

PIKES PEAK LIBRARY DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
SEPTEMBER 18, 2024 5 p.m.  
PENROSE LIBRARY



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: 837 1958 5376  
Passcode: 940463

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

Chief Librarian and CEO Teona Shainidze-Krebs, Chief Communications Officer Denise Abbott, Senior HR Director Timothy Allen, Director of Programming Melody Alvarez, Strategic Services Librarian Bridget Bruch, Assistant Director of Programming Amber Cox, Director of Strategy and Innovation Becca Cruz, Senior Director of Development and Interim Foundation Executive Director Courtney Deuser, Director of Regional History and Genealogy Michael Doherty, Interim Facilities Project Manager Scott Dunkley, Executive Assistant Laura Foster, Senior Librarian Christa Funke, Director of Branches Janina Goodwin, Chief Information Technology Officer Justin Goodwin, Chief Financial Officer Randy Green, Director of Adult Education Sandy Hancock, Strategy & Innovation Training Coordinator Jen Hernandez, Controller Kim Hoggatt, Assistant Director of Branches Gigi Holman, Penrose Library Manager Takiyah Jemison, Interim Chief Facilities Management Officer Travis Keeton, Chief Operating Officer Heather Laslie, Library 21c Manager Jennifer Luebbert, Senior Librarian Rachel Martin, Friends of the Pikes Peak Library District Board of Directors Vice President Dr. Birdie Miller, Senior Librarian Yvette Dow-Rose, Chief Public Services Officer and Deputy Chief Librarian Tammy Sayles, Internal Communications and Special Projects Manager Jeremiah Walter, Library Assistant Jacob Ward, Security Manager Tess Warren, Steve Abele, Jim Allan, Dean Boerrigter, Maureen Bridges, Joshua Campbell, Samantha Christiansen, Mary Beth Clark, Robert Clark, Sarah Dunmire, Rhona Fletcher, Toby Gannett, Jan Hall, Ruble Henderson, Kaname Kuniyuki, Maryah Lauer, Christy Milks, Connie Miller, Sue Miller, Judy Morrill, Justin Morrill, David Neville, Janet Nolan, Paul Parris, Joe Pelka, Eilex Rodriguez, Kimbra Smith, Tavinia Tucker, Buddy Van Doren, Jeanette Van Doren, Jariah Walker, Kathleen Walker, Aaron, Ally

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**CALL TO ORDER**

President Dora Gonzales called the September 18, 2024 regular meeting of the Pikes Peak Library District (PPLD) Board of Trustees to order at 5:02 p.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Jacob Ward, Pikes Peak Library Workers United (PPLWU), commented on PPLD's salary structure and the difference between PPLD and Denver Public Library salaries.

Maureen Bridges provided a letter signed by 60+ members of the Golden Hills HOA Board regarding keeping the Rockrimmon Library open. Rob Hicks is the point of contact for the HOA Board of Directors. Cards from children in the community were shared with the Board.

Judy Morrill commented that no one she has spoken with was asked for input regarding the Facilities Master Plan and recommendation for closing the Rockrimmon Library branch. She mentioned ways to seek additional funding.

Janet Nolan, Friends volunteer at Rockrimmon Library, echoed other comments, and suggested the Friends support patrons as well as staff.

Rona Fletcher patron and Friends volunteer at Rockrimmon Library, does not want it to close.

Steven Abele emailed a letter to the Board in the spring concerning the homeless situation in downtown Colorado Springs and the library's attention to the homeless. Mr. Abele disagrees with providing lockers and chargers for patrons, and with fencing the Penrose campus.

Kathleen Walker commented that the library district needs to fundraise and cannot rely on taxpayer dollars. No facilities should be closed.

Joe Pelka agrees with others who spoke at this meeting and also spoke at the August meeting. He would like to know how the recommendations were developed. President Dora Gonzales stated that the Board does not respond to public comment, and that meeting minutes and related documents are available on the PPLD website.

The following candidates for the upcoming vacancy on the Board of Trustees introduced themselves: Christy Milks, Mary Beth Clark, Samantha Christiansen, Sue Miller, Ruble Henderson, Kenny Kuniyuki, Josh Campbell, Jim Allen, Tavinia Tucker, Kimbra Smith, Paul Parris. Dean Boerrigter

## **REPORTS**

### **Board Reports**

#### **Governance Committee**

Governance Committee Chairperson Julie Smyth shared that the committee discussed finalizing the Board retreat agenda, the onboarding process for new trustees, and reviewing legal guidance from the state.

#### **Internal Affairs Committee**

Internal Affairs Committee Chairperson Aaron Salt stated that the Bristow-Lowell URA project was presented, and that creating a committee for board policies was discussed.

#### **Trustee comments**

Aaron Salt thanked staff for planning for including the Board in the Switchbacks game staff event.

Dora Gonzales attended a few events where PPLD was represented and invited attendees to attend Latina Voices.

#### **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 Vice President Birdie Miller stated that preparations are underway for the Fall Booksale scheduled for October 12 and 13, with a special event for Friends on Friday October 11. Friends will host a Sip and Shop in December as a thank you to PPLD Staff and Friends volunteers.

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

The Pikes Peak Library District Foundation Report was included in the Board packet. Senior Director of Development and Interim Foundation Executive Director Courtney Deuser highlighted the following:

- Foundation is creating a Strategic Plan
- A grant was received from the El Paso County Workforce Center for staff training
- The Friends have offered to cover the cost of the change order for the New Mobile Library

#### **Financial Report**

Chief Financial Officer Randy Green reviewed the Financial Report included in the packet and is working with the Foundation on an intergovernmental distribution.

#### **Public Services Report**

The Public Services Report was included in the Board packet. Chief Public Services Officer and Deputy Chief Librarian Tammy Sayles thanked the Regional History & Genealogy staff who are referring patrons seeking the Pikes Peak News Finder to PPLD's digital resources. Collection Management is preparing for demonstrations from ILS providers who responded to the RFP, and a summary of the cost of lowering shelves at East Library has been created.

#### **Support Services Reports: Communications Report, Facilities Report, Human Resources Report, Information Technology Report; Strategy & Innovation Report, Safety, Social Services, & Security Report**

Interim Facilities Project Manager Scott Dunkley shared pictures and details of the repair of the sinkhole that formed behind the Rockrimmon Library. A concrete company was brought in by the property owner to make the repair.

The East Library paving project is on schedule and will be completed by the end of September.

#### **Chief Librarian and CEO Report**

Chief Librarian and CEO Teona Shainidze-Krebs met with Dr. Bolton of Pikes Peak State College who provided a letter of support for fencing the Penrose Library campus. A quarterly meeting with Colorado Springs Chief of Staff Jamie Fabos included discussions about the challenges of downtown Colorado Springs. A quarterly meeting with Michelle Jeske, Director of the Denver Public Library, consisted of shared budgetary challenges and the reopening of the downtown Denver Library after a two-year renovation. PPLD has joined the Urban Library Council, a valuable link to similar public library districts across the United States. The Manitou Springs Library re-opening remains on schedule. Ms. Shainidze-Krebs closed by sharing that Penrose Library was built on land gifted by the El Pomar Foundation and that a nearby library was closed due to proximity.

## **PRESENTATIONS**

### **Introduction of new staff and staff promotions**

Director of Strategy & Innovation Becca Cruz introduced Strategy & Innovation Training Coordinator Jen Hernandez. An employee of PPLD for ten years, Jen will be developing internal training and assisting with IT training as well.

### **Summer Adventure presentation**

The Summer Adventure Report was included in the Board packet. Christa Funke and Rachel Martin presented on the increase in patron participation and completion of this year's Olympic themed Summer Adventure. Family participation was added this year, and prizes were donated by local businesses.

### **BUSINESS ITEMS**

#### **Consent Items**

Minutes of the August 21, 2024, Board of Trustees meeting

The minutes were included in the Board packet and were accepted as presented.

#### **New Business**

##### **DISCUSSION: URA Bristow-Lowell**

Jariah Walker, Toby Gannett, Sarah Dunmire and David Neville presented this Urban Renewal Authority (URA) attainable housing project. Small units with more common area space are featured in this project with rents set and maintained by HUD. Anyone who is eligible, including students, is encouraged to apply.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to discuss, President Dora Gonzales adjourned the regular meeting of the Pikes Peak Library District at 7:17 p.m.

*A reception for Board applicants followed the meeting.*

*Per requirements of the Colorado Open Meetings Law (C.R.S. § 24-6-402(2)(b)), there will be 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>