

Mayor Watson thanked the public for attending the meeting and the Board for allowing him join them at the table. He said the Board will be voting on a project that will greatly add to Ottawa's ongoing transformation. The Mayor stated that the current push for a new facility was started in 2015. He thanked the Trustees for their desire to see an iconic public facility for the people of Ottawa. He stated that the recommendations came as a result of the most comprehensive, thorough, and evidence-based process ever undertaken for a public library in Canada. He was pleased to see a scientific, representative poll that showed overwhelming city-wide support, and added that the top site came out of a rigorous process to find the best possible location. He said the library will be a new neighbour of the Good Companions, the Saint Vincent Hospital, and hundreds of Ottawa Community Housing residents. He said the site is adjacent to the Pimisi Light Rail station and will save tax payers millions of dollars. He spoke of the potential

partnership with LAC, which will create a landmark facility unlike any other in the world, speaking to the value in working with LAC. He said there is an opportunity to be bold and to shape the identity of the City. He commented that the Central Library will be linked to 100,000 post-secondary students by light rail, creating a corridor of learning and creativity with the Innovation Centre. The Mayor thanked Board Chair Tierney, OPL CEO Danielle McDonald, as well as key staff members, Monique Désormeaux, Elaine Condos, and Anna Basile for their leadership and commitment to the idea of what modern public libraries should be. He urged all Board members to be forward-looking.

There being no further discussion, the Board received recommendation 1 and approved recommendation 2 of the Central Library Development Project: Ottawa Public Library-Library and Archives Canada Joint Project as presented:

MOTION OPL 20170131/3

- 1. That the Ottawa Public Library Board receive the Ottawa Public Library (OPL)-Library and Archives Canada (LAC) Joint Project report including, the results of the Site Selection Process, and approve the closeout of Stage 1 of the Board-approved implementation process for the Central Library Development Project.**
- 2. That the Ottawa Public Library Board recommends that City Council approve the Ottawa Public Library-Library and Archives Canada (OPL-LAC) Joint Project for a new Ottawa Central Library as described in this report, and as follows:**
 - a. Approve proceeding with a partnership with Library and Archives Canada based on the overall assessment score, as detailed in the Ottawa Public Library Development Project OPL-LAC Partnership Assessment Report (Document 2);**
 - b. Approve the Central Library Development Project Relationship Framework, as outlined in this report and described in Document 3 with LAC for an OPL-LAC Joint Facility, subject to the approval of Government of Canada, and delegate the authority to negotiate and finalize a Relationship Agreement with Library and Archives Canada for the design, development, construction and**

operation of a joint facility to the CEO of the Ottawa Public Library, in consultation with the City Manager of the City of Ottawa and report back to OPL Board and City Council for approval of the detailed relationship agreement by June 2017, including as follows:

- i. That the Joint Facility be developed to be approximately 216,000 gross square feet (with an estimated 133,000 gross square feet allocated to OPL), that meets the intent of the functional building program requirements outlined in the Ottawa Public Library-Library and Archives Canada Joint Facility Master Program as described in this report and in Document 6;
 - ii. That the City-owned site at 557 Wellington Street (Site 8) be the location of the new Ottawa Central Library, based on the approved site selection process described within this report and detailed in the Ottawa Central Library Development Project Site Evaluation Report (Document 8), and delegate the authority to the Director, Corporate Real Estate Office to take the necessary actions to assign the land for this project;
 - iii. That the new Ottawa Central Library be delivered through a Design-Bid-Build procurement method as detailed in this report;
- c. Approve in principle the estimated City-funded portion, \$99 million, of the total estimated project costs (\$168 million, Class D estimates) and related funding provisions as described in this report and set out in Document 12, and that the CEO of the OPL be directed to work with the City Manager to develop a funding strategy for the Ottawa Public Library/ City portion of the OPL-LAC Joint Facility and report back to the Board and City Council by June 2017, with the intention of seeking project authority to proceed to the Design stage, as described in this report;
 - d. Direct the Director, Corporate Real Estate Office to investigate options to dispose of the existing assets at 120 Metcalfe Street/191 Laurier Avenue West and report back to the Ottawa

Public Library Board, the Finance and Economic Development Committee, and City Council, as appropriate;

- e. Delegate the authority to the Director, Infrastructure Services to initiate the procurement process for the design process as described in this report, subject to the understanding that a contract will not be awarded until the Ottawa Public Library Board and City Council have approved the Relationship Agreement and the Funding Strategy;**
- f. Direct City staff to undertake a detailed study into the parking requirements related to the OPL-LAC facility in order to clarify the expected need for public parking at the Joint Facility, confirming if any provision for parking aligns with the broader mandate of the City as well as that of the Municipal Parking Management Program, and report back to the Ottawa Public Library Board and City Council with a recommendation by March 2017.**

YEAS (8): Chair Tierney, Vice-Chair Bergeron, Trustees Begg, Fisher, Higdon, Moffatt, Sweet, Wilkinson
NAYS (1): Trustee McKenney

RECOMMENDATION 1 WAS RECEIVED
RECOMMENDATION 2 WAS CARRIED

In closing, Chair Tierney congratulated the Board for reaching a critical milestone in this project, and thanked them for their commitment and dedication to advancing the goal to bring a new Central Library to the nation's capital. He said the Ottawa Central Library is an important city-building initiative, with strong national ties given our capital city.

Chair Tierney thanked staff at OPL and the City, as well as the consultants and site evaluation committee members for their tremendous work over the past 18 months. He acknowledged the interest and support that members of the public continue to shown in this initiative.

He closed by stating that the recommendation will go before Ottawa City Council on February 8, 2017.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION OPL 20170131/4

**Be It Resolved that the Ottawa Public Library Board meeting be
adjourned at 9:31 p.m.**

Chair

Recording Secretary