

**Providence Community Library  
Board of Directors Minutes  
November 15, 2021  
Rochambeau Library**

**Welcome and Call to Order:**

Board meeting was called to order at 6:02 PM by Zachary Weinberger, Board President

**November 2021 Board Roster:**

LaJuan Allen, Tony Aguilar, Anita Bench, Avital R. Chatto, Joan Dagle, Deborah Del Gais, André Herrera, Caleb Horton, Jean Lamb, Sarah Morenon, V. Raffini, Paige Raposa, Amy Rosa, Adriana Vargas, Pam Vogel, Zachary Weinberger, Cyndie Wilmot, Lynn Zagoudis-Eastridge, Jordan Day, Roseanne Camacho, Gayle Gifford, Abraham Henderson, Kiwé Husband, Tim Moroz, Kathleen Stack

Current Board composition = 25 members

**Board Member(s) Present:**

Tony Aguilar, Joan Dagle, Deborah Del Gais, André Herrera, Jean Lamb, Sarah Morenon, Paige Welch, Amy Rosa, Zachary Weinberger, Cyndie Wilmot, Lynn Zagoudis-Eastridge, Jordan Day, Roseanne Camacho, Gayle Gifford, Abraham Henderson, Kathleen Stack

16 Members present

\*Abraham joined the meeting at 6:09 pm    \*\* Paige arrived at the meeting at 6:23 pm

**Member(s) Absent:**

LaJuan Allen, Anita Bench, Avital Chatto, Caleb Horton, Kiwé Husband, Tim Moroz, V. Raffini, Adriana Vargas, Pam Vogel

9 Members absent

**Minutes:**

Update(s) to previous minutes:

Sarah Morenon was marked absent when she was present

Spelling of Maurine Daw was corrected

Zachary Weinberger moved to approve the September minutes, Jordan Day seconded, and the motion was approved unanimously 14-0 with 1 abstention from Abraham Henderson.

### **President's Report:**

Guest Speaker(s): None

Affiliation(s): not applicable

Topic: Thanking us for being here, excited for his first meeting as Chair and we will continue to do great things as the Community Libraries of Providence.

### **Director's Report:**

Cheryl welcomed all board members back again including new members.

All the libraries are getting busier, people are coming back, business is coming back. Outdoor events have begun to move indoors back to normalcy.

Excited to announce that the Office of Library Information Services has decided to give us another grant to increase Spanish language programs and outreach. \$98k awarded this year, with this funding we will be able to host twice as many programs over a longer period of time with on the ground marketing. This is with American Rescue Plan funds.

Cheryl spoke about our Partnership with College Unbound. We received \$20k from the Olneyville Fund of United Way of RI. This grant is for partnering with College Unbound, a fully accredited college that serves adults who are non-traditional college students. We will be running this pilot project at Olneyville library. This grant also gives us more money for outreach and broadcasting equipment to offer classes.

Rochambeau Library is hosting the Hope St Merchants Association with an Arts and Crafts Makers Fair on December 5, 2021.

Bringing back Drag Queen story hour on December 12, 2021.

Jordan Day offered to help facilitate discussions between PCL and 2022 Mayoral candidates.

Tony asked if we have heating lamps and we have 3. Cheryl will look into getting some more possibly from the Olneyville grant.

Debra Delgase introduced the topic of Mayoral forums. For example, a forum at the Mount Pleasant Library in partnership with another organization has been done in the past.

### **Development Report:**

Michael spoke about Towering Stories. We raised \$53,774 with a net gain of \$26,000.

Special thank you to Gayle and Patricia for volunteering. We engaged with some new sponsors that we are looking to work with in the future like Spin bicycles, First Student, and Providence College.

Zachary asked how much time and effort went into this fundraiser? Was it worth it? Michael responded that COVID did a number on the event, with the three date changes it was tough. It was hard to fully judge, and maybe if there were some tweaks to it next year it would make sense to host again. Also exploring the option of throwing a Gala in the future.

Tony argued that we moved away from Gala's because they were not as inclusive. Michael responded that if raising a lot of money is the goal then these types of events need to be considered.

Gayle asked about accrual accounting, Paige clarified that due to covid there were accounting changes.

Abraham asked how inclusive the event was and Michael stated that it was a very inclusive event. He worked with the City Council to make sure each Ward and library was represented as best as possible.

Jordan added that Towering Stories event discussion goes back to 2018, Jordan supports Michael to find out how they can raise the most capital. Jordan asks that the development committee look into possible solutions.

Michael stressed the importance of building community relationships.

Michael discussed the Fall Giving Plan and highlighted that the library is so much more than books. The theme is recurring gifts this year. Giving Tuesday is December 7, 2021 and letters are in the mail.

Zachary would like the Development committee to bring an outline of fundraising ideas to the first meeting of 2022.

### **Finance Committee Report:**

Jordan emphasized that the October reports are not out yet but will be coming in the December meeting. With Sue's departure there have been some delays but it will be worked out.

Jordan explained the September financial report.  
Still finalizing the 2022 budget due to questions about the American Rescue Plan Act funds.

In December, Jordan is looking for a new report format that's easier to understand.

Cheryl wants to add a second line for grant funded programs.

Jordan wants to work on amending the budget as grants are received.

Jordan Day presented the September 30, 2021 financial statement. Jordan Day moved to approve the September 30, 2021 financial statement.

Joan Dagle seconded, and the motion was approved unanimously 16-0.

**Other Reports:**

Joan explained that this is the second time that the amendment to the bylaws has been on the agenda. Joan Dagle presented the library name change from Providence Community Library to the Community Libraries of Providence.

Joan moved to approve the library name change.

Cyndie Wilmot seconded, and the motion was approved unanimously, 16-0.

\*Jean Lamb departed the meeting after the vote.

**Public Comment:**

**Motion to Adjourn:**

Jordan Day moved to adjourn, Tony Aguilar seconded, and the motion was approved unanimously, 15-0.

Respectfully submitted,

André Herrera  
Secretary