

**Community Library Network
Board of Trustees Regular Meeting Minutes
Tuesday 13 September 2022
Pinehurst Library**

12:00 – 3:00 pm

We Empower Discovery

Agenda

Call to order: Meeting was called to order at 12:00 pm

Roll call: Trustees: Katie Blank, Judy Meyer, Regina McCrea, Rachele Ottosen, and Vanessa Robinson
Treasurer: Michele Veale
Staff: Amy Rodda, Lindsey Miller-Escarfuller, Janelle Sells, and Brenda Ludwick

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comment

- Speakers must state name and community and speak for no more than 3 minutes.
Persons addressing the Board are expected to observe a level of civility and decorum appropriate for a public meeting.
No personal attacks or disruptions from audience members will be tolerated.
- No public comment

Pinehurst Library Annual Report – Brenda Ludwick *(20 minutes)*

- Brenda Ludwick introduced herself to the Board. Ludwick discussed the history of creating the Pinehurst-Kingston Free Library District. It opened its doors in 1976 inside the elementary school. They joined CIN in 1985 and consolidated with the Community Library Network in 1996. The Pinehurst library has just over 2000 library cardholders. Ludwick introduced her staff. Jamie Riley, in Youth Services, has been an amazing addition and has been growing the youth programs. Jessica Hunt and Kim Ferguson are the adult programming team. A new self-checkout desk and sit-down circulation desk have been added. New display furniture and meeting room upper cabinets have been added also. Fall storytime starts tomorrow and home-schooling programs will begin soon. There is one elementary school in Pinehurst which is right next door to the library. Pinehurst is largely a retirement community but there are some young families. Families outside any taxing district pay \$25 annually for full library privileges.

Consent agenda: action item *(10 minutes)*

Minutes of the special meetings of 11 August
Minutes of the budget hearing of 11 August
Minutes of the regular meeting of 18 August
Minutes of the CIN meeting of July 2022
August CIN Financial Statements
Community Library August 2022 reports

- McCrea noted two changes to the August 11, 2022 6:30 pm Special Meeting minutes.
McCrea, Meyer and Ottosen noted 4 changes to the August 18, 2022 Regular Meeting minutes

- Ottosen asked about the EBSCO Discovery line in the CIN Financial Statements. Rodda noted it is a subscription service that just renewed.
- McCrea moved to accept the Consent agenda with noted changes.

M, C – McCrea

Community Library Network August 2022 financial statements: action item (*5 minutes*)

- Robinson moved to accept the August 2022 Financial Statements.
- Ottosen asked about lines 28 32, and 33 and where the unspent monies will go. Staff will present to the Board suggestions of where to spend unspent monies. Lines 32 and 33 included E-rate discounts but not the reimbursements from the State. The Spirit Lake Repair and Maintenance has exceeded the budget due to the parking repairs. Savings in other Repair and Maintenance lines have covered the parking lot repair expense.

M, C - Robinson

Circulation Statistics: August (*5 minutes*)

- Statistics were part of the table packet. August was much busier than usual. There were many great programs held in August.

Director's report (*10 minutes*)

- Rodda explained an issue with Kootenai county regarding penalties and interest associated with delinquent property tax payments taking effect October 1, 2022. Several taxing entities are opposed to the county's choice to withhold the penalties and interest. A letter from the opposing taxing entities presented a letter to the county commissioner at their August 31, 2022, budget hearing to delay the change. No response from the county commissioners has been received. Rodda will forward correspondence regarding this issue to the Trustees. McCrea asked if the county treasurer's position is creditable. Rodda said that no other counties in the state have taken this position. Meyer and Blank suggested a letter to the county commissioners requesting a delay and to join a meeting with other tax entities for more information. Ottosen asked about the adoption of the Library Bill of Rights and the Freedom to Read statement in the Materials Selection Policy. A new Administrative Assistant has been hired and will begin no later than October 3, 2022.

Pinehurst library tour (*20 minutes*)

- A break and library tour were taken from 12:53 pm to 1:14 pm

Material Selection policy discussion (*40 minutes*)

- Rodda presented a draft for proposed changes to the Materials Selection policy. She noted changes to the Responsibility section to reflect state law and that members of the public can make suggestions for purchases. In the Intellectual Freedom section, a statement was added to reflect that freedom to read, hear, and view is protected by the First Amendment. A couple statements were added to the Selection Criteria section that materials not protected by the First Amendment will not knowingly be added to the Collection. Clarifying language was added in the Withdrawal of Materials section. In the final section, Reconsideration of Material, statements were added to explain the process more plainly. Meyer asked about the use of "patron" versus "member". Rodda stated the branding has not been fully integrated and will be discussed at the staff level. Meyer likes the revision and has no changes. McCrea asked about the history of the original policy, research done, and if the policy meets the standards established by the Idaho board of library commissioners. Rodda does not know when the original policy was approved but it is reviewed every three years and does reflect other policies related to materials selection throughout the nation and within Idaho. She also reviewed the resources and standards from the Idaho Commission for Libraries. At the state level, Idaho Code identifies the roles and responsibilities for materials selection between trustees and director. Robinson likes the changes made to the Responsibility section. Ottosen is opposed to being tied to the American Library

Association through the Freedom to Read Statement and the Library Bill of Rights. She does not think that children can exercise critical judgment to select a book. She believes it is criminal to not distinguish between children and adults. Robinson agrees with Ottosen about the Freedom to Read Statement. Rodda noted the two statements were written in 1939 and 1953. She agrees that it does not call out minors but there is value to these core documents. McCrea talked about the policies adopted by the Idaho Commission for Libraries and intellectual freedom and that we are to use them for policy generating purposes. Blank noted the recent unhappiness about ALA relates to the incoming president and these core documents are important. ALA is the largest library association in the world. To remove the Library Bill of Rights and Freedom to Read Statement is equal to removing the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United States. Veale noted the Freedom to Read Statement states "people should have the freedom to read and consider a broader range of ideas than those that may be held by any single librarian or publisher or government or church". Ottosen said that there are good points in the documents but would still like something referencing minors and their developmental inability to make their own critical judgments about materials in the Intellectual Freedom section. Robinson stated that there are laws in place to prevent adults from presenting minors with anything and everything. Rodda noted the policy does state parents are ultimately in charge of what their children read. McCrea said that intellectual freedom for adults is different for adults than children and this policy does not state that intellectual freedom is the same for adults and children. McCrea would like the header Review Process combined with Selection Criteria and changed to Selection Process, with an intro paragraph followed by selection criteria. McCrea suggested formatting changes to this section and likes the final paragraph that provides protections for minors. She wants to assure the public that materials have been reviewed for age-appropriate content. Staff are examining criteria for placing materials in certain sections of the library collection. Robinson appreciates that the Idaho Code is called out in the policy. Ottosen also likes having the Idaho Code in the policy. She asked the age range for juvenile and young adult. Juvenile is elementary age 5 to 11 and young adult is 11 or 12 to 17. Robinson noted that is not just LGBTQ sex acts but all sex acts in materials that are not appropriate for minors. Ottosen noted that federal laws about sexually explicit materials should be added along with the Idaho Code. Referencing state and federal law in the policy helps address the public outcry about inappropriate material for minors. Meyer noted that social media and films also offer other avenues for access to information. Discussion will continue at the next regular meeting.

Trustee Continuing Education (*5 minutes*)

ICRMP training

- Blank called the ICRMP contact, Jim McNall. She and Rodda met with McNall about issues facing the library board such as public comment and open meetings. He offers open meeting trustee training and would be in the area in November. Staff have expressed concerns to Rodda about some trustee activities. McNall suggested meeting with the District's attorney to review these concerns. An executive session may be on the October regular meeting agenda. McNall has expressed confidence in the District's attorney. McCrea clarified reasons for allowing executive session in a meeting.

Board calendar: action item (*10 minutes*)

- Blank talked about the calendar for the next fiscal year developed with Rodda. Rodda noted when staff presentations will occur, the strategic plan implementation, budget development, and elections. The Strategic Plan Dashboard will be at each meeting to review how the district is achieving the approved strategic goals. Meyer moved to approve the Board calendar for Fiscal Year 2022-2023

M, C - Meyer

Facilities updates (*5 minutes*)

- The Facilities Manager will be presenting in November. Several projects have been delayed due to conflicts with contractors and changes in priorities for other projects.

Legislative updates (2.5 minutes)

- Meyer noted the election in November and the state budget surplus as announced by the governor for education. She is unsure if libraries will benefit from the surplus. The JFAC committee may be a new selection of elected officials. She would like to meet with the Coeur d’Alene library board. A video/zoom program with the City Club in Boise and Ada county library district is taking place around Banned Books Week.

Community announcements (2.5 minutes)

Discussion of future agenda requests (The board will decide via consensus whether these items will be moved to a future agenda) (2.5 minutes)

Board self-evaluation (request from Meyer)

- Meeting with McNall from ICRMP and the District’s attorney meets Meyer’s request.
- Ottosen was concerned about alleged elections fraud and sexual misconduct in the Boundary County library district and what steps can be taken to prevent this in this District. ICRMP has not renewed the insurance policy for Boundary County. Rodda noted the very strong personnel policies that are in place, and she does not feel the District is at risk. Reviewing the Personnel Policy will be an agenda item in the future. Ottosen discussed the email noted by Marianna Cochran about Rodda’s email to Jeanette Laster about the book challenges. Jeanette had requested the list of books that were being challenged and as the public records officer, Rodda sent the list. Meyer was upset about the language used at the last meeting from the public. She is concerned about the inappropriate and derogatory language used. Rodda has discussed this with the District’s attorney. Blank reviewed her discussion with McNall about public comment.

Set Special and regular meeting dates: action item (5 minutes)

Possible special meeting in October

Available dates include October 24th, 25th and 27th

McNall can be available in November on the 15th. The November regular meeting will be moved to the 15th

Adjournment: action item

Ottosen moved to adjourn at 2:55 pm

M, C - Ottosen

Calendar of events:

18 Oct 2022	Regular Meeting	2:00 – 5:00	Post Falls
17 Nov 2022	Regular Meeting	2:00 – 5:00	Post Falls
15 Dec 2022	Regular Meeting	2:00 – 5:00	Post Falls

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Phone: 208-773-1506 ext. 329

Email: ADAcoordinator@communitylibrary.net

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