

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

November 8, 2021– Meeting Location: Zoom Virtual Meeting

LDAC Member Attendance:

- ✓ Jen Obermaier, Clearwater
- ✓ Kari Morrel, Dunedin – proxy
- ✓ Lois Eannel, East Lake
- ✓ Vince Gadrix, Gulf Beaches
- ✓ 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 - Chair
- ✓ 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
- ✓ Whitney Harrison, PPLC Data Integrity Coordinator

Other Guests:

- ✓ Andy Bucher, OverDrive
- ✓ Brett Ward, Bibliotheca/cloudLibrary

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1. Betcinda called the meeting to order at 1:01pm
 2. **Roll Call** – Whitney Harrison, PPLC’s Data Integrity Coordinator was introduced. Welcome Whitney!
 3. **Acceptance of September 2021 Minutes** – Lois made a motion to accept the minutes with the addition of the PPLC Board member names. Lisa seconded.
 4. **Vendor Presentations**

Andy Bucher from OverDrive: Andy shared a PowerPoint that he will pass along to Cheryl. He discussed OverDrive’s acquisition of Recorded Books as well as some of the other new databases and streaming services that will soon be available to patrons within Libby. Any checkouts in these new services do not count against patron eBook/eAudiobook limits. Libby Updates: Notify Me (new issues of magazines are added), Smart Tags (patrons can track items they’ve checked out), Wish Lists (will sync OverDrive wishlist titles into a single tag in Libby), App Redesign; Search Updates: some titles (.pdf only titles) not visible in Libby yet – they are working on that to be completed before OD app is sunsetted in early 2022. New Access Model (metered access) available for primarily Recorded Books right now but working on increasing titles. Andy reminded us about Community Reads & COVID Resources that contain free circ content – Public Library CONNECT – Sora is free school app that allows students to use the student ID to borrow the school’s digital collection as well as the public library’s OverDrive collection. Pinellas is not currently a member of Public Library CONNECT – it’s free to become a member and Pinellas Schools have expressed interest to OverDrive - helps removes barriers for students that can’t get to the library to get a card, reports could be run in Marketplace – New Content: All Access Comics, Magazines,

Recorded Books – Big Library Read happening through Monday, Nov 15 – Marketing Materials available – Advantage accounts available, form will need to be signed – Universal Class, etc. Reach out to Andy to add any of those services at the Advantage level.

Brett Ward from Bibliotheca: cloudLibrary platform- discussed three Bibliotheca services: eContent, mobile checkout (mentioned Largo is using this) that allows patrons to check out items on their phone, and self-check kiosks. CloudLibrary (East Lake/Palm Harbor, St. Pete Beach and St. Pete Libraries currently participate) features the same content as what’s available through OverDrive/Hoopla, etc. CloudLibrary apps are compatible with iOS and Android devices, as well as KindleFire – only device that is not compatible is Kindle Paperwhite. With cloudLibrary, your patrons are the only ones who can place holds on your specific titles. When your copies are not in use, other participating library systems are then be able to access them, and vice versa. There are currently 37 participating FL libraries – 245,000 sharable copies, averaging \$9.8 mill in accessible content. Lois: favorable, shorter hold times, wide variety of titles, patrons don’t realize the material comes from other libraries in FL, patrons benefitting. Certain publishers do not share titles out (i.e. Hachette), so those titles would only be visible to purchasing library, otherwise any unused titles will be available to go out to other libraries. Approx. 80% of collection is available at any given time. Gene: agrees with Lois, helps to expand services to community. Original PPLC pricing is still available, so individual libraries still have benefits of consortium pricing: waived first-year platform fee, indefinitely waived cloudLinking fee, after 1st year is a 50% reduction that is based on population service area.

4. SIG Reports

E Content SIG – Cheryl said they’ve spent about \$70,000 already this year

YS SIG – new chair is Michelle Wannike from CLW

CAT SIG – nothing to report, next meeting is Wednesday 11.17

CIRC SIG – nothing to report

ADULT SERVICES SIG – Meeting in Oct, not much to report, mostly program sharing and Beanstack– nice to hear libraries are having in-person programs again

5. Old Business

Fine-Free Rollout – seems to be working pretty well, no complaints

6. New Business

LDAC Liaisons for SIGs – Adult Services – Casey keeping; CAT – Susan keeping; CIRC – Lisa keeping; eContent – Jen keeping; YS SIG – Lorie, with Lois as backup – there was a reminder that Liaisons should send minutes to Cheryl so she can put them up on the web

RBdigital and Zinio items in catalog – When searching electronic journals, all magazines come up with inactive links to Zinio & RBdigital – can they be replaced with OverDrive link or get the OD mags into the catalog? Susan will work with David on it. Cheryl discussed how our magazines didn’t get renewed initially, but she got it taken care of. PPLC will pay the \$15,000 platform fee and asked if the libraries would vote to split the \$15,000 content fee. Casey made a motion to accept new fees. Mika seconded.

Fee threshold for blocking accounts – threshold was \$10 but now it is \$5. David explained it was lowered to \$5 as part of the fine-free change over since the minimum amount charged for a lost/damaged item is \$5 for the processing fee, and many items in Sirsi do not have a fee linked to them. There is no way for David to do a group change for all of them items that have no fees. Discussion had about changing the policy so that there was an explanation in writing, for staff. Angela made a motion to add a statement of, “Accounts are locked when \$5.00 is owed” in the circ policy. Mika seconded.

Timeframe for “claims returned” to be discarded – Discussion about when claims returned items should be discarded. Patrons would still be limited to nine in a lifetime, but it would help clean up the catalog if we regularly deleted the titles. Libraries agreed to strive to delete claims returned items after 18 months.

Approval of LDAC meeting schedule 2021-2022 – Betcinda sent out proposed LDAC meeting dates of the second Monday of each month, at 1pm. The following dates were proposed:

- January 10, 2022
- February 14, 2022
- March 14, 2022
- April 11, 2022
- June 13, 2022
- August 8, 2022
- September 12, 2022

Lorie made a motion to accept the proposed meeting dates. Lois seconded.

7. PPLC Topics

ARPA/COHS- PPLC applied for \$222,000 in ARPA funding for 200 scholarships for Career Online High School. Seven PPLC libraries initially said they would like to participate. The State Library was awarded 500 seats, so they thought our grant would probably be denied, so we were encouraged to jump over to the State’s platform. Five libraries joined with the State, but then the entire \$222,000 was awarded to PPLC. The State’s seats expire before PPLC’s, so we were directed to use the State’s seats until they run out (there are currently 250 left) then the PPLC ARPA grant seats will be used. Every library interested in COHS should send an e-mail to Amy Johnson ASAP to let her know how many seats you would like. When the State seats run out, PPLC seats will be available across the state. They are hoping to have an additional six months to use the scholarships. Even if you had not expressed interest in participating in the past, and would like to, please reach out to Amy Johnson to let her know you would like to participate. Gary can send out promotional materials. Lisa discussed how the process has gone at Safety Harbor, stating it is very simple with very little staff time involved.

Sirsi Server migration – During the last migration, a hiccup occurred, which caused a lot of issues. David was on vacation, so he wanted to extend a thank you to Kent at CLW who jumped in and was able to get most of the issues resolved. If you’re still noticing any issues, report them to David.

Statistical Report / Preliminary Expense Report / Annual Plan of Service – Cheryl stressed that the Preliminary Expense Reports and Annual Statistical Reports are due Nov 19. The Annual Plan of Service

needs to be approved at Dec PPLC Board meeting, which is also the same date it's due to the State, Dec 1. Contact Gary with any questions you encounter when completing the reports.

Little Free Libraries – Commissioner Seel asked to look at library map and identify any gaps in the unincorporated portion of the county where a library is not available. Looking at the map, Cheryl mentioned the gap between Ridgecrest and High Point, suggesting Little Free Libraries be added to the map. Congressman Jolly announced he is placing Little Free Libraries around town. There was discussion about how there are several around town, but there is no one who specifically maintains them, so it would be hard to keep a map current. Lisa stressed that Little Free Libraries should not be a substitute for a community library, since they are often not maintained at all, or are maintained poorly. Cheryl also asked about the Largo Bookmobile possibly adding stops in this area. Cheryl is open to ideas on how to serve that unincorporated area in the county.

8. PPLC Board Meeting – LDAC Chair Report – The meeting was on Oct 27. Topics covered included the financial report, the Executive Director's report, and the RFP for courier service, which was approved. The August 9th and Sept LDAC reports were shared at the meeting. Mika approved Chris Johnson be included in the review of the courier proposals.

9. Public Comment - None

10. Announcements from PPLC Libraries – Lisa, the book bike is in construction. Safety Harbor had a book challenge for *All Boys Aren't Blue* by George M. Johnson. The book was challenged by a group called Moms for Liberty in Pinellas. As of now, Safety Harbor was the only library in which it was challenged. Lois shared about ELCL's wonderful ribbon cutting event on Saturday for their passport office. Gulfport and ELCL are the only libraries offering Passport services in Pinellas. On Sept 1 ELCL opened up appointments, and they are fully booked through November, and the first half of Dec. Jen raved about the stunning Everglades photographic exhibit by Clyde Butcher at CLW. They had a ceremony and book signing event that brought out nearly 500 attendees. The exhibit will be up through May 2022, so stop by CLW to check it out.

11. Adjournment – 3:06pm

Next LDAC Meeting: Monday, January 10 at 1pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Lorie Tonti, LDAC Secretary