

PIKES PEAK LIBRARY DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SEPTEMBER 20, 2023 5 pm
LIBRARY 21C, VENUE



VIRTUAL MEETING (ZOOM)

Call in: 1-253-215-8782 or 1-312-626-6799 or 1-669-900-6833 or 1-346-248-7799
Meeting ID: 867 7654 8192
Passcode: 569086

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

President Aaron Salt, Vice President Dora Gonzales, Secretary/Treasurer Erin Bents, Debbie English, Scott Taylor, Julie Smyth

Chief Communications Officer Denise Abbott, Chief Safety, Community Resources & Security Officer Michael Brantner, Monument Library Manager Jean Carrier, Old Colorado City Library Manager Amber Cox, Director of Regional History and Genealogy Michael Doherty, Executive Assistant Laura Foster, Senior Librarian Christa Funke, Chief Financial Officer Randy Green, Senior Library Assistant Sherri Hendrich, Controller Kim Hoggatt, Chief Development Officer & Foundation Executive Officer Lance James, Program Coordinator John Jarrell, Chief Human Resources Officer & Organizational Development Officer Heather Laslie, Senior Librarian Becca Phillipsen, Director of Collection Management Jenny Pierce, Chief Public Services Officer and Deputy Chief Librarian Tammy Sayles, Chief Facilities Management Officer Gary Syling, Library Assistant Clae Thompson, Senior Regional Library Associate Debbie Vitulli, Internal Communications and Special Projects Manager Jeremiah Walter, Library Assistant Jacob Ward, Legal Counsel Debbie Menkins of Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner LLP, Katie Czuras, Eilex Rodriguez, Roger Stoltz, Dan, Kim, KS

Board vacancy applicants Scott Batley, Paul Batura, Bi Carlin, Angela Dougan, Kat Gayle, Jessica George, Fadil Lee, AliciaRose Martinez, Tina Slee, Kevin Steinhauser, Angela Stevens, Victor Torres, Elizabeth Turner

Absent: Dr. Ned Stoll, Chief Librarian and CEO Teona Shainidze-Krebs

CALL TO ORDER

President Aaron Salt called the regular meeting of the Pikes Peak Library District Board of Trustees to order at 5:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Board President Aaron Salt called for a motion from the Board to move into Executive Session to conference with the Pikes Peak Library District's attorney for purposes of receiving legal advice as authorized by C.R.S. § 24-6-402(4)(b)

Motion: Scott Taylor made a motion that the Pikes Peak Library District Board of Trustees move into Executive Session to conference with the Pikes Peak Library District's attorney for purposes of receiving legal advice as authorized by C.R.S. § 24-6-402(4)(b)

Second: Debbie English seconded the motion.

Vote: The vote was approved unanimously.

There being no further discussion related to conferencing with the Pikes Peak Library District's attorney for purposes of receiving legal advice as authorized by C.R.S. § 24-6-402(4)(b), President Aaron Salt called for a motion to return to Open Session.

Motion: Erin Bents made a motion that the Pikes Peak Library District Board of Trustees return to Open Session.

Second: Julie Smyth seconded the motion.

Vote: The motion was approved unanimously.

The Board returned to open session at 5:36 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

John Jarrell spoke on behalf of Pikes Peak Library Workers United, requesting the following:

- A 3.5% increase to staff in 2024
- That part-time workers be allowed to pick up as many as 29 hours a week to alleviate library closures and stress
- That the Code of Conduct be updated to include a statement on behavior that staff should not tolerate

Kat Gayle spoke of the library being a necessity for equality, and funding for the library is critical.

Katie Czuras requested that libraries be open on Sundays, and that a change be made to the process of reserving study rooms.

REPORTS

Friends of the Pikes Peak Library District Report

The Friends of the Pikes Peak Library District Report was included in the Board packet.

Pikes Peak Library District Foundation Report

The Pikes Peak Library District Foundation Report was included in the Board packet.

Financial Report: August 2023

The Financial Report for August 2023 was included in the Board packet.

Public Services Report

The Public Services Report, including Key Performance Indicators (KPIs), was included in the Board packet.

Support Services Reports: Communications Report, Facilities Report, Human Resources Report, Information Technology Report

The Support Services Reports were included in the Board packet.

Interim Chief Librarian's Report

Chief Public Services Officer and Deputy Chief Librarian Tammy Sayles provided this report in Chief Librarian and CEO Teona Shainidze-Krebs absence. Ms. Sayles reported that the following took place:

- A walk-through with Officer Wesley Wilkerson of CSPD to view improvements made from his suggestions.
- A meeting with Chief Housing Officer Steve Posey and Homelessness Prevention and Response Coordinator Crystal Karr of the Colorado Springs Housing and Community Vitality Department regarding participating in the City's efforts to address homelessness and be a part of the City's Task Force.
- Chief Librarian and CEO Teona Shainidze-Krebs and Chief Safety, Security and Community Resources Officer Michael Brantner attended the Pikes Peak Region 9-11 Commemoration Ceremony held at Fort Carson.
- Chief Librarian and CEO Teona Shainidze-Krebs, Chief Public Services Officer and Deputy Chief Librarian Tammy Sayles, and Chief Human Resources & Organizational Development Officer Heather Laslie attended Mayor Yemi Mobolade's State of the City address
- The Americans and the Holocaust exhibit has welcomed a large number of visitors to the display at East Library and the supplemental display at Old Colorado City Library.

Board Reports

Governance Committee

Governance Committee Chairperson Scott Taylor stated that the meeting included an overview of the Board Retreat, a review of the Conflict of Interest (COI) statement, and a discussion of the 24 applicants for the Board of Trustees vacancy. Mr. Taylor thanked the candidates who were able to attend this evening's meeting.

Internal Affairs Committee

Internal Affairs Chairperson Erin Bents stated that the meeting included a discussion about the use of The Hall, and a review of the Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) policy that is on tonight's agenda.

Liaison comments

No comments.

Trustee comments

Debbie English attended a Penrose Library staff meeting and a Rockrimmon Library staff meeting. , brainstorming shared belief that downtown needs a strong library.

Dora Gonzales attended the opening for the Americans and the Holocaust exhibit and the Latina Voices luncheon.

Scott Taylor attended a Ruth Holley staff meeting and met with staff at Library 21c.

Aaron Salt attended an informal meeting with the Facilities Department.

PRESENTATION

Summer Adventure

An overview of Summer Adventure was included in the packet. Senior Librarian Christa Funke and Senior Librarian Becca Phillipsen provided highlights of this year's program.

Use of The Hall

Chief Public Services Officer and Deputy Chief Librarian Tammy Sayles provided a handout to the Board of photos and the building floorplan. The proposal is to phase out public use of The Hall and convert the building to much needed office space. The expense for required changes to the building to remain open to the public and to provide adequate safety and security, in addition to staffing of events held in the building when libraries across the district experience difficulties maintaining open hours, both support converting the space for staff use only.

The Board requested a plan for converting the building to office space and the associated costs be provided to the Internal Affairs Committee at their October meeting to review prior to bringing it to the Board for a vote.

A 5-minute break was taken at 6:49 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 6:54 p.m.

BUSINESS ITEMS

Consent Items DECISION 23-9-1

Minutes of the August 16, 2023 Board of Trustees meeting

Minutes of the September 8, 2023 Board of Trustees Retreat

The consent items were accepted as presented.

DISCUSSION: Summary of the Board Retreat

Governance Committee Chairperson Scott Taylor summarized the day's activities and discussions of Robert's Rules training, updates on the Manitou Springs Carnegie Library building, the Trustee vacancy, changes to the process of establishing Board policy, and potential options for seeking additional funding for the library.

DECISION 23-9-2: Equal Employment Opportunity policy

Chief Human Resources and Organizational Development Officer Heather Lasie shared the updated policy provided by Employer's Council. The last policy revision occurred in 2008.

Motion: Erin Bents made a motion that the Pikes Peak Library District Board of Trustees approve the Equal Employment Opportunity policy as presented.

Second: Debbie English seconded the motion.

Vote: The motion was approved unanimously.

DECISION 23-9-3:

Resolution opposing Proposition HH

Whereas: Proposition HH will go before the voters in November 2023;

Whereas: If approved by voters, Proposition HH would result in lower property tax rates for a period of ten years;

Whereas: Pikes Peak Library District gets much of its revenue from property taxes, which enables it to provide a wide range of library services to its patrons and communities;

Whereas: The state purportedly would make up or “backfill” some of the lost tax revenue to Pikes Peak Library District, as well as to local governments, schools and other public entities negatively impacted by the lower property tax rates;

Whereas: The state would generate the money for such “backfill” payments by raising the TABOR cap, the latter of which benefits taxpayers by limiting how much tax money the state can retain;

Whereas: It is reported that much of the extra money generated by raising the TABOR cap would go to school districts and a smaller amount to local governments, special districts, and other public entities such as Pikes Peak Library District;

Whereas: Pikes Peak Library District, on behalf of the taxpayers and communities it serves, is concerned that the “backfill” payments that it would purportedly receive would not be sufficient to replace the revenue that it would lose due to the reduction in property tax rates; and

Now therefore, be it resolved by the Board of Trustees of the Pikes Peak Library District that:

The Board of Trustees opposes and encourages voters to vote, “No,” on Proposition HH.

Adopted, this 20th day of September 2023.

Motion: Scott Taylor made a motion that the Pikes Peak Library District Board of Trustees approve the Resolution opposing Proposition HH as presented.

Second: Debbie English seconded the motion.

Vote: The motion was approved unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, President Aaron Salt adjourned the regular meeting of the Pikes Peak Library District at 7:02 p.m.

A reception for Board applicants immediately followed the meeting. Per requirements of the Colorado Open Meetings Law (C.R.S. § 24-6-402(2)(b)), there was no discussion of public business or formal action taken at the reception that follows the meeting.

The full packet of materials for this meeting of the Pikes Peak Library District Board of Trustees is available at

<https://ppld.org/board-trustees>