

## Grand County libraries: linking people to boundless opportunities

GRAND COUNTY LIBRARY DISTRICT  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
Regular Meeting, August 20, 2024  
5:30 PM

Location: Juniper Library or Zoom  
Meeting ID: 863 4751 3182  
Passcode: gMNz7j

### MINUTES

Trustees: Jeremy Kroner, Sally Leclair, Darcy Schlichting, Alan Walker, Mike Johnson, Jen Goertz, Laura Jones

Staff: Polly Gallagher, Tara Thompson, Chris Newell, Sue Luton

Friends: Judy Smith

- I. Call to Order and Consideration of Trustee Absences  
Meeting called to order at 5:37 p.m. by Jeremy Kroner.
- II. Amendments to the Agenda  
We received notification from the Town of Winter Park about designating a representative to the Winter Park Urban Renewal Authority. Gallagher recommended an amendment to the agenda to discuss adding a representative from the Board to serve on this committee.
- III. Approval of the Agenda  
*Motion to approve the agenda as amended.*  
Sally Leclair motion; Jen Goertz 2<sup>nd</sup>  
All approve
- IV. Consent Agenda:
  - A. July Regular Meeting Board Minutes
  - B. Correspondence
  - C. June and July Bank Reconciliation
  - D. July Budget to Actuals and Balance Sheet  
*Motion to approve the consent agenda as presented.*  
Mike Johnson motion; Sally Leclair 2<sup>nd</sup>  
All approve

**5:45 p.m.**

- V. Reports
  - A. Friends of the Grand County Library, Inc.  
Judy Smith reported. Thanks to all for your support of TOPS of the Rockies. Great result considering small attendance. Just over 100 people

were in attendance. Net \$20,000, with an additional \$7,350 pledged to the new

Kremmling Library building fund. Thanks to those who put a table together for the district. Thanks to Library staff, Michelle and Kaydee, for volunteering to serve food. Thanks to Jeremy for his kind words/speech. Buffalo Days book sale - \$1,500 generated, about the same as last year. Great weekend in Grand Lake! Annual meeting will be held Saturday, October 19, 10 a.m. in the Granby Library Community Room. Annual membership meeting – new officers and board will be announced at this meeting. Trustees commented on a great event. Kudos to the Friends!

- B. Grand County Library Foundation  
Darcy Schlichting reported. \$600 raised through Colorado Gives Foundation – received from the Jim Hering Memorial Fund. Possibly planning an author talk for early 2025. Meeting postponed to near future.
- C. Public Comment  
None at this time

## VI. Business Items

### A. Juniper Library Update

A highlight of Juniper Library work by Sue Luton, branch manager started the meeting. Sue gave a tour of the library and focused on dynamic shelving which makes more room for displays. Sue highlighted the Library of Things, reference, periodicals/magazines, adult section, and children/juvenile displays. The model for the new marquee for Grand Lake is on display at the library for patrons to view. Sue also walked the group outside to see the outdoor gardens and mentioned the Take & Make program. She wrapped up with explaining how successful the Senior Lunch & Learn program is in this location and that alternative venues are used to manage the numbers.

### B. Review by Executive Director of July GCLD Department Highlights & Statistics

A review of the past month's strategic plan progress including projects, events, and statistics included SRP, SRP, SRP – 899 participants registered this year! In looking at June's collection usage statistics and July's reporting, there was a glitch in the system. Our numbers are continuing to move in a positive forward trajectory. We are seeing significant increases in eBook and Audiobook usage, including OverDrive/Libby and Hoopla. We continue to work on enhancing outdoor spaces – construction is complete at Fraser Valley Library. Fence is up. Library Calendar has been launched - easy to use so far. Working on figuring out reports with the new software. Text notifications are built into the software. Juniper Library will be seeing some staffing changes - John is moving into the Digital Resources position and his replacement will be

starting sometime next week. Amy's hours have been extended to include Saturday and Sunday. She will support Public Services during downtimes in Grand Lake. A second bid is being secured for cloud-based security systems – holding off on discussions. Juniper's log restoration project is complete. Anthony is prepping for AV/Conference equipment for

Granby Library. Governor Polis called a special session of the legislature to address a further reduction of property taxes in exchange for proponents withdrawing two ballot measures in November that could severely cut local government revenue.

C. Meeting Calendar

- a) Tuesday, September 17 Board of Trustees Meeting at Granby Library
- b) CALCON (Beaver Run) September 4-6 – Darcy and Jen attending parts/all of the conference
- c) SDA Annual Conference (Keystone) September 10-12 – no representatives attending; considering staff members

D. Property Tax Update

Gallagher summarized SB24-233, Initiatives 108 and 50, and OSPB Presentation on the Budget Impacts Related to Property Tax that will impact GCLD's budget and projected income. She explained the law and proposed initiatives as they currently stand. This has created uncertainty for the Library in regard to budget planning, and it is projected to impact the organization negatively. Legislature is scheduled to meet August 26 to discuss the initiatives. The New Property Tax Framework was shared and explained. There are many moving parts, and all scenarios will have negative impact on revenue. We will not know the ramifications until after the August meeting. Tara has run basic numbers – difficult to discern; she is using the forecasting model, but everything keeps changing. She shared and explained assessed value income based on laws currently impacting property taxes for 2023-2027, using the numbers from the 2.41 mil levy. The .95 mil levy was also discussed, need versus sustainability. Resolution template from SDA was shared with Trustees and summarized by Gallagher. Discussion followed with the opinion of this resolution being pre-emptive. May be irrelevant after the August 26 meeting of the legislature. She will have this available to begin using it sooner rather than later. A question came up about what other SDAs are doing. Many have already put this in place.

*Motion to approve 2024-08-01 Resolution of the Grand County Library District in Opposition to the Statewide Proposals, Initiatives 50 & 108.*

Mike Johnson motion; Sally Leclair 2<sup>nd</sup>

All approve

E. Adventure Begins at Your Library Summer Reading Program Review

Chris Newell, director of Public Services, provided a summary of all events from this year's 2024 Summer Reading Program Adventure Begins at Your Library. She shared a PowerPoint presentation highlighting programs, presenters, field trips, hikes, picnics, crafts, and more. Registration numbers of 900 registered participants plus the many program participants were shared along with an explanation of program statistics and community participation/engagement. Sponsors and financial donors were thanked. Planning is already beginning for next year's program, *Color Our World*.

F. Preliminary 2024 Budget Discussion

Preliminary budget discussions must happen in August regarding the philosophy for the development of the 2024 budget. Tara Thompson posed the question – how do you want us to begin building our budget? We are currently a zero-based budget organization, where we start fresh each year. Another philosophy to keep in mind is how to utilize our reserve expenditures. Should we only use projected revenue, or also dip into reserve expenditures? What will it cost to support the current Strategic Framework that is in place through 2025? Trustees asked questions and engaged in discussion. Gallagher is confident in the current service model. Tax revenue income is difficult to predict in the current property tax situation. Budget surplus was discussed. It was recommended to plan as in the past using the zero-based model. It was recommended to also come up with a budget to follow if we must dip into reserves, based on the Strategic Plan. Put a budget forward to provide services based on community needs and wants. We can be proactive, not reactive. Keep in mind the expiring .95 mil levy and possible need to fund an election. The new Kremmling Library is also a variable. Trustees agreed – although there is concern about revenue caps and creating budget, move toward completion of current Strategic Framework and work off zero-based budget philosophy.

G. Designating Representative to serve on the Winter Park Urban Renewal Authority

Letter from Town of Winter Park was shared with Trustees. Discussion was held. We can put forward someone from our organization or put forward Scott Ledin, who has offered to serve in this capacity. He lives in and is engaged in the Winter Park community. There will be some tax issues that might negatively impact special districts (including GCLD) that are within the Urban Renewal area. Gallagher met with him regarding communication on the issues.

*Motion to approve Scott Ledin's appointment as special district representative on the Winter Park Urban Renewal Authority.*

Darcy Schlichting motion; Laura Jones 2<sup>nd</sup>

All approve

VII Action Items

None at this time

VIII Adjournment

*Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 p.m.*

Sally Leclair motion; Jen Goertz 2<sup>nd</sup>

All approve