

**SOUTHWEST LA PLATA LIBRARY DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
22 JUNE 2021**

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:32 am. In attendance were Peter Miesler, Nycole Eoff, Scott Davey, Cynthia Loebig Patricia Johnson, Rebecca Benally, Nona Dale, Alana Ostrander, Tricia Winslow, and Roy Horvath.

2. Approve Agenda

A discussion about health insurance for substitutes will be added to the agenda with the financial review.

3. Consent Agenda

A motion to approve the minutes from the board meeting was made by Nycole, seconded by Nona; unanimous approval.

4. Update from Friends of Library members - 10 Minutes -

- The Little Libraries are off to a great start. The Friends' are restocking the books weekly.
- The Friends have a table advertising the library district at the Rodeos.
- Space for book storage has been acquired at Fort Lewis Mesa. The Friends' are moving the books into that space today.
- The Friends' are currently working on grants and their membership drive.
- Afterschool fundraising will be part of the Friends' financial goals. The Friends' are helping with the summer reading program, including providing labor and financial support
- The library board needs to define protocols regarding volunteers.

5. Update from Library Director - 15 Minutes

- Summer reading started last Wednesday. 40 children are registered at Fort Lewis Mesa; 20 attended last week's program. Around 15 are registered at Sunnyside; 14 attended last week's program.
- Two new substitutes have joined the district. Ameer Clay will work primarily at Fort Lewis Mesa and Cheryl Cessna will work at Sunnyside.

- Roy and Patty met with 9R administration (Sam Gallagher and Laura Galido). Saturday hours will not be allowed because 9R's insurance requires a staff member to be in the building when others are using it. They discussed a separate library entrance. These will not be funded by the school district's bond and we will have to pay for them if we want them. Fort Lewis Mesa will also need a restroom.
- The new superintendent starts on 7/1 and will meet with Patty and Roy.
- Potential Grants:
 - ARPA Grant—non-competetive; \$5,500; we need to apply for a DUNS number; due 8/2. Can also cover costs for homework help.
 - SIPA—Designed to connect people with online services; covers patron-facing technology and hotspots. EGE form required; up to \$6,500.
- A motion to designate Sunnyside (75 County Road 218, Durango, CO 81303) as the official physical address of the Southwest La Plata Library District was made by Peter and seconded by Nycole; unanimous approval.
 - PO Box 62, Marvel, CO 81329 is still the mailing address.
- A motion for Patty to fill out the DUNS applicataion and the EGE agreement was made by Rebecca, seconded by Peter; unanimous approval.
- A new law passed in the Colorado Legislature (SB 21-293) reduces property tax assessment rates for two years. This may affect our mil levy collection.
- Patty sent an email to board members outlining the upcoming afterschool program.

6. Committee updates - Management, Finance, Strategy/Development

a. Financial review – 15 Minutes

- Our finances look good. We are under budget in every category except professional services. We have \$200,000 in Colotrust and \$60,000 in the bank.
- Backlogbegone has successfully caught up our paperwork. Our processes are working more efficiently. There have been a few glitches, but the transition has been generally very successful.
- Our very-part-time employees probably wouldn't benefit from purchasing benefits from us as our rates are pretty high.

b. Discussion of re-opening Director candidate search process/appointment of finalist/plans for negotiations with finalist, including definition of travel provisions

- All of our finalists withdrew.
- Should we postpone our search because hiring is difficult state-wide currently?
- Should we change our requirements?
- How can we aggressively recruit candidates?
- Should we have two different roles: an executive director and a "head-librarian" types of positions?

An executive session, including the interim library director, will be held July 12 at 1:00 pm to discuss the above situation and questions. Location to be determined.

A motion to increase Patty's hours from 15 hours to not-to-exceed 25 hours per week was made by Roy, seconded by Peter; unanimous approval. Patty will need to sign a waiver stating she does not want library district benefits.

d. SWLPLD Web Site Updates

Generally positive reviews from board regarding the website were given.

8. Other Items

- Listen to the radio program Patty and Trish did.
- Banners? Put up in fall when library hours return to 2:30-7
- Ask the custodians to change the marquees to say that the library is open 10-7.
- Should we use postcards to advertise the library? The cost will be \$1200-1500. There is money in the budget. Rebecca will work on a design.
- Topic for future discussion: Ignacio is considering acquiring a bookmobile, shall we collaborate and share with them?
- We should keep closer track of our statistics and see if our advertising, programs, or other factors lead to increases or decreases in key areas of library usage.

9. The meeting adjourned at 11:27.

Next SWLPLD Board meetings - July 20, 2021 and August 17, 2021