

BOARD OF LIBRARY COMMISSIONERS

Members

Wendy Urushima-Conn, Chair
Marshall Anderson • Elizabeth Hansen • Shawna Hook-Held • Ben Moraga • Linda Sotelo

MINUTES

**BOARD OF LIBRARY COMMISSIONERS
SAN DIEGO PUBLIC LIBRARY
Wednesday, August 3, 2022**

ATTENDANCE

Commissioners:

Present: Wendy Urushima-Conn, Elizabeth Hansen, Ben Moraga, Marshall Anderson, Shawna Hook-Held, Linda Sotelo

Absent:

Staff: Misty Jones, Director – Library, Bob Cronk, Deputy Director – Library; Jennifer Jenkins, Deputy Director – Library; Tricia Nool, Executive Assistant – Library; William Curtis, Program Manager – Library; Ady Huertas, Program Manager – Library; Oscar Gittemeier, Program Manager – Library

Presenters: Jill Eyres, David Schnee (Group 4 Architecture, Research + Planning, Inc.), Carson Block (Carson Block Consulting Inc.)

Public:

Ann McDonald – FSDPL, Patrick Stewart, CEO – SDPLF, Charlie Goldberg, Steve Hermes

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order by Commissioner Urushima-Conn at 12:32 pm via Zoom. Their last meeting was on July 6, 2022.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The July 6, 2022 minutes was approved unanimously.

REQUESTS FOR CONTINUANCE

None

NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT

REPORT FROM THE FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY:

Ann McDonald
President, Friends of the San Diego Public Library

FSDPL began the month with the Kickoff for the Libraries & Parks For All on Saturday, July 9th. I and others ceremoniously signed a large replica of the petition form. Petition “books” and training for obtaining signatures were provided to attendees. Now our Friends are engaged in getting signatures from registered San Diego city voters.

Our July monthly meeting was virtual, but on Saturday, August 13, we will meet in person at the Mission Valley Library – both Officers/Board and Chapter Presidents.

We are still working on getting an AmeriCorps VIP Member to help us in our effort to increase the number of our volunteers. We interviewed a candidate who seems promising. If we are successful, the candidate would begin on September 7th.

We awarded a McAllister Scholarship to Linda Dami to continue her Master of Library and Information Science through San José State University.

We have received 3 applications for E.T. Perry Centennial Chapter Grants.

We had hoped to have a presence at the San Diego Book Festival, but we could not afford the fees involved. However, we are looking forward to participating in the next North Park Book Fair!

Book sales continue at the various branch libraries. We want these efforts to be as successful as possible as we are cognizant of the Matching Fund goal of \$1.2 million dollars this year.

I invite all of you to come to our UH monthly book sale on the 3rd weekend of each month. We are open on Saturday from 9 – 3 and Sunday from Noon to 3. We are still unpacking books and filling shelves. We hope to have all areas open for browsing by our August 20th sale.

LIBRARY FOUNDATION UPDATE:

Patrick Stewart, CEO – SDPLF

You’ll be hearing a presentation from our friends G4 and Carson block technology, I just want to know that it has been an absolute pleasure kicking off this second phase of the library master plan. We've had a lot of very fantastic and robust conversations and excited for them to present what this phase is going to look like to you.

The Libraries and Parks 4 All initiative, which is the coalition between Library Foundation and the Parks Foundation to bring to the voters and opportunity to raise a substantial amount of

money year over year to support our libraries in our parks, officially was underway with this signature gathering celebration that we held at the North Clairemont Park.

We had about 50 people show up in including Council President Sean Elo-Rivera. He made some very, very kind remarks about how important it is that we continue to think outside the box and identify opportunities to support our libraries and our parks.

We have 180 days to gather about 120,000 signatures. This is going to be done through a combination of both volunteer and paid signature gatherers. So, the volunteer support is very important, and I just wanted to make sure that all of you Commissioners, know that there's an opportunity for you to also participate and support as volunteer signature gatherers or if you see signature gatherers out and about, either your library or in front of your Home Depot to please make sure that you not only Sign the petition, but also encourage friends and family to do so as well.

The third thing I want to do is make sure you all will be getting an invitation to it. The San Diego Public Library Visual Arts Program is hosting this year's San Diego art prize which is a really big deal. I had a long conversation with our Director of Commission for Arts and Culture, Jonathan Glus, and he is absolutely thrilled that this very important civic activity is happening in our library, not just in any city building, but in our library. The Library Foundation is a sponsor and supporter of this. The San Diego art prize annually recognizes fantastic exemplary visual arts, either individuals or groups. This year's theme focuses primarily around the visual arts on our border region between San Diego and Ensenada and one was also recently featured in the San Diego Public Library's Occupy Third Space Exhibit earlier this spring. The VIP reception opening night is September 16th Friday from 5:00 PM – 8:00 PM upstairs. You will be getting an invite for this and would love to see our Commissioners at this exhibit at some point, through the fall, but certainly at the VIP opening on September 16, 5:00 PM – 8:00 PM.

Aside from all the other work that the Foundation is doing, which we certainly enjoy, feel free to get in touch it anytime always available to have a conversation about the work that we do to support our library system.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

a. Report on Library Construction Projects

The Pacific Highlands Ranch Branch Library:

The Groundbreaking event took place on 7/15/2022, let by the City Mayor, (2) City Council Members, Library and E&CP Departments Directors, and the City Art & Culture Commission Director, it was covered by several TV and News Stations. The preparation for the construction activities started in Mid-June, and actual construction work is scheduled to start the week.

The Scripps Miramar Ranch Library Parking Lot Expansion:

The City DSD approved the construction drawings set, that is now "Ready To Issue The Building Permit". The design consultant submitted the updated documents last Friday, addressing storm water and ADA street crossing ramp, and the City E&CP will download and review. The City E Contract process is in progress.

Ocean Beach Library Expansion:

Recently, three separate design concepts options were presented to the community with distributed surveys to gather community feedback. Consequently, over 160 surveys have been received by the end of the survey feedback period (July 8th). Once information is compiled, the results will be presented to the Ocean Planning group for a vote to move forward with the concept with greatest community support. We will be presenting the results of the survey to the Community on September 7th at the Ocean Beach Planning Board's regularly scheduled meeting along with the OB Town Council. Concurrently, the In-house Design team are currently working with Historic Architects to ensure the design moving forward is in conformance with the Department of the Interiors Standards for Historically designated resources: as the 30% design phase is currently being finalized. Once the concept is confirmed through the OB planning Board, the current design development will be used as a Basis of Design to develop the Bridging document in order proceed with a competitive RFP process to acquire a Design/Builder to complete the project.

b. Update from Library Director

Draft Letter for College-Rolando Parking: The City Attorney's Office did advise against doing a letter at this time until you have more information about what the development is going to be. He does not want you to do anything that may pit you or the Library against another department within the city. He thinks it is better to wait till you have more information before you write a letter of support. We'll keep you updated on what is going on with the project. We still have not heard anything from the developer. They haven't gone before the planning board again so we're really not sure what direction they're going.

Security Report: We did have a decrease, so we are seeing an overall decrease in incidents across the board compared back to when we were open a full year. We were down in fiscal year 22 from 2019 and we are also down month over month from June to July. We still see some of the same typical things that we're seeing. You'll see some increases in locations like Jolla, Linda Vista, San Ysidro, Skyline Hills. We are seeing some of the unhoused population moving from the downtown area out into other areas. The incidents that we're seeing are happening after hours, not necessarily during hours but either late at night or early morning and so we have added an additional roving guard to our rotation. We put one roving guard at College-Rolando that was having a lot of issues, so we put them there for about two weeks and that resolved those issues. We added an additional guard here at Central Library overnight. We've had some issues with some unhoused juveniles that we have been trying to work with Housing Commission and PD and Homeless Strategies on some avenues that we can do to help. We had a couple of juveniles that are part of a larger gang of unhoused and they actually felt unsafe and came into the library and asked us to call someone to come and pick them up. They were in group homes and had run away from group homes and then asked us to call that group home so that they could come pick them up. We had some staff that stayed quite a few hours after closing waiting for rides to come reunite to take these kids back to a safe place for them.

Homelessness at the San Diego Central Library: Assessing the Potential Role of Social Workers by Lianne A. Urada, School of Social Work, San Diego State University (SDSU)
<https://www.mdpi.com/1660-4601/19/14/8449/htm> She did a research, study on homelessness at

the Central library and it's assessing the potential role of social workers. It is a really interesting report. She did a lot of focus groups particularly talking to people who have opioid addiction and I think I had reported this before we learned that a lot of opioid users choose the library to be the place for they use because they feel that if they should overdose someone will find them which is a little disconcerting but that has been an ongoing challenge for us that we've been trying to address. This study validated a lot of the things that we knew.

What she's going to be doing next is an additional study on what we can do to interrupt and be part of the intervention strategy. She did receive a grant for a two year study that again will take focus groups and discuss with them intervention strategies and then eventually have what's called Bupe by the Book. It's working with Father Joe's and it's connecting people to free Telehealth but also connecting them to resources for buprenorphine which is kind of the equivalent to methadone. What we want to do is create an easier pathway to reduce the barriers for people to be able to continue to get that prescription. So, having a library be a place where people can come and do like a zoom call with their healthcare provider is one focus of the study. Part of this will also be putting a social work intern at the Central library to work along with this program. This is something we've been really interested in doing and so we're going to be able to study that and hopefully be able to expand that. We're also going to be looking at having this at Logan Heights.

AGENDA ITEMS

- a. Health Misinformation Partnership with Circuit libraries (Informational) – Oscar Gittermeier

Presented on the Circuit Libraries Health Misinformation Task Force and some of the work that they've been doing.

- b. Naming Proposals (Proposed Action to approve recommendation)

Naming of New Oak Park Community Room for Senator Toni Atkins

Naming of Central Library Terrace for Jim Dawe

ACTION: Motion by Chair, Urushima-Conn, second by Commissioner Moraga, to recommend Board of Library Commissioners' approval of staff's proposed actions.

VOTE: yea – Unanimous.

- c. Library Master Plan (Informational) – Jill Eyres, David Schnee (Group 4 Architecture, Research + Planning, Inc.), Carson Block (Carson Block Consulting Inc.)

Phase 2 Planning Process Presentation

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ynb7htL-aXY>

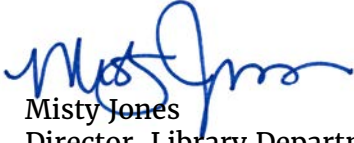
COMMISSIONER COMMENT

OTHER BUSINESS

The next Board of Library Commissioners meeting is adjourned. The next Board of Library Commissioners meeting will take place on October 5, 2022 at 12:30 PM via Zoom.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Wendy Urushima-Conn adjourned the meeting at 1:30 PM.



Misty Jones
Director, Library Department

/tn