

## BOARD OF LIBRARY COMMISSIONERS

### Members

Wendy Urushima-Conn, Chair

Elizabeth Fitzsimons • Ann Haddad • Katherine Nakamura • Ben Moraga • Sarah White • Elizabeth Hansen

### MINUTES

#### BOARD OF LIBRARY COMMISSIONERS

#### SAN DIEGO PUBLIC LIBRARY

Wednesday, April 4, 2018

### ATTENDANCE

#### Commissioners:

**Present:** Elizabeth Fitzsimons, Wendy Urushima-Conn, Katherine Nakamura, Sarah White, Elizabeth Hansen, Ben Moraga

**Absent:** Ann Haddad

**Staff:** Misty Jones, Library Director; Nicole Spriggs, Executive Assistant; Robert Cronk, Library Deputy Director, Public Services; Sheila Burnett, Deputy Director, Support Services; Mark Davis, Branch Manager, Oak Park Branch Library; Charlie Goldberg, Director of Marketing; Jay Hill, Chief Executive Officer, San Diego Public Library Foundation

**Public:** Ann McDonald, Joan Reese, Andy Huelskamp, Claudia Thompson, Andrea Moser, Sonia Diaz, Richard Diaz

### CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order by Commissioner Urushima-Conn at 12:32 p.m. in the Sullivan Commission Room. Commissioner Weiss thanked Commissioners Abby Weiss and Alan Ziehaus for their years of service to the Board of Library Commissioners. Welcomed new Commissioners, Ben Moraga and Elizabeth Hansen, Executive Vice President of Southwest Strategies. The Mayor's office is still in process for appointment of new chair. Their last meeting was March 7, 2018.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The March 7, 2018 minutes were approved unanimously.

### REQUESTS FOR CONTINUANCE

None.

## **NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT**

Misty Jones gave an update on the non-agenda public comment from March 7<sup>th</sup>. Amir Rahim provided the board with a statement regarding unfair labor practices. Amir Rahim filed a small claims case and the Court ruled in favor of the City of San Diego.

### **REPORT FROM THE FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY: Joan Reese**

Pleased to announce four winners for the John McCallister Memorial Library Scholarship, in supporting MLIS degrees for Alejandra Alfaro, Rene Gehr, Jimmy Lovett Jr. and Robert Surratt. The corporate Friends monthly book sale continues to do well. The next book sale is scheduled for the weekend of Friday-Sunday, April 20-22nd. Online book sales in collaboration with the Friends of the Central Library are also doing well. No monthly book sale during May and June, due to the renovation in University Heights Library, lower level. The Friends plan on having a grand re-opening and will occur on the 3<sup>rd</sup> weekend of July. The Friends have also elected a new board secretary, Isabel Schechter, who is a board member of the University Heights Friends and newer directors in corporate friends group. Next monthly meeting will be on Saturday, March 14<sup>th</sup> at Mission Valley Library. Friends volunteer Executive Director, Fran Pierce, seems to be making a good recovery from the hip fracture and expecting to report back the following week.

### **LIBRARY FOUNDATION UPDATE: Jay Hill**

The Foundation had an annual retreat and discussed the start of the strategic plan process. They hired Peter Pearson, CEO of Friends of St. Paul Library, and interviewed Friends, Library staff/Executive staff and will be sharing the report with the Foundation Board at the next meeting. Andrea Moser, member of the Foundation board, will be assisting with the advocacy efforts and helping with marketing. The Foundation is awaiting on a budget from Mayor during the Council hearing May 2<sup>nd</sup>. They will be working with Friends and the goal is to get a lot of people aware of the advocacy and have no cuts. The Foundation is also planning to meet in July to assess advocacy cycle by considering other areas to push advocacy. Furthermore, the Foundation is excited for calendar year 2019 and having two Libraries opening. They also are fundraising for the Mission Hills and San Ysidro campaigns. In addition, Foundation will be supporting changes to matching funds and fine reduction when they come before Council.

## **CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

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

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

Plumbing and utilities are in the works. Considering opening late spring or early summer 2019

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

Plumbing and utilities are in the works, weighted to be complete by September 2018 and opening in January 2019.

#### **San Carlos Branch Library:**

Next step is to work with the Architect to finalize the bridging documents; anticipated to be

completed in early summer 2019.

Pacific Highlands Ranch Branch Library:

The City has hired Hanna Gabriel Wells architecture group, who presented to a planning group in early April. The planning group requested to discuss more input in a community meeting. On April 21<sup>st</sup>, at Pacific Village, an event will take place for the community to discuss the design proposal on the building. Also, the Library Staff will be talking with schools regarding a programming plan.

b. Update from the Library Director – Misty Jones

A budget will be released on April 15<sup>th</sup>, although, still on standby with an update regarding 3 percent on budget reduction. The Library proposed the elimination of Sunday hours being cut at branches and Central, however is still unsure it will be accepted. Budget and Government Efficiency Committee, will be on April 18<sup>th</sup>, for matching fund policy revisions and elimination of overdue fines. This will be followed by the proposal to Council in Mid-May 2018. Misty feels confident in the preparation of the proposal and the Library has done several outreaches ahead of time. Library Next program reporting in 2017 are, 48 programs with over 1,000 students. It is expanding rapidly and getting a lot of attention. Economical Development Department is providing a community development block grant funding of \$250,000 a year. Also tying into work force, Tech Hire, will work with Connect Careers for internship/trainings or entry level jobs and is starting to make an impact.

c. Update from Deputy Director – Bob Cronk

The Library is ramping up with Summer Reading programs. They are also working on positions, one is children's programming system wide, and had great candidates rotating in an out-of-class assignment. Library programs are providing more depth in value. The Spring into STEAM theme is "Blast off" Astronaut training. The summer reading program will start June 15<sup>th</sup>. The Library is in a constant improvement with partnerships. Some of the partnerships are with UCSD, Reuben H. Fleet science center, Old Globe, etc.

**AGENDA ITEMS (Discussion Item)**

- a. Due to San Diego's population growth, the Mayor, City Council and Library Commissioners had to reassess a 21<sup>st</sup> Century Library Building plan. The plan was to build or improve 24 libraries throughout the City by 2012 and having the Central Library be the heart of improvement. "The Library Facilities Report provides guidance not standards", although, funding has been an obstacle in getting improvements done. Many guidelines were put into consideration, such as condition and usage of existing facilities, obtaining focus groups, surveys, discussions with library consultants and having a City of San Diego Public Library Strategic Plan. There have been nine library improvements completed from 2003-2016, seven new facilities were built and two libraries were expanded. In result, the city created a committee from various departments and hired a consultant firm to create a Strategic Asset

Management Plan. Also, a collaboration with library staff, public works and a Consultant will meet to assess each building and ranked facilities needing repair, refurbishment and replacement.

- b. Sonia Diaz, President of Oak Park Community Council, represented her community in purposing a new Oak Park Branch Library to better serve the Oak Park Community. The Oak Park Library was built in 1969 with 5,200 square feet. The community has grown with approximately 7,000 people walking through and using all the amenities that the Library offers. The Library has the support of councilwoman Cole and is asking the Library Commissioners to get on board in building a new branch for Oak Park Library. Claudia Thompson, volunteer of Oak Park Library, also expressed concerns and proposal of having a new Oak Park Library. The esthetics of the Library is outdated and is unfair to staff, volunteers and patrons. Andy Hillskin, Oak Park Resident, proposed a new site for new branch library, which is one block east of current location and on College Grove Dr. Matthew Gordon, representative from councilmember Cole, confirmed that Oak Park library funding for Fiscal Year 2019 is currently in Councilmember Cole's budget priorities.

#### **COMMISSIONER COMMENT**

Wendy thanked Oak Park representatives for voicing their concerns, especially from office of Councilmember Cole.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

The next Board of Library Commissioners meeting will take place on Wednesday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2018.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Weiss adjourned the meeting at 2:03 p.m.



MISTY JONES  
Library Director  
/ns