



# **BOARD OF LIBRARY COMMISSIONERS**

## **Meeting Minutes**

Wednesday, April 9, 2025

12:30 PM

330 Park Blvd. Central Library, Mary Hollis Clark, Ground Floor

### **Attendance**

#### **Commissioners:**

Present: Sarah Moga-Alemany, Dr. Wendy Ranck-Buhr, Phyllis Pfeiffer, Sitara Sethi, Scott Walter, Pat Bevelyn

**Absent:** Sam Yo euth, Linda Sotelo, Mark Tran

**Staff:** Ady Huertas - Program Manager, Oscar Gittemeier – Program Manager, Bob Cronk-Deputy Director, Tricia Nool - Executive Assistant

**Library Foundation:** Patrick Stewart, Jenny Mehlow

**Friends of the Library:** Pat Wilson, Ann McDonald

**e3 CivicHigh:** absent

### **Item 1: Call to Order**

Meeting was called to order by Commissioner Moga-Alemany at 12:30 pm. Their last meeting was on March 5, 2025.

### **Item 2: Approval of Minutes**

The March 5, 2025 minutes was approved unanimously

### **Item 3: Requests for Continuance**

### **Item 4: Non-Agenda Public Comment**

### **Item 5: Friends of the Library Report – Pat Wilson, President**

Today we have a new website, <https://friendsofsdpl.org/> Book sale is the third Saturday.

**Item 6: Library Foundation Report – Patrick Stewart, CEO**

Advocacy - We're kicking it into gear to ensure that the library is adequately funded. I had the opportunity this March to join Cosla, Chief Officer of State Library Associations, and ULC in Washington, DC to advocate on a federal level.

We're also eagerly awaiting the mayor's release of the budget on April 15th and we will be prepared for the statement that day, encouraging proper investment in the library.

Postcards - Should be getting postcards next week that are already pre stamped preaddressed. You like the library? There are some talking points on there for friends, family, neighbors. They go directly to each of the Council members and the Mayor's office. We've gotten a lot more people making comments about the library. There are a couple of messages here. Preserve library hours due to impending cuts by the city, libraries are the lifeblood of democracy. We need knowledge and truth, and your work is crucial during this time of chaos and threats to our democracy|.

We will be hosting the International Public Library fundraising conference here on June 8-10. It's a great opportunity for the executives and professionals that support libraries to come together and talk about how we can support the work that libraries do in a deeper, more meaningful way and also to be able to show off San Diego that way.

We have a new foundation employee. Jenny Mehlow is joining us as our new Chief Marketing and Public Affairs Officer, but she is not new to the library. She was the city's PIO a few years back and the library was in her portfolio.

We're sponsoring the San Diego book crawl again this year. There are 14 independent bookstores. Scott, our library shop manager here is the one who has put this program together. We'll have about four thousand people that will get out and try to visit as many of the bookstores as they can. There's prizes and all sorts of stuff we do.

**Item 7: e3CivicHigh Update Report - Brett Taylor, CEO**

No report

**Item 8: Report on Library Construction Projects**

**The Pacific Highlands Ranch Branch Library:**

The new building's construction is complete, the general contractor submitted the closing documents, and the construction contract closing work is in progress. The (1) year warranty period began upon the approval of substantial completion on November 8, 2024.

### **The Scripps Miramar Ranch Library Parking Lot Expansion:**

The library's new south-east side parking "Phase I" construction was opened for public use; the west side parking "Phase II" construction work is pending on the general contractor receiving the Development Services Department permit for the canyon side retaining walls deferred submittal. The contractor addressed the first round of comments from DSD and resubmitted. The contractor received a second round of comments from DSD mid-March and are working to address them. The contractor is holding off on receiving the steel storm drainage pipes as they will take up significant space and would impact operations during the grading. Potholing the north Scripps Lake Dr. traffic signal poles' locations revealed obstructions of large SDG&E conduits, County Water Authority pipes and large rocks. The team will look into relocating the traffic signals, as well as feasible alternatives for the crossing signals. The coordination with the San Diego County Water Authority is ongoing.

The parking expansion project is coordinating with (3) CIP projects:

- The Miramar Valve Replacement's valve vault construction was completed, and the vehicle-rated lid delivery is expected in June 2025.
- The Library Fire Sprinkler system upgrade project is expected to start construction in the first week of March and expected to be complete mid-July.
- The Library Mechanical system upgrade is expected to start in July 2025, and the construction duration is estimated to be 8-10 months.

### **Ocean Beach Branch Library:**

DSD Determined the environmental document is a NOE and filed with the County end of January.

As mentioned previously, the NEPA process must be completed for the grant funding allocation. The Design team also must ensure two City Policies are incorporated into the project:

1. Ensuring Project Labor Agreement (PLA) is part of the Design/Builder requirements and
2. A Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) will be utilized using the Sustainability Department's consultant to design and install a Photovoltaic System, Battery backup system and Electric Charging system.

We anticipate having the bridging documents completed winter for the contract processing to start soon afterwards. Based on this, we expect the RFQ to be out beginning of the calendar year and move forward with the procurement process to award the Design-Builder by Summer of '25.

### **Oak Park Library:**

This project has been awarded using a Design-Build Community Based Competitive Design competition with the submission by Barnhart Reese Construction in partnership with RNT Architects being the successful proposal. The award of the first phase (the design phase) was approved by City Council on October 29, 2024. The Kick-Off Meeting between the contractor's team, project stakeholders and City Staff took place on December 19, 2024, and Notice to Proceed (NTP) was issued on December 24, 2024. The design phase has officially started, design is anticipated to be completed by Winter 2025 with potential early start packages for site grading

and Right-Of-Way work. Additional funding is necessary to award subsequent phases (the construction phases) which is anticipated in the Fall of 2025.

**Old Logan Heights Library:**

The building rehabilitation design was completed and approved with the DSD permit pending. The PM team has completed negotiations with JOC contractor and is routing the contract for Mayoral Action. Anticipate award in Spring of 2025 and Start of Construction to follow this summer.

**Rancho Peñasquitos Library Rehabilitation:**

The project is currently at 100% design and DSD review for permitting ongoing. The request for the addition of a community patio to the scope of work, was re-evaluated due to significant stormwater compliance requirements and will be pursued as a stand-alone project in the future. Currently, the project construction is underfunded by approximately \$1.5M. Will reach out to Public Libraries Department and evaluate alternatives to mitigate these recent unanticipated impacts to the project. The project is on track for award in FY26, pending resolution funding shortfall.

**Item 9: Library Director Report – Misty Jones, Director**

Budget - We are still waiting for the final numbers to come in, we will likely know Monday afternoon what it is going to be right before they make the public announcement. The Mayor is releasing his draft budget on April 15th. This is a proposal, really intending to do a lot of work with Council offices and our represented employee organizations to come up with what a final budget is. Monday is the Council meeting for them to hear measure B, and also the parking measures. The Budget Hearing is in May.

**Item 10: Agenda Items**

- a. Update on Consolidation of Office of Child and Youth Success to Library Department  
We are bringing the Office of Child and Youth Success into the Library as part of the restructuring due to budget reductions effective May 28<sup>th</sup>.
- b. Meeting Room Policy Finalization  
Still in the process of being finalized. Tabled for May meeting
- c. IMLS Update  
The cancellation of grants means that the State Library may not receive the remainder of their funding for this year, which is approximately 21million dollars. This allocation funds things like literacy services, our summer reading program, our workforce development program, our New York Times Online subscription, the Talking Books services and ebooks. This is going to impact people that need the services the most.
- d. Adult Programing Updates – Oscar Gittemeier, Program Manager  
Adult HS Diploma Program Graduation is on 5/6/25  
10<sup>th</sup> Annual How-To Festival: 5/10/25 @ Pacific Highlands Ranch

2025: One Book, One San Diego winner will be announced on 8/23/25

Arts and Crafts Day is on 4/16/25 at 10:00 AM

Arts and Culture Exhibitions: Take me to the Water, Histories of the Black Pacific through 5/4/25

- e. Youth Services Updates – Ady Huertas, Program Manager

Presentation on Dia de los Niños Dia de los Libros - Día is a national celebration of multilingual literacy and being a child. It's an opportunity to connect kids to the world of learning through books and activities at the library.

**Item 11: Commissioner Comment**

**Item 12: Other Business**

Next meeting is on May 7, 2025, 12:30 PM at the Mary Hollis Clark Conference Center, San Diego Central Library @ Joan A Irwin Jacobs Common, 330 Park Blvd., San Diego, CA 92101

**Item 13: Agenda Building**

Budget

Meeting Room Policy

**Item 14: Adjournment**

Commissioner Sarah Moga-Alemaný adjourned the meeting at 1:14 PM