

SOLS Report
by
Jack Groothuis

The virtual meeting was held Saturday, April 18. It was chaired by SOLS CEO Barbara Franchetto with support from Brandon Fratarcangeli (our council rep) and Anne Marie Madziak.

Normally the Trustee Council 3 meeting has about 10 people in attendance. All Councils were represented at this meeting with 93 attendees. The meeting focused on Libraries and how they are and how they can deal with the Covid-19 pandemic and all its ramifications.

Last week Julia sent to all of us the package presented at the meeting. It can be useful reading, in particular the document dealing with 9 tips for Board members. It outlines the need to continue holding Board meetings (virtually) and follow all the usual rules. The public must know and be able to attend. There must be a quorum. Minutes must be taken, etc.

Much was also made of the fact the Board is the sole employer of Library staff. But reality tells us we also rely on municipal funding to operate.

There were also reports from OLBA and FOPL. Read them at your leisure.

The meeting then heard reports on individual Library systems:

Margaret MacDonald of Stormont, Dundas and Glengary

Fred Gladding of Brant County

And myself. SPL.

From listening to the presentations, and the personal experiences of the 3 Libraries, I would be very comfortable saying we have done everything in the best possible manner. We have great leadership in Julia and Zac, knowledgeable staff and a Board that asks all the right questions. We are also fortunate to have a municipal council that supports us.