

**Pinellas Public Library Cooperative
Library Directors Advisory Council
Regular Monthly Meeting
APPROVED MINUTES
January 11, 2021– 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:

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1. Vince called the meeting to order at 2:02 p.m.
 2. **Roll Call** - Mika Nelson was not in attendance at the time of roll call but arrived at 2:06 pm.
 3. **Approval of November 2020 Minutes** – Motion made by Casey seconded by Jen; approved.
 4. **SIG Reports**
 - A. **E-Content** – Jen reviewed the group’s minutes.
 - B. **YS Sig** – Angela shared that Bronwyn McCarthy is the new liaison for Pinellas County Schools. She had good energy and engaged in a good conversation about PCS’s Overdrive collection, a couple of important subject/projects that might still require students to need resources from the public library, and shared that use of the MyOn platform seems to vary from school to school, though she did mention that they like the progress and reading growth tools that MyOn offers.
 - C. **Cataloging Sig** – Susan reported that there have been no meetings but there have been staff inquiries about batchloading. Cheryl and LDAC have previously discussed this topic with few voicing urgency about it. LDAC was polled and 79% responded that they still offer ILL service through OCLC, which would be the primary driver to pursuing it. Cheryl has previously stated that PPLC would no longer be pursuing this project on behalf of the member libraries, so it would fall to individual libraries to pursue it.
 5. **Old Business**
 - A. **“Fine Free” Policy Progress** - Updated document in style of public-information handout presented by Casey and Lisa that included a summary of the key policy elements brought forth in previous meetings. Discussion at what point after original due date to restrict further circulation privileges and assess bill price for unreturned items; 10

days interested most and is close to the timeframes used by Hillsborough and Sarasota. East Lake and Palm Harbor voiced concern over local-use special collections. Lisa made a **motion to allow exceptions to the fine-free policy for special collections**, with the understanding that the circ-rules in Sirsi would not reflect the exception so the owning library would be responsible for manually assessing any overdue fines. Casey seconded. Cheryl suggested that LDAC vote by electronic polling instead of the usual voice vote; LDAC made no objection. The motion carried unanimously. There was an additional suggestion from Phyllis that those libraries who plan to continue using collection agencies agree on uniform timeframe for activation of that process; to be discussed further at a later time.

- B. Donations and Book Sales** – Status quo from last meeting, few want to advertise for donations but some willing to have PPLC post it. Largo shop open; mixed approach around county. Depends on size of shop space, willingness of volunteers.
- C. Adjustment to Hours of Operations** – Largely status quo. Largo has temporarily reduced evening hours. Hours and holiday closures are visible on PPLC’s web site.
- D. Programming** – status quo, reluctance to encourage gatherings with rise in Covid cases. East Lake inquired about summer reading, though no one could predict that far out.

6. New Business

- A. AARP Tax Assistance** – Some report that the north county AARP has stated assistance will not be offered. South county libraries report contacts, with Gulfport, Pinellas Park, St. Pete reporting that have had initial conversations with the AARP to offer space for appointment-only service but details have not been firmed up yet. Reps reported to Pinellas Park that AARP is looking at Covid case levels to determine when service starts.
- B. Sirsi “Click & Collect” app Feature** – Dunedin interested in testing this component that facilitates curbside pick-up.
- C. 2021 LDAC Schedule** – Consensus to repeat 2020 pattern, with no May, July, or December meetings. Consensus to move meeting time will move up by one hour to 1:00 pm.
- D. Speaker Sprowls’ “New Worlds Initiative”** – Phyllis mentioned opportunity for libraries to remind the Florida House Speaker of ongoing library programs that align with his goals surrounding childhood literacy and reading outlined in his November 17, 2020 Inaugural address. Cheryl encourages PPLC libraries to send list of everything in area of early childhood, including pre-Covid programming. Deadline is Jan. 15.

7. PPLC Topics

- A. Courier Issues** – Please report all missed, late, and incomplete deliveries to Cheryl.
- B. PPLC Fee Card Amount** – Cheryl pointed out that non-member fee has stood at \$100 since 1993 and polled if any wanted to discuss raising the fee, noting that it would require buy-in from signers of the Inter-local agreement to change. No motion put forward by LDAC and separate interest poll showed only 20% interest in raising the fee. Cheryl distributed a breakdown of current fee card numbers by area and where cards issued.
- C. Reciprocal Borrower Agreement with Indian Rocks Beach** – Cheryl reported that since Indian Rocks Beach Library was not a State Aid recipient, there was no obligation to continue a reciprocal borrowing agreement. Of greatest interest was whether IRB cardholders were allowed access to PPLC’s Overdrive collection; IRB had previously contributed \$4000+/- to PPLC for this privilege, though it is believed that IRB cardholders

now have access through agreement with TBLC. Cheryl will make some inquiries to library director Lee Miller.

- D. **“Fresh Desk” system being phased out** for reporting Sirsi issues. Now e-mail to PPLC/David Stoner will be method of reporting.

- E. **PPLC Board Meeting - LDAC Chair Report**– nothing notable. When ready, meeting minutes always posted to <https://pplc.us/about/board-of-directors/>.

- F. **Public Comment: None**

- G. **Announcements from PPLC Libraries**
 - Dunedin** – Hosting online staff training event on President’s Day; Shola speaker. Phyllis will share link if others wish to listen.
 - East Lake** – Exterior hold lockers have been used for 30 transactions since debut on December 1. Gizmos & Gadgets collection now offered, includes video game controllers and such, which are very popular.
 - Gulfport** – Annual “ReadOut Lesbian Literature Festival” will be virtual this year, Feb. 26-28.
 - Seminole** – Friends’ conducting book sales via honor cash-box, had a \$60 day.

- H. Having reached the end of the agenda, Vince **adjourned the meeting at 4:09 p.m.**

Next LDAC meeting: Monday, February 8, 2021 at 2:00 p.m.
Location: Zoom

Respectfully submitted,
Angela Pietras, LDAC Secretary