

**City of Pinellas Park, Florida
Barbara S. Ponce Public Library
Library Advisory Board Meeting
August 7, 2025 6:30 pm
Approved Minutes**

Present: Trish Le (Chair), Patricia Bennett, Elaine Bovinette, Joanne Cherry and
Melissa Gonzalez
Absent: Sara Nieves (Vice-Chair), and Emily Mullins
City Staff Present: David McMurrin, Library Director, Ginger Brengle, Sr. Youth Services
Librarian and Debra Surprenant, Administrative Clerk

1. **Call to Order** - The meeting was called to order by Chair Le at 6:35 p.m.
2. **Approval of June 5, 2025 Meeting Minutes:** Ms. Bennett moved with a second from Ms. Cherry that the February 6, 2025 minutes be approved. All Ayes. Motion passes.
3. **New Business:**
 - A. **Interview of Library Board Member Candidate – Betty Facey:** Ms. Facey told the Board about herself and was asked a few questions. Ms. Gonzalez moved with a second from Ms. Bennett that the Board approve the appointment of Betty Facey to the Library Advisory Board replacing Karen Ford. Term expiration June 30, 2028. All Ayes. Motion passes.
 - B. **Gearing up for the Library Annual Report:** Mr. McMurrin stated that he is going to be meeting with staff members regarding creating the 2024-2025 Annual Report.
4. **Old Business** - No Old Business to discuss
5. **Monthly Statistics:**

Mr. McMurrin highlighted the monthly statistics report with the following. The library door count for the whole year of 2024-23 was 88,000, the door count as of July 31, 2025 is 103,000. Mr. McMurrin stated that the library staff felt there were more patrons in the library than was being counted so a new system of counting patrons was implemented to gather more specific counts. Study room counts raised from 4,900 for the whole of last year to 4,957 as of July 31, 2025. The number of programs offered in 2024-25 were 545 and so far, this year we have reached 519 and still have two months to go. The number of program attendees for the afore mentioned programs in 2024-25 reached 8,400 and so far, this year (July 31, 2025) the count is 9,600. Mr. McMurrin stated that staff has been working very hard to establish a welcoming library. Summer reading has ended for this year. A presentation will be made before City Council in September explaining these statistics.

6. Director's Report

- A. Project and Staff Committee Update:** The financial donation from the Friends was used for miscellaneous furniture and items in youth services that separate children age groups into specific areas that have age-appropriate items. The rest of the money was used to purchase display/book shelves for the Circulation Dept.
- B. Friends of the Library Update:** Ms. Bennett stated that the Friends are going to hold a special membership drive and informational meeting Thursday, September 4th at 5:30 pm. The Friends will also hold a book sale on Friday, September 26th and Saturday, September 27th.
- C. Library Programs and Events:** See Statistics Above
- D. Building Project Updates:** The library windows are still in the process of being replaced with hurricane resistant windows. These windows will not only "harden" the library for when storms come but they will eliminate the need to have the metal shutters put up. This allows other buildings to have their storm prep work done sooner by the appreciate department. Inside blinds are being installed on the front meeting rooms. These blinds are black-out blinds for when the room needs to be dark. Also, these shutters are safer for when children are around. Mr. McMurrin shared that the painting of the outside of the building should be completed in the next several weeks. The mural for the library has been put on hold due to changes in the Federal Government with the City wanting to focus on employees instead of aesthetics. There are plans to update the Circulation Desk area, making it more patron entry friendly.
- E. PPLC Updates:** No new updates for PPLC

7. **Next Meeting:** Thursday, October 2, 2025, 6:30 pm.

8. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned the meeting at 7 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Trish Le - Chair

David McMurrin, Library Director