



PIKES PEAK LIBRARY DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES
August 18, 2021 5 pm

Penrose Library – Columbine Room

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: 999 9730 6850

Passcode: 399338

BOARD MEMBERS, PIKES PEAK LIBRARY STAFF & OTHERS PRESENT

President Wayne Vanderschuere, Vice President Scott Taylor, Secretary/Treasurer Dora Gonzales, Trustee Debbie English, Trustee Cathy Grossman, Trustee Mina Liebert, Trustee Dr. Ned Stoll

Chief Librarian and CEO John Spears, Network Administrator Andy Biadasz, Chief Safety, Social Services & Security Officer Michael Brantner, IT Administrative Specialist Rebecca Capistrano, Culinary Program Supervisor Scott Crum, Director of Creative Services Rebecca Cruz, Director of the West Region Michael Doherty, Executive Assistant Laura Foster, County Commissioner Carrie Geitner, Penrose Library Manager Alicia Gomori, Strategic Services Librarian Deb Hamilton, City Councilman Randy Helms, Chief Development Officer and Foundation Executive Officer Lance James, Chief Human Resources and Organizational Development Officer Heather Laslie, Chief Information Technology Officer Rich Peters, Chief Communications Officer Michelle Ray, Floating Creative Services Senior Library Associate Nawal Shahril, Chief Public Services Officer and Deputy Chief Librarian Teona Shainidze Krebs, Chief Facilities Management Officer Gary Syling, Chief Financial Officer Mike Varnet, Internal Communications Specialist Jeremiah Walter, Steve Abele

CALL TO ORDER

President Vanderschuere called the August 18, 2021 meeting of the Pikes Peak Library District Board of Trustees to order at 5:02 p.m.

ITEMS TOO LATE FOR THE AGENDA

There were no items too late for the agenda.

CORRESPONDENCE AND PRESENTATIONS

Presentations

Staff Promotions and New Hires

Chief Information Technology Officer Rich Peters introduced Andy Biadasz, Network Administrator, and Rebecca Capistrano, the IT Department Administrative Specialist.

Director of Creative Services Rebecca Cruz introduced Scott Crum, Culinary Program Supervisor, and Nawal Shahril, Creative Services Floating Senior Library Associate.

Virtual Courtroom

Strategic Services Librarian Deb Hamilton provided an overview of this service, operating since June 28, 2021. Ms. Hamilton is a member of the local committee of the Colorado Access to Justice Commission which seeks to decrease barriers to the Justice System. The Pikes Peak Library District is one of four public law libraries in Colorado. PPLD patrons who utilize this service are primarily self-represented litigants (*pro se*).

Virtual courtrooms are located at East, Penrose, Library 21c, Ruth Holley, and Sand Creek. Patrons can checkout special laptops that automatically open to the virtual courtroom through WebEx. Several patrons have used the service in the first couple months, and it is expected usage will increase as the community learns of the option.

PUBLIC COMMENT

President Wayne Vanderschuere welcomed County Commissioner Carrie Geitner to the meeting. Commissioner Geitner attended virtually due to other meetings and travel time constraints.

BUSINESS ITEMS

Decision 21-8-1: Minutes of the July 21, 2021 Meeting

The minutes of the July 21, 2021 meeting of the Pikes Peak Library District Board of Trustees were included in the Board packet.

Motion: Dr. Stoll made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 21, 2021 regular meeting of the Pikes Peak Library District Board of Trustees as presented.

Second: Cathy Grossman seconded the motion.

Vote: The motion was approved unanimously.

Consent Items

There were no consent items on the agenda.

Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business.

New Business

Discussion: Mid-year Budget Resolution

A draft of the Mid-Year Budget Resolution was included in the Board packet. Chief Financial Officer Mike Varnet explained that a hearing for the budget resolution will take place on September 22, 2021, and that the final Mid-Year Budget Resolution will be presented to the Board for consideration and decision at the September 22, 2021 regular meeting of the Board.

The Mid-Year Budget Resolution will address changes to the to the budget that include but are not limited to:

- Carryover balances
- Grant funding not included in the original 2021 budget
- Deferred projects
- Vacant position savings
- Recommendations on how to utilize Special Revenue Funds

REPORTS

Friends of the Pikes Peak Library District Report

The Friends of the Pikes Peak Library District Report was included in the Board packet. Friends of the Pikes Peak Library District Board of Directors Stephen Adams was unable to attend today's meeting. On behalf of the Friends of the Pikes Peak Library District, Chief Development Officer and Foundation Executive Officer Lance James thanked the Board for their support of the Literary Awards ceremony held in August. The Fall Booksale will be held in early October at the East Library, and Latina Voices is scheduled for September 25 in the Venue at Library 21c.

Pikes Peak Library District Foundation Report

The Pikes Peak Library District Foundation Report was included in the Board packet. Chief Development Officer and Foundation Executive Officer Lance James indicated that the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds have been received by the State Department of Education and that the Pikes Peak Library District will receive \$208,000. Decisions on other grant applications listed in the Foundation report are pending.

Financial Report

The Financial Report for the period ending July 31, 2021, was included in the Board packet. Chief Financial Officer Mike Varnet shared that overall the budget aligns with previous years.

Public Services Report

The Public Services Report was included in the Board packet. Chief Public Services Officer and Deputy Chief Librarian Teona Shainidze Krebs thanked the Public Service Directors for working so well together on the 2022 budget. Ms. Shainidze Krebs shared that Library staff are in discussion with Focus on the Family and Young Life regarding possible partnerships. She also highlighted an outreach event that DEI Director Shirley Martinez created for the military community in the Pikes Peak region. Shainidze Krebs thanked the Human Resources team for their support in planning in-service training days for the District.

Mina Liebert congratulated Chief Public Services Officer and Deputy Chief Librarian Teona Shainidze Krebs for being nominated for the Southern Colorado Women's Chamber of Commerce Accolades Business Leader of the Year Award.

Dora Gonzales was excited to see PPLD's presence throughout the Colorado Springs Sesquicentennial celebration on Saturday July 31. PPLD staff participated in the parade and hosted an opportunity for members of the community to create tiles for the Panorama Park Project.

Support Services Reports: Communications Report, Facilities Report, Human Resources Report, Information Technology Report, and Safety, Social Services & Security Report

The Support Services Reports were included in the Board packet.

Chief Librarian's Report

Chief Librarian John Spears also commended Chief Public Services Officer and Deputy Chief Librarian Teona Shainidze Krebs for her nomination for the Business Leader of the Year Award. Ms. Shainidze Krebs has brought so much to this position, and he is thrilled that her contributions to the community were recognized by the Southern Colorado Women's Chamber of Commerce.

A staff survey is being conducted, with the goal of having a 75% response rate. Although PPLD has participated in the Gazette's Best Workplaces survey in the past, conducting our own survey allows for control over the contents of the survey. Results of the survey will be made available to the Leadership Team in late September.

The theme of PPLDCon 2022 is Sustainability. PPLDCon will be held virtually on October 4, 2021 and the Board is invited to attend.

The Public Services plan for 2022 will be presented at the September Board meeting and presented to all staff at PPLDCon.

Salary increases are being discussed, and other libraries are known to be considering between 4 – 6%. PPLD will do as much as we can, keeping the cost of living and maintaining livable salaries for staff as a guide.

COVID infections are rising in El Paso County. The public is not required to wear masks in library facilities except for Manitou Springs Library, as the City of Manitou Springs has implemented a mask order for all public and privately owned spaces accessible to the public. PPLD staff are required to wear masks in all facilities.

Challenges of PPLD Library materials are on the rise, something that is occurring in libraries across the country. PPLD patrons can submit a Request for Reconsideration of Library Materials form, which initiates a review of the challenged material by librarians chosen based on their area of expertise. There are occasions when challenges may rise to a level where it is brought to the Board, however most are resolved before that would occur.

Board Reports

Governance Committee Report

Governance Committee Chair Debbie English reported that the Committee met on August 3, 2021. The committee discussed the retreat, stating that a date will be provided once the availability of a speaker is determined. The retreat is being planned for in-person at this time but is subject to change. The committee also discussed the upcoming Trustee vacancy process, and Trustees were reminded to submit their competencies survey in support of that process.

Internal Affairs Committee Report

Internal Affairs Committee Chair Dr. Stoll reported that the Committee met on August 3, 2021. Grant Dewey, Executive Director of the Western Museum of Mining & Industry, spoke with the committee about developing a partnership with PPLD to leverage resources and better serve the community. The budget was also discussed, and the budget approval process was reviewed.

Public Affairs Committee Report

Public Affairs Committee Chair Mina Liebert reported that the Committee met on August 3, 2021. The committee discussed the current COVID infection rate in El Paso County and made the decision to ask the Board of Trustees to wear masks at Board meetings to align with the staff requirement.

Board President's Report

President Wayne Vanderschuere shared that he attended the Mayor's forum and the Literary Awards.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to conduct, President Wayne Vanderschuere adjourned the August 18, 2021 meeting of the Pikes Peak Library Board of Trustees at 6:03 p.m.

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>