
ARAPAHOE LIBRARY DISTRICT

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

April 16, 2024

Eloise May Library
1471 S Parker Rd
Denver, CO

MEMBERS PRESENT: Scott Bodfish, Steve Oliver, Katie Schroeder, Liz Nichols, Sally Daigle, Bill Shaw, Theresa Mehringer (virtual)

MEMBERS ABSENT:

PUBLIC:

OTHERS ATTENDING: Beth Dauer, Attorney

STAFF PRESENT: Oli Sanidas, Executive Director; Marie Greene, Executive Assistant; Jennifer Mahin, Director of Finance; Anthony White, Director of Innovation and Technology; Jessica Sidener, Director of Marketing Strategy and Community Relations; Linda Speas, Director of Library Operations; Cynthia Kiyotake, Associate Director of Library Operations; Kim Collie, Director of the Project Management Office; Caroline Heinselman, Director of People Services; Brad Wedig, Library Manager; Mollie Lancaster, Collection Librarian; Asia Groves, Library Supervisor; Cassidy Sauer, Library Supervisor

Katie Schroeder opened the meeting at 5:45 p.m.

Katie opened the meeting to public comment by reading the Guidelines for Public Introductions and Comment:

Thank you for attending this meeting of the Arapahoe Library District Board of Trustees. We appreciate your interest. It is the policy of the Board to invite audience participation during the public comment portion of the agenda set aside for this purpose.

1. If you wish to speak, please sign your name and address on the sign-in sheet.

2. You may take up to five minutes to make your comments. (This time constraint may be modified by the Board President to be less than five minutes if there are a number of persons wishing to speak.)
3. We will take up to 10 minutes for public comment at the beginning of the meeting. If there are more comments, we will provide additional time at the end of the meeting for an additional 30 minutes.
4. The Trustees will not be able to engage in dialogue with you, but they will make sure that you are contacted at a later time to answer any questions you may have.
5. If you have not already been introduced to the Board, please state your name and address before you begin.
6. We thank you for coming to this meeting and for your interest in the Arapahoe Library District.

There was no public comment.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES No. 840: Liz Nichols moved to approve the minutes from the March 19, 2024 board meeting. Sally Daigle seconded and the motion passed.

FINANCIALS: Jennifer Mahin reviewed the financials with the trustees.

Sally Daigle moved to accept the Financials as presented. Liz Nichols seconded, and the motion passed. Approval of the Financials means:

- Acceptance of the Statement of Revenue and Expense
- Acceptance of the Balance Sheet

BOARD OFFICER ELECTIONS: Sally Daigle made a motion to approve the proposed slate of officers:

Katie Schroeder, President
Theresa Mehringer, Vice President
Liz Nichols, Secretary

Scott Bodfish seconded the motion and the slate was approved.

BOARD PRESIDENT REPORT: Katie Schroeder reported that the board retreat will be held on May 7 at Koelbel Library. Katie reported that she interviewed five facilitators and recommends the board hire Flossie O'Leary. Five proposals were received, which ranged in price from \$2,000 to \$62,000. Flossie's proposal was in the \$2000 range. Katie will send the proposal to the board for review. The board agreed to hire Flossie O'Leary.

Katie also reported that she attended the PLA conference. She attended several sessions on the topics of censorship and book banning and said it made her grateful to live in an area with minimal incidents.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT: Oli Sanidas reported that the annual Building Authority meeting is in the process of being scheduled. The Building Authority is a formality that oversees the debt for building projects. The BA president has renewed his term and there will be a new member joining this year.

Oli also reported on some insights that he gained from attending SXSW around technology innovations, AI and sustainability.

Oli advised that ALD has solicited local historians for the General Sheridan Historical Study and Report. Responses have been received from two historians who are interested in working on the project. Sally Daigle recommended Roger Rowland, who is a historian and a member of the Sheridan Historical Society.

Oli reported that senate bill 24-049, which is the bill about creating a process for banning books, has been reworked to remove school libraries and focus on assisting public libraries. In a meeting with other library executive directors, Oli announced that he supports the bill since the legislation will create a strong state policy for handling book bans. Beth Dauer noted that this legislation has been challenging for her to navigate since she represents many different library districts who have differing opinions. She feels that having a codified process would be a win for libraries in Colorado. Sally requested that a link to the bill be sent to the trustees once it's been revised and finalized.

Bill Shaw asked about an article he read about Garfield County Commissioners and their board appointment process. Beth responded that ALD is in the forefront of this issue because ALD has an intergovernmental agreement with the county commissioners for trustee appointments. She noted that holding elections for library trustees would be extremely expensive and potentially could bankrupt some libraries in the state.

LEGAL STATUS REPORT: Attorney Beth Dauer did not have anything to add beyond what was discussed during the Executive Director report.

PRESENTATION: 2024 STRATEGIC PLAN OVERVIEW: Anthony White, Director of Innovation and Technology, reminded the board that the strategic plan was developed in 2023 in collaboration with ALD staff. The four objectives for the strategic plan are Employee Value Proposition, Patron-Centric, Outreach, and Growth Mindset. In 2024, sub-projects are being worked on to accomplish goals for each. One of the projects is collecting data and storing it all in a data

warehouse. ALD has massive amounts of data sources which need to be collected into one location. A customer relationship management system is being implemented to help store and track communications with ALD's vendors, partners, donors, and major stakeholders. A data visualizer will be created to take the data and make it visually digestible in an interactive way. This will allow leadership to see how ALD compares with other library districts in the state. ALD is also working on creating data transparency internally so staff feedback can be collected and shared with employees. Another project is auditing all of ALD's services with the intent to identify data blind spots that may exist. Demographic data is being collected to evaluate who in the community is being reached and who is not. This data can be calculated to show value to the patrons. Another project is to develop shared definitions for several terms, such as "outreach," "partnerships," and several others. Work on these projects has already begun and it will take most of the year to work through the data warehousing project.

Scott Bodfish asked what organizational questions ALD would like to answer with these projects that cannot currently be answered. Anthony responded that ALD needs to create baseline data points so that trends can be identified with the intent of modifying services in the future based on community need.

STRATEGIC PLAN REPORT: Kim Collie, Director of the Project Management Office, highlighted the community conversation event where members of the community were able to discuss topics from differing perspectives. Jessica Sidener noted that the next community conversation is scheduled in May.

Kim also mentioned that ALD held an event featuring the Phantom Circus, which was free for the community.

There being no further business, Liz Nichols moved to adjourn, Scott Bodfish seconded and the meeting was adjourned at 7:11 pm.

04/18/2024

Date Approved

Liz Nichols

Liz Nichols (May 23, 2024 11:49 MDT)

Liz Nichols, Secretary






April 16, 2024 board minutes_TO BE SIGNED

Final Audit Report

2024-05-23

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