



Ajax Public Library Board 6.1 Board Meeting Minutes

Date: September 17, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.

Place: Multi-Purpose Room, Audley Branch

Library Board Present

Piyali Correya (Chair)

Pia Kaukoranta Vahabi (Vice-Chair)

Voytek Bialkowski

Sepelene Deonarine

Mallik Fernando

Rebecca Hayes

Deborah McDougall Jones

Deputy Mayor Sterling Lee

Douglas Miller

Regrets

Library Staff

Sarah Vaisler, Chief Librarian & Executive Officer (Secretary/Treasurer)

Jason Tooral, Manager of Corporate Services

Christy Harper, Manager of Public Service

Kiley Percy, Coordinator of Marketing & Communications

Joanne Yellapa, Coordinator of Performance Measures & Special Projects

Sai Mahendran, Executive Assistant

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. Land Acknowledgement

We would like to begin this meeting by acknowledging that the land on which we gather is situated within the traditional and treaty territory of the Mississaugas. More specifically, the Mississaugas of Scugog Island First Nation, signatories of the Gunshot Treaty of 1788 and the Williams Treaties of 1923. This land is, and will continue to be, home to the Indigenous Peoples. Let us acknowledge the mistakes and traumas of the past through authenticity and support truth and reconciliation. Let us engage and celebrate Indigenous communities by being leaders of action in acknowledging the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's recommendations towards truth and reconciliation. Let us keep these principles close, as we continue towards truth and reconciliation and as we move forward with kindness and respect as a community.

3. Approval of the Agenda

26-09/01

Moved by: Rebecca Hayes

Seconded by: Deborah McDougall Jones

Motion that the Ajax Public Library Board approve the agenda of the September 17, 2026, Board Meeting.

CARRIED

Deputy Mayor Sterling Lee left the meeting at 7:02 p.m.

4. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

None.

5. Presentation – deferred to before Item 9. Closed Session.

6. Consent Agenda

Items 6.1, 6.2, & 6.3 were pulled for further discussion as items 8.9, 8.10 & 8.11 in Other Business. Item 6.12 was pulled for further discussion as item 9.2 in Closed Session.

26-09/02

Moved by: Deborah McDougall Jones

Seconded by: Pia Kaukoranta Vahabi

Motion that the Ajax Public Library Board approve the Consent Agenda as amended.

CARRIED

7. Correspondence

7.1 Summer Students - Video

A video compilation featuring the Library's TD SRC Summer Students was presented to the Board.

8. Other Business

8.1 TAC Update – TAC Co-President, Tanvi Lee

Tanvi Lee shared an update on key TAC activities and upcoming events. Ms. Lee shared upcoming projects, including cultural heritage initiatives, support for the Library's election initiatives, and participation in the Santa Claus Parade. TAC also plans to establish sub-committees by the end of September.

8.2 Chair Update – Piyali Correya

Piyali Correya provided the Board with a statement on the Town of Ajax Staff Report CSD-2026-16, 2026-2030 Committees and Boards and governance concerns and requested Board member's support.

Piyali Correya informed the Board of her intentions to delegate to Council on September 21, 2026.

8.3 Council Update – Deputy Mayor Sterling Lee

Council Update was deferred as Council Representative was not present.

8.4 Amend Something Previously Adopted – Minutes from Library Board meetings of May 21 & June 2, 2026

26-09/03 Moved by: Mallik Fernando
Seconded by: Rebecca Hayes

Motion that the Ajax Public Library Board amend the previously approved Open Session minutes of May 21 and June 2, 2026, as presented.

CARRIED

26-09/04 Moved by: Deborah McDougall Jones
Seconded by: Mallik Fernando

Motion that the Ajax Public Library Board amend the previously approved Closed Session minutes of May 21 and June 2, 2026, as presented.

CARRIED

Sepelene Deonarine joined the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

8.5 Amend Something Previously Adopted – 2022 – 2026 Library Board Legacy Document

26-09/05 Moved by: Douglas Miller
Seconded by: Voytek Bialkowski

Motion that the Ajax Public Library Board amend the previously adopted 2022 – 2026 Library Board Legacy Document, as presented.

CARRIED

8.6 Staff Report – Library Board Recruitment Update

Sarah Vaisler provided the Board insight into current Library Board recruitment practices from other Library systems.

8.7 Internal Monitoring Report – Executive Limitations 3.10 Staff Treatment Policy

26-09/06 Moved by: Rebecca Hayes
Seconded by: Douglas Miller

Motion that the Ajax Public Library Board receive the monitoring report EL 3.10 Staff Treatment Policy and agrees that it provides reasonable interpretation of the policy and evidence of compliance.

CARRIED

8.8 Board Report – Review of Board Training Policy and Procedures

26-09/07 Moved by: Voytek Bialkowski
 Seconded by: Pia Kaukoranta Vahabi

Motion that the Ajax Public Library Board approve the revised Board Training Policy and Procedures as presented.

CARRIED

8.9 6.1 - Minutes from the meeting of June 18, 2026

Piyali Correya proposed revisions to the minutes to reflect Pia Kaukoranta Vahabi's designation as Acting Chair and the inclusion of the times at which Piyali left and rejoined the meeting.

26-09/08 Moved by: Rebecca Hayes
 Seconded by: Pia Kaukoranta Vahabi

Motion that the Ajax Public Library Board approve the revised meeting minutes of June 18, 2026.

CARRIED

8.10 6.2 - Closed Minutes from the meeting of June 18, 2026 – Closed

Piyali Correya proposed revisions to the minutes to reflect Pia Kaukoranta Vahabi's designation as Acting Chair and the inclusion of the times at which Piyali left and rejoined the meeting.

26-09/09 Moved by: Pia Kaukoranta Vahabi
 Seconded by: Mallik Fernando

Motion that the Ajax Public Library Board approve the revised Closed Session minutes of June 18, 2026.

CARRIED

8.11 6.3 - Minutes from the meeting of June 29, 2026

Piyali Correya proposed revisions to the minutes to reflect Pia Kaukoranta Vahabi's designation as Acting Chair and the excused absence of Piyali at the meeting.

26-09/10 Moved by: Mallik Fernando
 Seconded by: Rebecca Hayes

Motion that the Ajax Public Library Board approve the revised meeting minutes of June 29, 2026.

CARRIED

5. Presentation

5.1 Joanne Yellapa, Coordinator of Performance Measures & Special Projects – Performance Measures Framework

Joanne Yellapa provided the Library Board an overview of the Library's Performance Measures Framework. Ms. Yellapa outlined the guiding principles, data standards, and use of key performance indicators to support consistent data collection, informed decision-making, and continuous improvement.

9. Closed Session (Commenced at 7:53 p.m.)

26-09/11 Moved by: Deborah McDougall Jones
Seconded by: Pia Kaukoranta Vahabi

Motion that the Ajax Public Library Board move into Closed Session.

CARRIED

Open Session (8:36 p.m.)

26-09/12 Moved by: Mallik Fernando
Seconded by: Pia Kaukoranta Vahabi

Motion that the Ajax Public Library Board ratify decisions made in Closed Session.

CARRIED

10. Announcements

None.

11. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:38 p.m.

26-09/13 Moved by: Douglas Miller
Seconded by: Pia Kaukoranta Vahabi

Motion that the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

Next meeting: Thursday, October 15, 2026
7:00 p.m. Rotary Room, Main Branch