

Providence Community Library

Board of Directors Minutes

June 19, 2017

South Providence Library

1. Welcome and Call to Order

President Cyndie Wilmot called the meeting to order at 6:07 pm.

Patricia Raub took the roll call, noting that 12 trustees were present, constituting a quorum.

Present: Tony Aguilar, Deborah Del Gais, Judanne Hamidzada, Christine Kue, Matthew Lawrence, Robert Lin, Mark McKinney, Patricia Raub, Debbie Schimberg, Ellen Schwartz, Cyndie Wilmot, Ken Wise. Pam Vogel arrived at 6:15, making the quorum 13 from that point on.

Absent: Avital Chatto, Elena Chiaradio, Joan Dagle, Grace Diaz, Althea Graves, Rochelle Lee, Jyothi Subramaniam

2. Minutes

D. Del Gais moved that the board minutes from 5/15/17 be accepted. T. Aguilar seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

3. President's Report

C. Wilmot announced that Olneyville Library is still open—and the Grand Opening on May 30 was a huge success. She mentioned that the venue for this year's Gala on June 2 was better than last year's, with plenty of room for people to walk around and visit with one another. E. Schwartz reported that the Spanish GED graduation on Saturday, June 17, was a heart-warming event, with graduates and their families very happy.

4. Director's Report

Jeffrey Cannell reported that Providence Preservation Society donated \$3600 from their Festival Preview Party to help pay for the Knight Memorial Library architectural assessment; also, the Friends of Rochambeau have contributed \$6000.

He announced that he will be spending more time in the near term on Development; he and S. Kumins will be attending a library fund-raising conference in Seattle in July.

He was asked if it might be a good idea to hire a fund-raising consultant, to determine our fund-raising capacity and perhaps to help with a capital campaign. He took the suggestion under advisement.

Meanwhile, PCL is initiating use of digital tools to be more organized in our donor approach.

There was a general discussion of the progress and goals of the Strategic Planning process and of our consultant's role going forward. D. Schimberg recommended a board retreat in July to determine board members' concerns. We decided to wait to hold a retreat in late August or early

September, when we will have more data from the Strategic Planning Community Conversations to review.

P. Raub asked about the \$5,000 planning grant to develop partnerships and programming models for a next-generation cybermobile. J. Cannell affirmed that PCL, possibly in conjunction with PPL, would need to purchase a new bookmobile to institute these plans, and it would cost in the vicinity of \$300,000.

5. Finance Committee Report

There was a lengthy discussion of the lack of consistency between the Donations figures in the Finance reports and the Development reports, making it difficult for the Board to tell if we are meeting our Development goals. M. McKenney and D. Schimberg asked J. Cannell to see if it would be possible to present figures at the July Board meeting that are more consistent.

P. Vogel made a motion to accept the Budget statements ending 4/30/17 and 5/31/17, D. Del Gais seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

6. Development Committee Report

M. Lawrence reported that the Gala ticket sales, donations, and raffle proceeds were down this year, compared with last year, although the sponsorships were about the same. We made about \$28,000 this year, \$8,000 less than last year.

M. Lawrence reported on the results of a Board poll that asked what aspects of the Gala board members liked or didn't like. Board members engaged in a general discussion of possible strategies for a more successful fund-raiser next year.

S. Kumins announced that the Mini-Golf fund-raiser is already on the calendar for early November. He gave a presentation describing a possible fund-raiser to replace the Gala next year. Called [Over the Edge](#), it involves rappelling down a fairly tall building. To participate, a person would need to raise \$1000 from family, co-workers and/or friends who want to watch that person engage in this dare-devil event.

The board was tentatively enthusiastic about the proposal, so the Development Committee will work on it.

7. Facilities Committee Report

The front windows at Smith Hill Library have been broken for a second time. Sue and Mike are meeting with the surveillance camera people to see if the cameras can be repositioned to enable authorities to recognize the perpetrators.

D. Del Gais announced that the PPS Festival of Houses helped to highlight the many facilities issues confronting Knight Memorial Library as we move toward focusing upon resolving these problems.

8. Governance Committee Report

P. Raub presented the committee's recommended change to Section V. Committees in the PCL By-Laws:

V.2. The President of the Board shall appoint members to the Advocacy, Development, Facilities, Finance and Governance Committees and such ad hoc committees as are needed. Proposed revision is to add: All non-board committee members will be considered for reappointment annually.

M. McKenney seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

The Governance Committee is soliciting suggestions for additional board members. Anyone with recommendations should contact P. Raub.

9. Advocacy Committee Report

No report this month.

10. Public Comment

D. Schimberg announced the PCL Friends' summer event—Nine Libraries in Nine Weeks, starting on July 1 and ending on September 1. The objective is to encourage library patrons to visit all nine PCL libraries. Contestants will be entered in a raffle at every library they visit. Those who visit all nine libraries will also be entered in the raffle for a Grand Prize.

D. Del Gais announced the Mount Pleasant Friends' Book Sale and Yard Sale on Saturday, June 24.

M. Lawrence announced that South Providence Library will be hosting a bilingual Trinity Rep production of *Romeo and Juliet* at 7 pm on July 14.

11. Adjournment

M. McKenney moved to adjourn the meeting and D. Del Gais seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm. (No time off for good behavior.)

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Raub

Acting Secretary