



**PIKES PEAK LIBRARY DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**May 19, 2021 4 pm**

**[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, Secretary/Treasurer Dora Gonzales, Trustee Debbie English, Trustee Cathy Grossman, Trustee Mina Liebert, Trustee Dr. Ned Stoll

Chief Librarian and CEO John Spears, Director of Public Relations and Marketing Denise Abbott, Friends of the Pikes Peak Library District Board of Directors President Stephen Adams, Chief Safety, Social Services & Security Officer Michael Brantner, Executive Assistant Laura Foster, County Commissioner Carrie Geitner, Director of Adult Services Janina Goodwin, Fountain Library Manager Gigi Holman, Chief Development Officer and Foundation Executive Officer Lance James, Chief Human Resources and Organizational Development Officer Heather Laslie, Adult Education Manager Christine Layton, Chief Information Technology Officer Rich Peters, Chief Communications Officer Michelle Ray, Chief Public Services Officer and Deputy Chief Librarian Teona Shainidze Krebs, Southeast Region Director Abby Simpson, Chief Facilities Management Officer Gary Syling, Internal Communications Specialist Jeremiah Walters, County Commissioner Holly Williams, Beth Fisher, Thea Jackson, SJ Morrone, Christy

Absent: Vice President Scott Taylor

**Article 4 (6) of the Bylaws of the Pikes Peak Library District Board of Trustees authorizing Public Comment**

An opportunity for public participation shall be provided at each regular meeting of the Board during a portion of the agenda set aside for this purpose. Each member of the public wishing to participate shall introduce him or herself and shall speak when recognized by the presiding officer. All speakers will be asked to state their name and address. The Board President may establish reasonable rules for public participation, including without limitation limits on the time provided for public participation based on the time set aside for public comment and the number of persons wishing to participate. In some instances, it may not be possible for all to speak.

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**CALL TO ORDER**

President Vanderschuere called the May 19, 2021 regular meeting of the Pikes Peak Library District Board of Trustees to order at 5:01 p.m.

**DECISION 21-5-1:** Ratify decision of Board President and CEO to hold the May 19, 2021, Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees online.

**Motion:** Cathy Grossman made a motion that the May 19, 2021, Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees be held online as stated.

**Second:** Dora Gonzales seconded the motion.

**Vote:** The motion was approved unanimously.

**ITEMS TOO LATE FOR THE AGENDA**

There were no items to add to the agenda.

**CORRESPONDENCE AND PRESENTATIONS**

## Correspondence

A patron letter was included in the Board packet. The patron expressed their appreciation for the Interlibrary Loan department staff for the excellent service they provide.

## Presentations

The presentation on Panorama Park was rescheduled for the June meeting.

## Staff Promotions and New Hires

Director of Adult Education Tammy Sayles introduced Christine Layton, the new Adult Education Manager. Chief Public Services Officer and Deputy Chief Librarian Teona Shainidze Krebs introduced Janina Goodwin, the new Director of Adult Services.

## PUBLIC COMMENT

Commissioner Holly Williams acknowledged she received an email with a copy of the PPLD Board of Trustees Bylaws and an explanation of the Board's desires regarding Public Comment and is concerned that the Public Comment statement limits the voice of the community she represents. Commissioner Williams shared her disappointment in learning that an opportunity to relocate the Monument Library was not pursued. A resident of Commissioner Williams' district contacted her to express their dissatisfaction with the Monument Library, especially considering the increase in the assessed value of their home. Commissioner Williams also indicated her hope that the Library District is collaborating with organizations that support the homeless community in El Paso County.

Beth Fisher provided a public comment at the March 17, 2021, and April 21, 2021 Board meetings regarding the mask policy of the Library District. Ms. Fisher appreciates that we heard her voice and she attended today's meeting from inside the Library, where she and her daughter Faith are enjoying selecting books.

Commissioner Carrie Geitner agrees with the comments made by Commissioner Holly Williams. Commissioner Geitner acknowledged receiving the message regarding Public Comment and a copy of the PPLD Board of Trustees Bylaws and believes the intent is to disinvite participation of the City and County liaisons at Board meetings. Commissioner Geitner would like to speak with Board members to discuss their position and discuss how the interests of the City and County citizens who fund the Library District are considered.

## BUSINESS ITEMS

### **Decision 21-5-2:** Minutes of the April 21, 2021 Meeting

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

**Motion:** Debbie English made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 21, 2021 regular meeting of the Pikes Peak Library Board of Trustees as presented.

**Second:** Dora Gonzales seconded the motion.

**Vote:** The motion was approved unanimously.

## Consent Items

There were no consent items on the agenda.

## Unfinished Business

### **Decision 21-5-3:** Changes to the requirement for facial coverings in Pikes Peak Library District facilities

President Wayne Vanderschuere explained that the Board may vote to approve the provided recommendation from the Pikes Peak Library District legal counsel, to make no change, or to end the policy to require facial coverings in Pikes Peak Library District facilities approved in May 2020.

Chief Librarian John Spears thanked Trustee Cathy Grossman for drafting a change to the mask policy. The document provided in the packet reflects a review by legal counsel. Chief Librarian Spears expressed support of ending the mask policy approved in May 2020 and following state and local Public Health guidelines moving forward.

**Motion:** Dr. Stoll made a motion to repeal the 2020 mask policy requiring facial coverings in Pikes Peak Library District facilities.

**Second:** Debbie English seconded the motion.

**Vote:** The motion passed with a vote of five trustees in favor of repealing the policy and one vote in dissent.

### **New Business**

There was no new business to discuss.

## **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 stated he will be contacting Chief Development Officer and Foundation Executive Officer Lance James to discuss how future donations of revenue will be handled.

### **Pikes Peak Library District Foundation Report**

The Pikes Peak Library District Foundation Report was included in the Board packet. In response to a question from Trustee Mina Liebert, Chief Development Officer and Foundation Executive Officer Lance James clarified that the discussion with the Adolf Coors Foundation regarding workforce development is primarily in regard to the food industry training and the 360 skills program that are offered to the public through Adult Education and Creative Services. Mr. James highlighted several comments received by donors during the Library Giving Day campaign.

### **Financial Report**

The Financial Report for the period ending April 30, 2021 was included in the Board packet. Chief Financial Officer Mike Varnet was unable to attend today's meeting as he is serving on jury duty. In Mr. Varnet's absence, Chief Librarian John Spears shared that savings through the end of 2021 as a result of vacant positions will be put into the reserve fund. Mr. Spears also highlighted that PPLD has received the full disbursement of the \$500,000 awarded to PPLD from the Coronavirus Relief Fund.

### **Public Services Report**

The Public Services Report was included in the Board packet. Chief Public Services Officer and Deputy Chief Librarian Teona Shainidze Krebs announced that Discovery Kits were offered at 5 Libraries in April and that these kits will now be available at all Library District locations.

PPLD will continue to provide curbside service and is hosting vaccination clinics at several libraries across the District. The vaccination clinics hosted at Sand Creek Library and Fountain were a success. Future vaccination clinics have been approved for High Prairie and Penrose Libraries with approval pending for other libraries. Ms. Shainidze Krebs thanked Michelle Ray, Shirley Martinez, Abby Simpson, and Kayla Rockhold for collaborating with local partners and Library Managers to provide this service to the community.

In response to a question from Trustee Dora Gonzales, Ms. Shainidze Krebs shared that although PPLD applied to host a vaccination clinic at the Calhan Library, another location was selected for a clinic in the Calhan area.

Trustee Dora Gonzales congratulated both the PPLD Foundation and Public Services for the grant received from the NextFifty Initiative's Community Response Fund for Mobile Library Services. Ms. Shainidze Krebs gave credit to Chief Foundation Officer Lance James and Public Services staff who worked together to submit a successful grant application.

### **Support Services Reports**

The Communications Report, Facilities Report, Human Resources Report, Information Technology Report, and Safety, Social Services & Security Report were included in the Board packet. President Wayne Vanderschuere called for questions or comments regarding the written reports. There were no questions or comments.

### **Chief Librarian's Report**

Chief Librarian John Spears announced that he was in contact with El Paso County Public Health regarding the recent changes at the local, state, and federal level about wearing masks, resulting in the elimination of the mask policy for patrons. As of yesterday, PPLD staff are also no longer required to wear masks. The only exception is for the Manitou Springs Library as the City of Manitou Springs continues to have a mask policy in place. When the Manitou Springs City Council makes a change to their policy, PPLD will comply with the decision of the MAC, as owners of the building, to continue, modify, or lift the requirement.

All Libraries have returned to full capacity and furniture has been returned to public spaces. Many of the Libraries will no longer have a greeter station at the entrance as the primary functions were to monitor building capacity and mask wearing. Most meeting rooms have returned to full capacity except for the Venue at Library 21c, the Columbine Room at Penrose Library, and the Community Room at East Library due to a staffing shortage. These rooms will return to full capacity upon hiring of staff to support room setup in these large spaces. Computer labs will operate at full capacity once IT staff bring computers back online that have been unused since March 2020. Maker Spaces and Studios will also operate at full capacity once staff is available to support those areas. As we return to in-person programming, attendance has been minimal but is expected to increase as patrons become more comfortable with attending programs in person.

### **Board Reports**

#### **Governance Committee Report**

Governance Committee Chair Debbie English reported that the Committee met on May 4, 2021. The decision to publish the Bylaw statement was made by the Governance committee, and Ms. English clarified that public comment has been and will continue to be encouraged and welcome at meetings of the Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees appreciates the County Commissioners' faithful attendance and sharing of perspectives at meetings, and apologized for any misunderstanding of the intent of sharing the Bylaw statement. Publishing the statement regarding Public Comment is an effort to communicate the structure used in meetings prior to the pandemic, to bring consistency to Board of Trustee meetings for all who attend, and to inform those who wish to attend of what to expect in our public meetings.

Other topics discussed at the Governance Committee included the mask policy and a progress report from Chief Librarian John Spears on his goals. A more formal review of the Chief Librarian's goals will take place later in the year.

#### **Internal Affairs Committee Report**

Internal Affairs Committee Chair Dr. Ned Stoll reported that the Committee met on May 4, 2021. The mask policy was discussed, and Chief Financial Officer Mike Varnet provided an overview of the development of the 2022 budget.

## **Public Affairs Committee Report**

Public Affairs Committee Chair Mina Liebert reported that the Committee met on May 4, 2021. The discussion included the mask policy and moving forward with 6035 Strategies in partnership with the Communications department.

Ms. Liebert shared there was a phenomenal turnout for the Panorama Park groundbreaking launch and acknowledged the great partnership with the staff at Sand Creek Library. Jake, Jordan, Jenny, Abby, and the rest of the team have coordinated the tile project, participated with mural design, and provided logistical support including computer access, hotspots, and registration of participants. She looks forward to the presentation at next month's Board meeting

Trustee Dr. Ned Stoll thanked Lance for sharing the positive comments from the community, as those voices are often not heard. Those comments are a testament to the work that District staff do on a regular basis that make a difference to our community.

## **Board President's Report**

President Wayne Vanderschuere suggested meeting in-person again and asked Trustees to send their availability to meet in person to either him or John by next week.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to conduct, President Wayne Vanderschuere adjourned the May 19, 2021 meeting of the Pikes Peak Library Board of Trustees at 4:52PM.