

PCL's January 25, 2021 Board meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Patricia Raub, Board President.

Full Board Roster:

Tony Aguilar, Anita Bench, Kendra Brewster, Avital R. Chatto, Joan Dagle, Jordan Day, Deborah Del Gais, Andre Herrera, Caleb Horton, Jean Lamb, Rochelle Lee, Sarah Morenon, Tim Moroz, Joseph Morra, V. Raffini, Paige Raposa, Patricia Raub, Adriana Vargas, Pam Vogel, Zachary Weinberger, Cyndie Wilmot, Lynn Zagoudis-Eastridge

Current Board composition = 22 members

Members Present:

Tony Aguilar, Anita Bench, Kendra Brewster, Joan Dagle, Jordan Day, Deborah Del Gais, Caleb Horton, Rochelle Lee, Sarah Morenon, Tim Moroz, Joseph Morra, V. Raffini, Paige Raposa, Patricia Raub, Adriana Vargas, Pam Vogel, Zachary Weinberger, Cyndie Wilmot, Lynn Zagoudis-Eastridge

Total 19 members present

\*Joseph Morra joined the meeting after roll call and Board votes

Members Absent:

Avital R. Chatto, Andre Herrera and Jean Lamb  
absent

Total 3 members

PCL Staff: Michael Bordonaro, Sue Gibbs, Sara Huber and Cheryl Space

Guest PCL Staff: Judanne Hamidada

Meeting Guest(s): None

Approval of December 14, 2020 Board Minutes:

Discussion of PCL December 14, 2020 Board meeting minutes with the following material correction(s) to Board minutes:

*S. Gibbs, J. Dagle* -- Report ending date for December Board Finance Report is June 30th, 2020

Motion to Approve December 14, 2020 Board Minutes:

Patricia Raub called for a vote to approve December 2020 Board Minutes with any material corrections.

Motion to approve the motion was made by Joan Dagle and Lynn Zagoudis-Eastridge seconded the motion.

VOTE on the MOTION

Yes 17 No 0. Abstained 1 Unable to Vote 0. Total Votes 18.  
(P. Raposa)

Mission Moment:

Judanne Hamidada of PCL presented progress on the goals and activities of PCL’s inaugural, *Warm Hands Warm Hearts*, project which was carried out in partnership with Neighborhood Health Plan.

The project provides free winter clothing to families and persons in need. PCL was able to purchase over 380 winter coats and accessories to help people stay warm this winter. PCL’s, *Warm Hands, Warm Hearts*, project continues through Feb 5th. Congrats went out to all who made the project a success.

Board President’s Report:

None

Executive Director’s Report:

Comments from Cheryl in addition to her January Director’s Report, emphasized the value and importance of PCL’s work with an array of partners who enhance PCL’s impact and results, such as:

**Program/Project:**

*Warm Hands, Warm Hearts*  
Free CV-19 Testing at Smith Hill Library (Tues/Fri)  
Remote Work Grant/Work at Home Equipment  
Co-Hosting events - Jason Reynolds, (*Stamped*)  
PCL 2/10 Library Reads Guest Authors, (*Riot Baby*)  
Piloting 4 Peer Navigators (SH, KML, SP, WAN)  
Expanded PCL’s Seed Library (Cultural and Heirloom)

**Partner(s):**

Neighborhood Health Plan  
Smith Hill Community Health  
Fab Newport  
RI Center for the Book  
RI Center for the Book/Reading Across RI  
House of Hope  
City of Providence, Office of Sustainability

Board discussion followed including comments on an upcoming event noted in Cheryl’s report.

Approval of January 2021 Board Finance Report:

Pam Vogel, Finance Committee Chair, summarized general information from the December 31, 2020 Board Finance Report. Pam also discussed a new expenses line item named, *‘leasehold improvements’*, was added to PCL’s operating budget to accommodate expenses that are capital expenses and not repair(s). Currently, no funds are budgeted in this new line item.

Board discussion of December Finance Report followed. Jordan Day had no significant news on the status of the City’s 2021 budget.

Motion to Approve January 2021 Board Finance Committee Report:

Patricia Raub called for a vote to approve the Board's December 31, 2020 Finance Committee Report. (no corrections).

Motion to approve was made by Pam Vogel and Paige Raposa seconded the motion.

VOTE on the MOTION

Yes 18 No 0. Abstained 0 Unable to Vote         . Total Votes 18

Board January 2021 Fund Development Report:

Michael Bordonaro gave an update on several ongoing fund development activities included in his January Board Report.

Highlights of his comments include:

- Update on PCL's 2020 Fall Appeal - raised \$89,564 to date; only a few donations away to reaching PCL's goal of \$100k. Average gift is \$184 from 486 donors. Michael anticipates there will be several other gifts coming in before the campaign closes. Michael is doing ongoing follow up with PCL's pledges.
- Update on PCL's 2021 Fall Appeal - continuing with the Book Plate appeal next fall. Response has been overwhelming and heartfelt, providing new ways to interact with PCL's donors.
- Board discussion of Michael's January Fund Development report and a few comments and requests for more information followed.
- Michael described a short-notice fundraiser hosted by Dr. Fine, which PCL was designated as a beneficiary of the proceeds raised. Dr. Fine had a book launch of his just published, The Bull and Other Stories. Twenty-nine people made gifts to the library at Dr. Fine's event which featured a panel discussion of how the arts impact community issues. Dr. Fine's third party event raised \$755.00 to date.
- "Jeeper's Keepers" - raffle books are in and ready for sale. Pick up tickets from Michael. \$20 for 1 or \$100 for 6 tickets; only 2,000 total. Drawing is July 1st. Raffle marketing materials are in English and Spanish. The Jeep raffle fundraising goal is \$30k.
- Over the Edge - an update will be coming in February. Plans are to broaden the event.

Board Program Committee Report:

Kendra Brewster presented an update on a recent PCL program survey of library visitors to learn more about ways how the pandemic has impacted their use of library services.

This library program survey focused on three open ended questions:

1. What library services have you used during the pandemic?
2. What did you find useful or important?
3. What else would you like us to know regarding your library experience?

A list of PCL's variety of library services and each PCL library are included in the survey.

Overview of Kendra's presentation on PCL's program survey results:

- 50 Participants responded, only English surveys were completed (Spanish surveys were available)
- A broad age range of people completed the survey
- Nearly half of the respondents had children
- All neighborhood libraries were represented in the survey
- Most respondents were from Rochambeau Library
- Most respondents say they intend to visit their library in person (when possible)
- Respondents also described the library services they have used during the pandemic, (e.g business support, access to books and e-books, story time, enrichment learning, check out and other delivery options)

Board discussion of the specific findings of the survey followed. The survey information was very helpful to PCL staff and Board members. Many thanks to PCL staff and Program Committee members.

#### Discussion and Questions Regarding Other Reports in Board Package:

*Advocacy and Marketing Report* - Deb Del Gais asked about the status of the redesign process for PCL's logo, graphics, letterhead and signage.

Tony Aguilar gave an overview of the Committee process and plans for getting input and feedback from various PCL stakeholders. Updates and feedback will be regularly provided and sought during Board and Committee meetings.

#### Public Comments:

None

#### Motion to Adjourn:

Jordan Day made a motion to adjourn the January 2021 Board meeting; Zachary Weinberger seconded the motion.

VOTE ON THE MOTION:

Vote on the motion to adjourn was unanimous. Patricia Raub, Board President adjourned the meeting at 7:18 pm.