

# BOARD OF LIBRARY COMMISSIONERS

## Members

Abby Weiss, Chair

Ann Haddad • Katherine Nakamura • Wendy Urushima-Conn • Sarah White • Alan Ziegaus

## MINUTES

### BOARD OF LIBRARY COMMISSIONERS SAN DIEGO PUBLIC LIBRARY Wednesday, March 1, 2017

## ATTENDANCE

### Commissioners:

**Present:** Abby Weiss, Sarah White, Wendy Urushima-Conn, Alan Ziegaus,  
Ann Haddad

**Absent:** Katherine Nakamura

**Staff:** Misty Jones, Library Director; Nicole Spriggs, Executive Assistant; Robert Cronk, Deputy Director, Public Services; Kristin Tillquist, Chief of Innovation & Engagement; Charlie Goldberg, Marketing Director, San Diego Public Library Foundation

**Public:** Natalia Bishar

## CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order by Commissioner Weiss at 12:51 p.m. in the Legler Benbough Teen IDEA Lab at Valencia Park/Malcolm X Branch Library.

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The February 1, 2017 minutes were approved unanimously.

## REQUESTS FOR CONTINUANCE

None.

## NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

## **REPORT FROM THE FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY: Natalia Bishar**

The Corporate Friends held another successful book sale in February despite yet another rainy weekend. Online Amazon book sales in collaboration with the Central Friends chapter continue to go well. At the monthly meeting in February, the board voted to collaborate with the Library's LGBTQIA Library Services Committee and again support the registration fee for a contingent of marchers in the Pride Parade from library administration, staff, family and friends. This opportunity to promote inclusion and community engagement has been met with enthusiasm from Friends' members from a number of chapters. The Friends also voted to support the attendance of one of their members to the ALA Annual Conference in Chicago in June, and are looking forward to having her bring back new ideas. In addition, the Friends agreed to support the attendance of members of the Teen Book Club at e3 Civic High School at the YallWest Book Fair; in exchange for their donation. The teens will help with a clean-up of the Friends book sale space.

Judging for the "Writing for Literacy" Student Essay Contest has been completed at most of the branch libraries. The Friends are gearing up for the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Citywide Essay Contest Awards Ceremony, which will be held on the evening of Thursday, April 27<sup>th</sup> at the Balboa Park Club. The internet is up and running again, and the Friends can now respond to emails. However, facility issues continue to plague them; the torrential rains on Monday of this week caused significant flooding; the Friends volunteers worked long hours, and the library's facilities maintenance staff and acting branch manager were very responsive.

## **LIBRARY FOUNDATION UPDATE: Charlie Goldberg**

The Library Foundation is focused on the next fundraising appeal campaign which will be during Library Week, April 9<sup>th</sup> – April 15<sup>th</sup>. The Foundation is in the process of identifying donors who would be willing to make a match towards the campaign during that week. They intend to send a letter, series of emails and follow up cards to their donors to promote this fundraising campaign. The Foundation will be sending Joan Reese (Friends President) a draft message of what they want to send to their advocacy network of around 9600 people, who signed on to agree to reach out to their elected officials and deliver the library message. Over the next few weeks, the Foundation would like them to reach out to the Mayor's office and Council offices to encourage maintenance of the library services. The Foundation will be scheduling follow up meetings with Council members that will involve members of the Board of Library Commissioners and Friends of the Library. Celebration under the Dome will be taking place in November 2017. A confirmed date will be provided.

## **CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

### **a. Report on Library Construction Projects**

#### **San Ysidro Branch Library:**

- Unveiling of the winning design: February 17<sup>th</sup> at the old San Ysidro Library
- Limited Notice to Proceed was sent to Turner Construction on: March 1<sup>st</sup>
- Kickoff meeting with Design/Build Team and City will be held in next 2 weeks.
- Design development has begun

#### **• Mission Hills-Hillcrest Branch Library:**

The 60% construction documents were reviewed by various City departments in mid-January and February and the comments were discussed with D/B team to be incorporated into the 90% construction documents.

A Mayoral Action process has been initiated to move forward with authorizing the funding for Phase II of the Design/Build contract, construction of the parking garage and library, which is scheduled to start in June/July 2017.

- San Carlos Branch Library:

A Mayoral Action to approve Phase II of the Consultant Agreement with domusstudio architecture for the project bridging documents is processing for approval. The project will be submitted to the Development Services Department for preliminary project assessment as the next step in completing the schematic plan phase.

b. Update from the Library Director – Misty Jones

A list of library events for the month of March was provided by Bob Cronk, Deputy Director, Public Services: *Remarkable Women of San Diego* highlighting the significant contributions of local women to the history and culture of San Diego County will be held on Wednesday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 6:00 p.m. at the Balboa Branch Library; *The Human Library*– At the Human Library you'll be able to borrow "living books" -- people representing different and diverse groups in our community -- for 15-20 minute conversations. This event will be held on Saturday, March 11<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. at the Central Library; *Rose Ritchie Academy of Irish Dance*– celebrate Saint Patrick's Day at the library! Dancers ages four to fourteen will perform traditional Irish dances in full costume. Wednesday, March 15<sup>th</sup>, 4:00-4:30 p.m.; *Tree of Life: Turkish Home Cooking* –Author talk and book signing by Joy Stocke and Angie Brenner offers more than 100 accessible recipes inspired by Turkish food traditions and tells a larger story about culture, immigrants, traders, and the domestication of traditional Turkish ingredients. Explore the refined flavors and seductive aromas of the Turkish table with a food sample taken from the recipes of this cookbook. Saturday, March 18<sup>th</sup>, 3:30 p.m. at the La Jolla/Riford Branch Library.

“*Spring into Steam*” will be launched on March 2<sup>nd</sup>. A brochure was distributed. This program will run through May 2017. The library is partnering with local science experts, entomologists, and the Barcode of Life project to bring San Diegans a truly unique educational experience.

Ms. Jones introduced Kristin Tillquist, the new Chief of Innovation & Engagement for the Library Department. Kristin will be overseeing programming, education, library outreach, marketing and special events.

The library will be moving to a different calendar system on the library website. The calendar will be more user-friendly and more interactive. The new calendar is scheduled to launch on May 1<sup>st</sup>.

**AGENDA ITEMS (Discussion Item)**

- a. Ms. Jones gave an update on the budget. The Library Budget Review meeting was held on February 15<sup>th</sup>. The library has been tasked with a 3 1/2% reduction. The Library has begun cutting back to meet this reduction by only filling essential positions and reducing ordering of office supplies. The Library will be going to Council Committee next week for an increase in the security budget. The Mayor will be releasing the FY18 Proposed Budget on April 17<sup>th</sup>. The Budget hearings will start in Early May.

Commissioner Weiss provided the Commissioners with a breakdown of the budget process. Discussions were held on how to involve library constituents. Commissioners discussed holding future Board of Library Commissioners meetings at various library branches.

- b. Misty noted that the final staffing study is complete. An executive summary of the staffing study can be provided. Jane Light, previous Director of San Jose Public Library was the consultant for the Library staffing study. Over the next few years, the library will be focused on the recommendations of the staffing study.
- c. Library NExT is the Library's partnership with UCSD. They are currently doing three Coding Academies at the Central Library. This partnership will be bringing STEAM programs and Test Prep assistance to the libraries. They also offer a Workforce Development component.
- d. Commissioners discussed how they could give their input on potential Board of Library Commissioners candidates. Commissioners also requested reminders of their Board service term dates, as well as, the district they are assigned to.

#### **COMMISSIONER COMMENT**

A tour of the Legler Benbough Teen IDEA Lab will be given after the Board of Library Commissioners meeting.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

None.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Weiss adjourned the meeting at 1:54 p.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Misty Jones". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

MISTY JONES  
Library Director  
/ns