

Alpine Public Library Board of Directors
Meeting Minutes
July 8, 2021
5:30 p.m.
AEP Foundation Multipurpose Room and ZOOM

Mission: The Alpine Public Library works to build community, encourage literacy, and promote lifelong learning. We endeavor to create and maintain a welcoming facility with relevant and enriching resources that connect our diverse and geographically remote area to the world.

Vision: The Alpine Public Library envisions a future in which individuals and families are engaged, lifelong learners.

Members present: Bernadette Devine, Jon Roe, Lee Smith, Amelie Urbanczyk, Kathy Donnell, Linda Bryant, Jaime Escuder, Mary-Elizabeth Thompson, Don Wetteraur
Members absent: Cynthia Salas (excused), Betsy Evans (excused), Mike Pallanez (unexcused)

- A. Call to order: Linda Bryant calls to order at 5:32 p.m.
- B. Changes to agenda: L.S. adds dinners for prospective donors to Old Business
- C. Introduction of guests and announcements: J.E. introduces Chris and Ellen Ruggia
- D. Consent Agenda:
 - Comment: J.E. asks about the library in the jail from the Friends report; K.D. says that we were going once a month and getting rid of torn books and bringing in new books; J.E. says he believes that they are allowing people in now with masks and if they try to go back and someone says they cannot come in, let him know.
 - A.U. moves to approve Consent Agenda, J.E. seconds, all vote in favor
- E. Old business
 - 1. Potential board members: J.E. introduces Chris Ruggia and says he is considering joining the board. If we know of other that might be interested, email Jaime.
 - 2. Capital campaign: D.W. reports that the he spoke with a contractor that came into the library to get a card who is working on jobs in Marfa and Presidio; he asked questions and Don gave him a tour and the building plans; he wanted to put a bid in on it and they are currently working on that now; the company is Skylar Construction and they have offices in Houston and Denver, mainly work on medical facilities but have other contracts, such as the University of Colorado library.
 - 3. City of Alpine: Martin Sandante is our new city council representative; this is his first term and D.W. mentions that we can watch the city council meeting on YouTube and see him there; D.W. also says he talked to Megan on the city council and there do not seem to be any cuts on the horizon for the library; C.R. thinks Judy would be a good person to be an advocate for an increase in

the budget for the library; D.W. says Megan will relay when they begin working on the budget and he will go speak with them at that point.

4. Donor dinners: L.S. mentions that one of our locations has been sold (Dill residence) and that we need a number of people able to host dinners at their houses and also a list of people who could be invited who have money but may not be familiar with the library; we need to start planning now if we want to host dinners in the fall; asks if anyone willing to host in their house; L.B. says yes and elaborates that this could be an annual event and we should view it as such, possibly with the donors becoming hosts later; the host determines the menu, there is always a donation jar present, and the host could have something like a silent auction in conjunction with it; L.S. mentions donor fatigue and that perhaps we should bump this to spring so that it is farther from ArtWalk; B.D. suggests spring/summer as the target time because she could host more people outside than inside; B.D. asks how many people the host should have, L.B. answers that it completely depends on how many the host can handle; the idea is that all the dinners happen simultaneously and that everyone meets in a central location at the end for dessert or something like that; M.E.T. suggests a progressive dinner within walking distance, maybe having it in businesses downtown; C.R. suggests going to the Friends and see who likes to host and who might be able to; LB suggests that this will not be easy the first time and may not bring in a huge amount of money, but we will learn and can make it an annual event that becomes well known and lucrative; L.B. wants to know if we are interested in continuing with these ideas and if so, we need people to head it up; B.D. asks if this should go to the fundraising committee for invitation wording and a general proposal and then have it brought back to the board; J.E. votes no if people are not already prepared to open their homes; B,D. points out that we are still in the pandemic and that having large gatherings until spring is probably not the best idea so in the meantime, the committee can begin to make a more cohesive plan and firm up details.

-A.U. moves to table this discussion and have fundraising committee pursue it further; J.E. seconds the motion; all in favor, motion passes

F. New business

1. Secretary position: L.B. mentions that the secretary position will now be vacant beginning in August; A.U. volunteers to take over the remainder of the term.

2. Article: D.W. sent an article to read before the meeting that directs us to consider how the community perceives the library, how funding works, and how to educate the community; L.S. says that people often come in for specific things so perhaps we could do something on social media that would be “a day without a library” to show what it would look like if the library were closed; this might include short video clips of interviews with patrons.

- G. Next meeting date: August 12, 2021, at 5:30 p.m.
- H. Adjournment at 6:16 p.m.

2021 Board of Directors:

Linda Bryant, President (2021)
Betsy Evans, Vice President (2021)
Mary-Elizabeth Thompson, Secretary (2023)
Jon Roe, Treasurer (2023)
Lee Smith, Friends of APL Representative
Mike Pallanez, Brewster Co. Representative

Bernadette Devine (2021)
Kathy Donnell (2023)
Jaime Escuder (2023)
Cynthia Salas (2023)
Amelie Urbanczyk (2022)