



High Plains Library District Friends & Foundation Board of Directors

Regular Session

August 5, 2024

Erie Community Library

400 Powers Street, Erie, CO 80516

4:00pm

1. OPENING OF MEETING

Meeting Opened: 4:06

1.1. Roll Call and Pledge of Allegiance

Present: Chair Teresa Nuñez, Secretary/Treasurer Julie Forland, Director Annie Epperson

Present via voice conference: Vice Chair Deana Lemos-Garcia, Director Matthew Starr

Excused: Director Mandy Schnirel

Staff present: Executive Director Matthew Hortt, Foundation Director Niamh Mercer, Finance Manager Natalie Wertz, Development Coordinator Christina Hardman, Friends & Foundation Associate Lauren Vanderlinden

Guests: Kristin Jardin, Alanna Moses (in-person); Mallory Pillard, Olivia Pratt (virtual)

1.2. Approval of Agenda (Action)

Motion: Director Epperson moved to approve the agenda with one amendment to switch items 2.1 and 2.2 in the order.

Second: Vice Chair Lemos-Garcia

Vote: Unanimously approved, 5;0

1.3. Approval of Minutes (Action)

1.3.1. May 6, 2024 Regular Session

Motion: Director Forland moved to approve the minutes as presented.

Second: Vice Chair Lemos-Garcia

Vote: Unanimously approved, 5;0

1.3.2. May 6, 2024 Work Session

Motion: Vice Chair Lemos-Garcia moved to approve the minutes as presented.

Second: Director Epperson

Vote: Unanimously approved, 5;0

1.4. Public Comment

No public comment.

2. ITEMS FOR ACTION/INFORMATION

2.1. Board Designated Fund Reports (Information)

Mallory Pillard presented on HPLD's Summer Reading Adventure. Expressed gratitude to the Board for their funding, shared improvements to prize structure and incentive items selected.

Olivia Pratt presented on 100 Books Before Graduation. Expressed gratitude to the Foundation for funding a program that reaches a notoriously difficult-to-reach demographic. 600 teens currently enrolled in the program this year, which is an increase over last year's 350. Shared about teens submitting book reviews, which is not required but demonstrates their literacy skills and engagement with the program.

Kristin Jardin presented on Adaptive Fun. Shared some of the tools and items F&F funding has facilitated the purchase of. Has held two Adaptive Storytimes, for 11-15 people each time, and they have been well-received, with the hope that their tools and outlines can be borrowed and adapted across locations in the District

2.2. 2023 990 and Audit (Action) Natalie Wertz, Finance Manager and Alanna Moses, Anderson & Whitney

Alanna Moses from Anderson & Whitney presented on the 2023 990 and Audit.

Motion: Director Epperson moved to approve the 990 and audit as presented.

Second: Vice Chair Lemos-Garcia

Vote: Unanimously approved, 5;0

2.3. Bylaws and Policies Committee Assignments (Action)

Motion: Vice-Chair Lemos-Garcia motioned to approve Director Epperson's appointment to the Bylaws and Policies Committee for the remainder of 2024.

Second: Secretary/Treasurer Forland

Vote: Unanimously approved, 4;0 with Director Epperson abstaining

2.4. MOU with High Plains Library District (Action)

Motion: Director Starr moved to approve the updates to HPLD F&F's MOU with the High Plains Library District.

Second: Director Epperson

Vote: Unanimously approved, 5;0

2.5. Strategic Planning (Information)

Foundation Director Mercer presented on the ongoing Strategic Planning process, sharing current data and plans for updating the process going forward.

2.6. Board of Directors Application (Information)

Foundation Director Mercer shared that applications for up to three Board seats will open on August 12th, with the goal of onboarding selected candidates in time for a January 2025 term start.

3. FINANCE REPORT Natalie Wertz-Finance Manager

Finance Manager Natalie Wertz provided an updated report on the Friends & Foundation's financial status to the Board.

4. FOUNDATION REPORT Niamh Mercer-Foundation Director

Foundation Director Mercer updated the Board on the current status of the Friends & Foundation, including upcoming events, sponsorships, and more.

Vice Chair Lemos-Garcia departed the meeting at 5:26 pm.

5. BOARD COMMENTS

Board members answered the question "What is your favorite library service or program?"

Chair Nuñez found this question difficult to answer because of the many amazing programs her children and grandchildren have participated in over the years, but if she had to pick one right now it would be the bilingual Children's Storytime at Fort Lupton.

Secretary/Treasurer Forland was really impressed with the 100 Books Before Graduation program's growth, especially given the difficulties of engaging teens. She also loves the children's area at Erie and the outdoor book racks from the COVID era!

Director Starr is partial to the Summer Reading Adventure; his children have used it for many years and he likes how it sparks children's interest in reading and participating in their local libraries.

Director Epperson's current favorite resource is Hoopla and listening to audio books while she works, gardens, walks, etc.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Secretary/Treasurer Forland moved to adjourn the meeting.

Second: Director Epperson

Vote: Unanimously approved, 4:0

Meeting closed: 5:35 pm