

**Pinellas Public Library Cooperative  
Library Directors Advisory Council  
Regular Monthly Meeting  
APPROVED MINUTES  
November 9, 2020 – Meeting Location: Zoom Virtual Meeting**

**LDAC Member Attendance:**

- Jen Obermaier, Clearwater
- ✓ Phyllis Gorshe, Dunedin
- ✓ Lois Eannel, East Lake
- ✓ Vince Gadrix, Gulf Beaches (Chair)
- ✓ Dave Mather, Gulfport
- ✓ Casey McPhee, Largo
- ✓ Susan Hurley, Oldsmar
- ✓ Gene Coppola, Palm Harbor
- ✓ Angela Pietras, Pinellas Park
- ✓ Lisa Kothe, Safety Harbor
- ✓ Betcinda Kettells, St. Pete Beach
- Mika Nelson, St. Petersburg
- Lorie Tonti, Seminole
- ✓ Cari Rupkalvis, Tarpon Springs

**PPLC Staff Attendance:**

- Cheryl Morales, PPLC Executive Director
- ✓ David Stoner, PPLC Technology Coordinator
- ✓ Gary Earl, PPLC Countywide Services Coordinator

**Other Guests:**

- ✓ Beth Lindsay, St. Petersburg Public Libraries

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1. Vince called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m.
  2. **Roll Call** - Jen Obermaier, Mika Nelson, and Lorie Tonti were not in attendance at the time of roll call. Jen joined the meeting at approximately 2:30. Cheryl also was unable to attend.
  3. **Approval of October 2020 Minutes** – Motion made by Lisa, seconded by Sue; approved.
  4. **SIG Reports** – nothing notable; only YS Sig was reported as having met recently.
  5. **Old Business**
    - A. **“Fine Free Considerations”** document presented by Casey and Lisa that included a summary of the key policy elements brought forth at October’s meeting. Included a little bit of new input from David Stoner about how Sirsi functions regarding overdue thresholds and grace periods. Some continued discussion regarding the handling of special collections and the possibility of accelerating billing dates for these if not feasible to reprogram collections and/or item types. David Stoner asked libraries to send lists of special collections/items to him so he could see where they fall in the circulation map.
    - B. **Motion** made by Betcinda to pursue the **countywide elimination of overdue fines** with implementation effective October 1, 2021, with exact details of an accompanying policy to be finalized at/by the May 2020 LDAC meeting. Motion seconded by Casey; the motion carried with eight yes votes, two nay votes (Palm Harbor and East Lake) and one library abstaining (Dunedin). Clearwater was not present at the time of the vote. St. Petersburg and Seminole had cast affirmative votes in advance via e-mail.
    - C. **Donations** – Most libraries indicate challenges with quarantining, storage space, and overall quality considerations for donated materials. Majority still not accepting.

**D. Adjustment to Hours of Operations** – Some locations have resumed weekend hours, though overall, no reports of resuming pre-Covid operating hours with pending swell in Covid cases. Hours and holiday closures are visible on PPLC’s web site.

**E. Programming** – status quo, reluctance to encourage gatherings with rise in Covid cases

**6. New Business – Creating a Space for Countywide Staff to Shared Tech Class Curricula**

Angela inquired if there was interest in creating a place for staff to share tech class materials. Brief discussion regarding file types, platform, etc.; promotional videos vs. materials for group instruction. Not all libraries offer the same type of classes but some discussion about re-inventing wheels and that many could benefit from promotional “how to” videos for shared countywide resources. Angela will follow up with Cheryl.

**7. PPLC Topics** - none

**8. PPLC Board Meeting - LDAC Chair Report**– nothing notable

**9. Public Comment: None**

**10. Announcements from PPLC Libraries (10 minutes):**

**Clearwater** – Renovation of Main Library still in limbo; original City meeting(s) to discuss postponed until late November 30 and December 3

**East Lake** – Exterior hold lockers in place; tested and should be live on November 16.

**Safety Harbor** – Parking lot book sale in October netted \$1500.

**11. Adjournment:** 2:56 p.m.

**Next LDAC meeting: Monday, January 11 at 2:00 p.m.  
Location: Zoom**

Respectfully submitted,  
Angela Pietras, LDAC Secretary