

DOUGLAS COUNTY LIBRARIES
Board of Trustees Business Meeting
June 28, 2023
Castle Pines, Colorado

President Burkholder called the business meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

This meeting was held and was noticed in compliance with both Colorado Open Meeting Law and the Douglas County Libraries Bylaws.

The following were present:

TRUSTEES: Suzanne Burkholder, Jessica Kallweit, Zach McKinney, Terry Nolan, Meghann Silverthorn, and Ted Vail

Zach McKinney attended via conference phone.

Rick LaPointe was absent. The absence was excused.

A quorum was present.

STAFF: Bob Pasicznyuk, Patti Owen-DeLay, Amber DeBerry, and Lisanna Parkhurst

PUBLIC: Marty Richards, Michael Clarkson, Sue Zloth, Carrie Kayser-Cochran, Sarah Stevens, Jessica Fredrickson, Jennifer Iversen, Holly M., Cathy Lees, Aaron Wood, Amy Windju, Jen Wilking, Greg Francisco, Ruth Moline, Kathy Boyer, Jay Griebing, Mike Forster, Adam Rutan, Amity Wicks, Brooke Bernstein, Tammi Flemming, Laurie Kelly, Julie Kelly, Garrett Spradlin, Luke Johnson, Sydney Dozois, Vicki Workman, Peter Wilkinson, Bev Lewey, Debi Kinder, Bob Jensen, Cindy Jensen, Mart Claus, Debbie Clair, Iris Pixler, Donna Pixler, Alex McCall, Crystal Belis, Gina Myers, Nathan Hochhalter, Karlin, N. Scot W.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Public comments were recorded to ensure the board heard all concerns given the large number of speakers. Below is a summary of concerns from speakers.

All speakers during public comment were residents of Douglas County.

Marty Richards: Youth need access to these books and topics.

Michael Clarkson: Keep materials available, important to represent all in library materials.

Sue Zloth: Against banning books, bans attacking vulnerable communities.

Carrie Kayser-Cochran: Against banning books, book being appealed was helpful for her teen.

Sarah Stevens: Wants board to fight against censorship, not restrict materials.

Jessica Fredrickson: Wants to maintain access to titles, against banning.

Jennifer Iversen: Against banning books, represent all in materials.

Holly M.: Wants guardrails on material, like internet; no adult content for children.

Cathy Lees: Against banning books, books help children feel connected.

Aaron Wood: Protect children from obscene content, don't use taxpayer funds for perverse materials.

Amy Windju: Not about banning books, wants age-appropriate content, does not want taxes to pay for inappropriate content.

Jen Wilking: Does not want content restricted, important to have all points of view represented.

Greg Francisco: Not about banning books, individuals can purchase these books on Amazon; not age-appropriate for the library.

Ruth Moline: Against moving books or restricting content; information is important for teens.

Kathy Boyer: Everyone should be represented in content, library is for everyone.

Jay Griebing: Against sexually explicit materials available to children, not against LGBTQ.

Mike Forster: Protect children against sexually explicit materials, should not be available in children's area.

Adam Rutan: Against sexually explicit content being accessible to children, no tax money to pay for these materials.

Amity Wicks: Against sexually explicit content available or displayed in children's area.

Brooke Bernstein: Supports library access policy, wants all people represented in content.

Tammi Flemming: Wants age-appropriate content in children's area, specifically no picture book about drag queens.

Julie Kelly: Against sexually explicit content available for children, cartoon images can be pornographic.

Garrett Spradlin: Don't ban content, technology gives access already. Banning books on wrong side of history.

Peter Wilkinson: Content that harms children not protected under first amendment. Against sexually explicit content available to children.

Luke Johnson: Supports restricting content, wants guardrails on questionable materials for children.

Bev Lewey: Supports restricting content; sexual content not appropriate for children.

Laurie Kelly: Read this material. Put on library website so community knows what's going on.

Debi Kinder: Against restricting content; parent's job to decide content for their children.

Vicki Workman: Against explicit content available to children, not book banning but age-appropriate sections.

That concluded the public comments portion of the meeting. Burkholder called for a 10-minute break at 6:50 p.m.

The board resumed the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

CONSENT AGENDA: Nothing was removed from the consent agenda. There was no discussion.

MOTION 23-06-01: Nolan moved and the motion carried unanimously to approve the consent agenda consisting of the May 31, 2023, Board Business Meeting minutes. Vail seconded the motion.

EXECUTIVE LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Pasicznyuk highlighted items from his report, commenting:

- One appeal has gone to the board concerning four books
- Have added 750,000 items in the past few months
- 13,000 Douglas County residents participating in summer reading program
- Starting Brew Tour on August 1, 2023
- Gallup survey for staff engagement
 - Data will be shared with the board in August or September
- New Castle Rock library
 - Collections in place
 - Working with Town of Castle Rock on permitting
 - Staff back in on July 10, public on August 26

DISTRICT BUSINESS

No conflicts of interest were declared.

Castle Rock Annex Sale

- Property south of the Castle Rock library
- Will return money to capital fund
- Process for best and final offer—offer is in line with appraisal
- Demo of Philip S. Miller branch will be completed and new parking ready this fall

No further discussion.

MOTION 23-06-02: Nolan moved and the motion carried unanimously to authorize sale of the Library's property (102-118 South Wilcox) for \$3,250,000 to Berkenkotter Holdings, LLC, at the terms listed in the sale contract provided. Silverthorn seconded the motion.

Executive Committee

Silverthorn reported that the committee discussed:

- Upcoming meetings that have already happened
- Appealed books have been distributed to trustees
- Legal definitions mentioned in public comment

Policy Committee

Nolan reported that internal policies were reviewed.

Alcohol (Social Use) Policy

No discussion.

MOTION 23-06-03: Kallweit moved and the motion carried unanimously to accept the Alcohol (Social Use) Policy as revised to include language for internal use of alcohol at Douglas County Libraries events. Silverthorn seconded the motion.

Succession Committee

Silverthorn reported that given the busy summer, the committee will reconvene in September.

PARTNER REPORTS

Partnership of Douglas County Governments (PDCG)

Vail reported that there has been no meeting since the last board meeting. The next meeting is July 19, 2023, hosted by the Town of Larkspur.

Douglas County Youth Initiative (DCYI)

McKinney reported that DCYI is on summer hiatus—no meeting.

Urban Libraries Council (ULC)

Silverthorn reported that there will be a board meeting July 21 in Washington, D.C., that she will be attending. New ULC board chair and vice-chair were elected.

Foundation

Kallweit reported no updates.

TRUSTEE COMMENTS

Silverthorn got through summer reading program in three weeks with her son. Suggested adding other levels to the app. Thanked DeBerry and team for great summer reading program.

UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS

1. **Board Executive Committee Meeting:** July 13, 2023, Castle Pines Library, 8:00 a.m.
2. **Board Succession Committee Meeting:** Canceled until September
3. **Board Budget Retreat:** July 18, 2023, Highlands Ranch Library, 4:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.
4. **Board Budget Retreat:** July 29, 2023, Castle Pines Library, 9:00 a.m.-Noon
5. **Board Policy Committee Meeting:** August 23, 2023, Parker Library, 3:00 p.m.
6. **Board Study Session:** August 23, 2023, Parker Library, 4:00 p.m.
7. **Board Business Meeting:** August 23, 2023, Parker Library, 5:30 p.m. Dinner at 5:00 p.m.

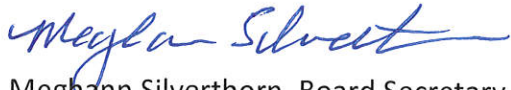
OTHER BOARD CALENDAR ITEMS

1. **Partnership of Douglas County Governments Meeting:** July 19, 2023, 7:00 a.m.-9:30 a.m., Town of Larkspur, The Spur
2. **Grand Opening New Castle Rock Library:** August 26, 2023, 10:00 a.m., Castle Rock Library
3. **Annual DCL Foundation Gala:** September 29, 2023, 6:00 p.m., Highlands Ranch Mansion

ADJOURN

Burkholder adjourned the meeting at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Meghann Silverthorn, Board Secretary
Minutes prepared by Lisanna Parkhurst

