

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

OF THE

BOULDER PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT

Held: Tuesday, June 20, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. at Boulder Public
Library, 1001 Arapahoe Avenue, Boulder, Colorado.

Attendance

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Boulder Public Library District was called and held as shown above in accordance with the statutes of the State of Colorado. The following Trustees, having confirmed their qualifications to serve on the Board, were in attendance:

Katharine (Joni) Teter
Benita Duran
Cara O'Brien
Sylvia Wirba
Doug Hamilton
Sam Fuqua

Absent: Jennifer Yee (absence excused).

Also present were Kim J. Seter, Esq., Seter & Vander Wall, P.C.; David Farnan, Director of the Boulder Public Library; and Jennifer Phares, Boulder Public Library. Kelly Hansen, Legal Assistant at Seter & Vander Wall, P.C. was also present. Marissa Peck, Associate Attorney at Seter & Vander Wall, P.C., attended via Zoom. Jennifer Phares assisted with the operation of the remote attendance. Sharon Morris of the Colorado State Library delivered the Trustee Orientation.

Call to Order

Trustee Teter called the meeting to order at approximately 6:03 p.m. noting that a sufficient number of appointed trustees were present to create a quorum authorized to act on behalf of the District.

Public Comment

None.

Library Trustee Orientation

Ms. Sharon Morris of the Colorado State Library ("CSL") delivered the Library Trustee Orientation. Ms. Morris reviewed the orientation materials, asking whether the chart regarding fixed vs. growth mindsets resonates with them. Trustee

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Hamilton highlighted the section on mistakes, noting that the Trustees have many challenging decisions to make, meaning that the Trustees will not be able to make everyone happy. He emphasized the paramount importance of focusing on “mistake recovery” as a tool to handle these situations. Trustee O’Brien indicated her interest in the idea of “growing potential” as outlined in the chart section related to growth mindset, which prompted Ms. Morris to respond that this potential is strengthened and expanded when people work together. Trustee Wirba echoed Trustee Hamilton’s comments regarding the burden of making hard decisions, and explained that that sentiment applies to any feedback that the Board of Trustees may receive, especially given that Trustees will inevitably receive criticism and will need to be able to address it in a constructive manner. Trustee Duran further emphasized the unique position of the Board as an appointed, not elected, body and the consequent issues related to the Board’s accountability to the public. As an appointed body, the Board is somewhat insulated from the political process because its members do not face the pressures of running for re-election. As a result, there is low incentive for the Board to respond to criticism from the public. This, in turn, highlights the need for the Board, which wants to remain responsive to the public, to develop procedures by which it responds to criticism and remains accountable. Trustee Duran added that the way in which the Board faces and responds to challenges will define the District, and will enable the District to forge an identity that is uniquely Boulder.

Ms. Morris next asked the Trustees how they might help facilitate a transition among the public and District employees from a fixed mindset to a growth mindset. Trustee Hamilton suggested employing vision or imagination, Trustee Wirba emphasized the value of interconnection, and Ms. Morris proposed the use of curiosity and/or humor. Ms. Morris reminded the Board that they serve as representatives to tens of thousands of people, and urged the Trustees to approach their conversations with a growth mindset, which, she explained, will allow for better communication and will produce better outcomes for the District.

Ms. Morris reviewed the core values of librarianship and asked the Trustees to rank them from most to least important. In small groups, the Trustees, Mr. Farnan, and Mr. Seter discussed their rankings and reasons behind them. Trustee Wirba and Trustee Fuqua agreed that “Access” was most important to them,

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Trustee Duran and Trustee O'Brien stated that they ranked "Democracy," "Intellectual Freedom," and "The Public Good" highly, and Trustee Hamilton and Trustee Teter agreed that "Access" and "Diversity" were most important. Ms. Morris encouraged the Trustees to always keep these values in mind, to have the courage to defend them, and to understand that others prioritize values in different ways.

Next, Ms. Morris directed the Trustees to the Library Bill of Rights. Ms. Morris explained that the January 29, 2019 amendment to the Bill of Rights addresses viewpoint and content neutrality requirements in exhibit/meeting room spaces. Ms. Morris then provided a brief overview of Colorado Library Law, focusing on the powers and duties of the Board of Trustees. Next, Ms. Morris presented CSL's "Who Does What" handout, which breaks down the roles of the Library Director and of the Trustees in various scenarios, such as "Community Engagement," "Strategic Planning," and "Professional Development."

Trustee Teter asked Ms. Morris to expand on the responsibilities related to the Trustees' relationship with the elected officials who appointed them. Ms. Morris suggested that those relationships are best fostered by open communication and trust.

In conclusion, Ms. Morris shared a list of resources for Colorado Library Trustees and pointed out her contact information should any of the Trustees have any questions for her.

Director Updates
- Staff Survey

Mr. David Farnan discussed the staff survey that was sent out the previous Friday and stated that the response rate is good so far. Trustee Hamilton asked if Mr. Farnan would be able to compile a list of benefits offered to employees in other library districts and Mr. Farnan stated that Library leadership has been researching it and that he would be happy to share that information with the Trustees at a future meeting.

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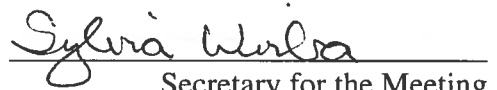
- Discussion of Financial Service Agreement with Focused Energy
Mr. Farnan discussed the engagement of Focused Energy, who will assist the District in building financial models, which will enable the District to predict outcomes of various financial decisions. Focused Energy will also construct expense forecasts, debt forecasts, aid in preparing a budget presentation, and recommend an accounting/financial system, among other services. Mr. Farnan estimated that the consultant will cost between \$8,000 and \$14,000.

- Consider Approval of Professional Services Agreement with Cummings Management Group, Inc.
Mr. Farnan then directed the Trustees to review the services agreement for an assessment of Library facilities. Mr. Farnan stated that they received three bids for the project. He recommended engaging Cummings Management Group, Inc. as they were very accessible, their proposal was, by far, the most comprehensive, and they are available to start work the following day.

Trustee Hamilton moved that the Board of Trustees to approve the Professional Services Agreement with Cummings Management Group, Inc. to evaluate the condition of the Library Buildings dated June 16, 2023 for a fixed fee of \$36,145.00. Following discussion, and upon second by Trustee Wirba and unanimous vote, the Board of Trustees approved the Professional Services agreement with Cummings Management Group, Inc.

Subcommittee Updates None.

Adjournment There being no further business to come before the Board, and upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:56 p.m.


Secretary for the Meeting