

Pitkin County Library
Minutes of the Board of Trustees
May 13, 2026

MINUTES of the regular meeting of the Pitkin County Library Board of Trustees on May 13, 2026. The meeting was called to order at 12:00 PM in the Dunaway Room.

1. Roll Call:

Trustees Present:

- ☐ Pres. John Wilkinson (JW)
- ☐ V.P. Elizabeth Nix (EN)
- ☐ Sec. Anna Lookabill (AL)
- ☐ Tres. Audrey Ellis (AE)
- ☐ Ashley Connolly (AC)
- ☐ Chris Keleher (CK)
- ☐ Elizabeth Stewart-Severy (ES-S)

Alternate Present:

- ☐ Andrew Travers (AT) – Voting Member

Staff Present:

- ☐ Genevieve Smith (GS), PC Librarian
- ☐ Anna Steinberg, Assistant to PC Librarian
- ☐ Shannon Ressel, PC Youth Services Librarian/ Supervisor
- ☐ Jennifer Patterson, Library Strategies consultant
- ☐ Jimena Brenton, Library Strategies consultant

2. Approval of Minutes for April 8, 2026

Moved by Elizabeth Stewart-Severy
Passed by Board, unanimously

2nd by Audrey Ellis

3. Public Comment:

- None

4. Trustees Comments & Librarian's Report:

Trustee Comments-

- John had a meeting of the Colorado Association of Libraries Legislative Committee and informed the board that there has been no change made to the state budget for contributions to the State Library.

Librarian's Report-

- **Staffing & Operations:**
 - Planned closures: May 25th for Memorial Day. Also requesting approval to close from 11-2 on May 20th for the annual Pitkin County Employee Picnic (see new business)
 - Marmot Council Meeting: Genevieve will be attending the Marmot Council meeting (a library consortium founded by PC Library) in Palisade June 5th & 6th which provides member libraries support, updates and future planning.
 - Summer Reading Kickoff: scheduled for Friday May 22 and one of the biggest Library events of the year. Trustees are invited to attend or volunteer.
- **Strategic Plan Update:**
 - The Community Needs Assessment has been received and provided to the Board for review
 - Strategic Plan first reading (see new business)
 - Mission & Vision Statements- request from steering committee to one revision to the mission statement adopted by Board in April (see old business). A better word to indicate the Library's role to nurture and grow connection.
- **Nominating Committee for Annual Officer Elections:** see new business
- **Security, Facilities & Building Updates:**
 - **Clean Heat Building Upgrades (formerly Electrification):** First phase scheduled to begin May 11th and completed by end of June and fall. Clear messaging is important- cleaner, more efficient heating and **cooling** system to improve comfort while supporting PC's climate goals and stewardship.
Temp closures may occur, but crews will work after hours when possible.
Upgrades expected to avoid over 9,000 metric tons of carbon over 30 years, equivalent to removing 70 gas vehicles off the road annually.
- *Americans and the Holocaust* Traveling Exhibition (see new business presentation by Shannon): Running June 15-July 27 on the mezzanine. Programming has been developed around the exhibition and construction planned around the exhibition. Some temporary removal of furniture to accommodate the exhibit will be stored in the mezzanine meeting room which will eliminate one public space for the duration, but with the recent addition of the pods, staff feels confident that it will not be too disruptive.

5. Old Business-

- **Safety Barrier Project:** holding pattern
- **Clean Heat Building Upgrades (formerly Electrification):** See Librarians report section
- **Library Mission & Vision Statements:** request to amend

Changing the word “build” to “foster” in the statement

We **foster** community, inspire learning, and open doors to mountains of possibility.

Moved by Elizabeth Stewart-Severy 2nd by Chris Keleher

Passed by Board, unanimously

6. New Business-

- **Establish a Policy Review Subcommittee: Tabled**
- **AV Demo:** Presented by Michael Faas, Adult Services Librarian- **Full Demo Tabled**

- **Annual Staff Picnic request for closure:**

Moved by Audrey Ellis 2nd by Elizabeth Nix

Passed by Board, unanimously

- ***Americans and the Holocaust Exhibit:*** Presented by Shannon Ressel, head of Youth Services Librarian Shannon Ressel presented slides with background information on the traveling exhibit the library will host from the end of June through the beginning of July. She provided a history of the exhibit and insight into the grant application process PCL participated in to be selected as a host library. Shannon gave an in-depth preview of the programs the library will host alongside the visiting exhibit to further engage the community, as well as a look at the exhibit timeline and the accompanying events.
- **Strategic Plan:** First Reading, as amended.

Moved by Audrey Ellis 2nd by Elizabeth Stewart-Severy

Passed by Board, unanimously

- **Appointments to the Nominating Committee for Officer nominations & Elections in June:**
Trustees appointed to the nominating committee for office nominations and elections are:
Elizabeth Nix, Elizabeth Stewart-Severy, and Audrey Ellis.

6. Review Future Meetings Schedule 2026

- June 10 (Annual Meeting), July 8, August 12, September 16* (3rd Wednesday), October 14, November 18?

7. Adjourned @ 1:40 PM

Moved by Andrew Travers, 2nd by Audrey Ellis