

**Pinellas Public Library Cooperative
Library Directors Advisory Council
Regular Monthly Meeting
OFFICIAL MINUTES**

September 13, 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
- ✓ Geri Remming, Largo proxy
- ✓ Susan Hurley, Oldsmar
- ✓ Marisa Steuer, Palm Harbor proxy
- ✓ Angela Pietras, Pinellas Park
- ✓ Lisa Kothe, Safety Harbor
- ✓ Betcinda Kettels, 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 1:03 p.m.
 2. **Roll Call** – Ex-officio members present to create a quorum at the time of roll call included Jen Obermaier, Phyllis Gorshe, Lois Eannel, Vince Gadrix, (Chair), Dave Mather, Susan Hurley, Angela Pietras, Lisa Kothe, Mika Nelson, Lorie Tonti, and Cari Rupkalvis. Geri Remming was the proxy representative for Largo Library and Marisa Steuer was the proxy representative for Palm Harbor. Libraries not represented by voting members at the time of roll call were St. Pete Beach, though Betcinda Kettels logged in right after roll call at 1:05 pm. Lisa Kothe logged off at 1:55 pm, Mika Nelson logged off at 3:00 pm, and Jen Obermaier logged off at 3:03 pm. PPLC staff members in attendance were Cheryl Morales, Gary Earl, and David Stoner.
 3. **Approval of August 2021 Minutes** – Motion made by Lorie to approve; seconded by Phyllis. Minutes approved.
 4. **SIG Reports**
 - A. **E Content Sig** - Jen Obermaier read the meeting minutes to the group. The highlight included transitioning to marketing the name Libby over Overdrive as much as possible to train users before the mid-February change. There also was some interest from the Sig to better accommodate homeless with a special pass offered by hoopla; LDAC did not add this topic to its meeting agenda. Since the group's minutes had a lot of details about the fine-free policy, it led to clarification and discussion that Overdrive will be the only e-book resource limited by the policy.
 - B. **YS Sig** – Angela shared that there was a proposal to create a platform on PPLC's web site for the sharing of crafting projects to potentially reduce the amount of time spent on show & tell during meetings and to also make projects searchable by theme and/or skills. PPLC is ready and able to support it. There was no position from LDAC, so it will be

voluntary and up to staff to determine their interest in making it a success. Angela mentioned that the group also discussed Covid-era stress and anxiety among children and brainstormed creating another video book reading on this theme that might actually include other activities so as to be a full virtual program on the topic.

5. **Old Business - Fine-Free Policy**– Consensus still to wait until October 1 for release of PR announcements with the understanding that the news may start leaking before then. Highlights from E Content Sig led to discussion about the similar services hoopla and Kanopy, with some concern to see consistency in blocking access to the same type of resources, but LDAC did not revisit the recently approved policies. St. Pete Beach is considering implementing additional restrictions to these particular products. Revised PR materials were emailed; some prefer details from the original draft. Lisa will email “final” staff and public versions of FAQs.

6. New Business

A. Overdrive and Its Umbrella Products

Overdrive has acquired several products that member libraries have either collectively or individually offered. The RB Digital magazine collection has already migrated to the Overdrive platform. Phyllis inquired if there was interest in looking at Craftsy or Law Depot as a countywide resource under the Overdrive umbrella. There was little feedback. Overdrive created an “Advantage” account for Oldsmar to manage its offering of Universal Class on the platform. LDAC would like to invite an Overdrive rep to explain how libraries are to use Advantage plans when they wish to pursue additional products on the platform.

B. CloudLibrary

St. Pete, Palm Harbor, East Lake, and St. Pete Beach are now participating in this product to help satisfy demand for new release/bestselling ebook titles. The pricing/lease terms are similar to those in Overdrive. Though libraries can contribute additional funds to the OD collection and/or can pursue additional copies of bestsellers for their local users in OD via an Advantage plan, those subscribing like that their users have access to a larger shared collection from the pool of other participating libraries than we currently have in the PPLC collection. (200,000 items versus 77,000 in PPLC’s collection). LDAC would like to invite a Cloud Library rep to an upcoming meeting to learn more about this product.

C. LDAC October Meeting

Consensus to skip October since the date conflicts with staff development day.

7. PPLC Topics

- A. **New PPLC Board Members** – Michael Delk will now be representing the City of Clearwater. Pinellas County has chosen Christopher Moore to replace Bill Berger. Mike Jefferis has stepped up as Vice-Chair to prepare for chair Doug Lewis’ retirement in January. The City of Pinellas Park has not yet named Doug’s replacement on the board.
- B. **Staff Development Day** – Schedule not yet finalized. Given the very abbreviated schedule, (possibly 11-3 with a lunch break) some libraries are opting to remain open. Some are waiting for the schedule to see what they can do to supplement the training locally. Cheryl will e-mail out details once they are nailed down.
- C. **Museum Passes** – Gary Earl reported that circulation is not yet back to pre-Covid levels but all are happy that the program has resumed.
- D. **Sirsi Enterprise Upgrade Now Includes Syndetics** – Sirsi upgraded the public facing catalog (Enterprise) to include supplemental author information, book reviews, etc. in

each bibliographic record. David Stoner showed where to find the “Explore Summary” tab at the bottom of the record. Novelist’s integrated reading suggestions are still included in the same area under the “Suggestions and More” tab.

- E. Courier** –Some details about the transition to UPS have only grown more unclear. Hoping for another update from TBLC and/or the state library soon.
- F. Fine-Free Start Date – Still October 1.** PPLC will update overdue notice wording, report schedules, etc. and other details as seems appropriate.
- G. Data Integrity Manager Starts Oct. 1–** Whitney Harrison has been a part-time employee at PPLC and, in anticipation of this position, recently completed her MLS with a focus on cataloging classes. She will be charged with helping to improve consistency and accuracy in bibliographic and patron records. “How-to” videos may be created. Cheryl asked LDAC to remind staff that East Lake and Palm Harbor residents should not be assigned to the unincorporated patron stat class but should be treated as cities in this field. Cheryl also requested that libraries send in any relevant cheat-sheets that could be useful for Whitney in her role.
- H. ARPA Grant/Career Online High School** – Cheryl had previously alerted libraries via email that information from the state library made it clear the odds of success for PPLC’s ARPA grant application were slim. Libraries which had been included in the combined grant effort were told in the email where they could pursue other funding.

8. PPLC Board Meeting - LDAC Chair Report – nothing significant, though LDAC noted its sadness at the passing of Board Member and Clearwater City Manager Mr. Bill Horne.

9. Public Comment: none

10. Announcements from PPLC Libraries –

Dunedin – Kathy Smuz head reference librarian, retiring this week

East Lake – Will become 2nd PPLC library since Gulfport to offer passport processing services; hours changing Oct. 4 to include later evening and Sunday hours

Palm Harbor – new assistant director Mary Canfield relocating from Ohio to start 9/20; library will be closed Oct. 4-8 for exterior canopy installation

Seminole – Lori Thompson hired as Librarian II (adult/cataloguing), Toni Green as youth librarian, Angela Portelli replaced Marion Chamberlain (retired) as head of circulation

St. Pete Beach – New cataloger starts 9/20, “someone we’ll recognize” so stay tuned!

11. Having reached the end of the agenda, Vince **adjourned the meeting at 3:06 p.m.**

Next LDAC meeting: Monday, November 8, 2021 at 1:00 p.m.

Location: TBD

Respectfully submitted,
Angela Pietras, LDAC Secretary