

BOARD OF LIBRARY COMMISSIONERS

Members

Wendy Urushima-Conn, Chair
Marshall Anderson • Elizabeth Fitzsimons • Elizabeth Hansen • Ben Moraga • Katherine Nakamura • Linda Sotelo

MINUTES

BOARD OF LIBRARY COMMISSIONERS SAN DIEGO PUBLIC LIBRARY Wednesday, March 4, 2020

ATTENDANCE

Commissioners:

Present: Wendy Urushima-Conn, Katherine Nakamura, Elizabeth Fitzsimons, Linda Sotelo, Marshall Anderson, Elizabeth Hansen

Absent: Ben Moraga

Staff: Misty Jones, Director – Library, Bob Cronk, Deputy Director – Library; Tricia Nool, Executive Assistant - Library; Charlie Goldberg, Director of Marketing – SDPLF, David Ege – Library, Bonnie Domingos – Library, Kelly Pepo – Library, Jennifer Jenkins – Library, Robyn Gage-Norquist - Library

Public:

Ann McDonald, Joan Reese – FSDPL, Bruce Johnson

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order by Commissioner Urushima-Conn at 12:39 PM in the Sullivan Commission Room. Their last meeting was on February 5, 2020.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The February 5, 2020 minutes was approved unanimously.

REQUESTS FOR CONTINUANCE

None

NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT

Time was provided for Bruce Johnson to discuss process and decision regarding Federal Documents. Mr. Johnson

registered his disagreement with the potential decision to relinquish depository status.

REPORT FROM THE FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY:

Joan Reese
President, Friends of the San Diego Public Library

The next book sale by the greater Friends of the San Diego Public Library (FSDPL) will be held in our book sale space on the lower level of the University Heights Branch Library the weekend of March 20-22.

The deadline for the John McAllister Memorial Library Scholarships is March 6. This opportunity offered by FSDPL is available to all full- and part-time library staff.

The next FSDPL meeting is scheduled for Saturday, March 14. Patrick Stewart, SDPL Foundation CEO, has been invited to discuss our collaborative advocacy efforts through LibrariesTransformSD.

As there has appeared to be some confusion on the role of the Friends of the Library, I thought that it might be helpful to provide some background.

What does the Friends (and I'm using this as a collective noun—shorthand for the full name of our multi-chaptered organization) do?

- Basically, our mission is to support the mission of SDPL.

How do we do it?

- Two major ways:
 - by raising funds—mainly through the sale of used books, but also through direct donations for membership and general donations
 - by engaging in library advocacy

Who are the individuals who make up the Friends of the Library?

- Our volunteers and chapter and greater Friends board members are retired as well as currently working teachers, librarians, scientists, musicians, writers, artists, lawyers, accountants, veterinarians, physicians, nurses, students, parents of young children and teens and also empty nesters, university faculty members, naval officers, HR directors, theatre people, accountants and more. In my chapter alone, we have a retired military officer and teachers, a working deputy D.A., fundraising professional, small business owner, lawyer, financial specialist, graphic designer, and physician, among others.
- Our volunteers and members are from diverse ethnic, racial, and socioeconomic backgrounds, range from teens to nonagenarians, and whether they have a high school education or advanced degree, all share a commitment to the value and importance of a strong public library in their respective communities—and many see the larger picture of the significance of our overall library system in the life and health of San Diego as a whole. They demonstrate this commitment by being dues-paying members of the Friends and/or by sharing some of their valuable time and talent as volunteers.

Through the volunteer efforts of several hundred individuals, FSDPL raises and donates on average half million dollars each year to support library acquisitions, programs, equipment and supplies over and above what the City budget provides. In fact, half of all new library materials (books, media, and more—this includes all express books) are made possible every year through Friends' donations to matching funds.

FSDPL has a long history of involvement in library advocacy going back four decades—years before the Friends began collaborating more closely with the Foundation and Library Commission members around library advocacy. Back in the mid-1990s, FSDPL even formed a separate 501(c)(4) specifically to advocate for a new central library (eventually successful) and a library bond measure (unsuccessful), and resulting in the passage of the Library Ordinance.

LIBRARY FOUNDATION UPDATE:

Patrick Stewart, CEO – SDPLF

Masterplan update – Masterplan is moving forward. Executive team, Friends of the Library and Katherine Johnston are all working with G4. They're in the process of putting together a Steering Committee headed by Patrick Stewart, Pat Wilson and Misty Jones. G4 is trying to organize a visit in April 2020.

Charlie is putting together a Master Plan one sheet to be shared to all community members and partners and friends.

April 6 – The Library Foundation Board of Trustees invite everyone to celebrate Carnegie Society members and welcome U.S. Congresswoman Susan Davis for a discussion on the library's role as a cornerstone of a healthy democracy.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

- a. Report on Library Construction Projects

Pacific Highlands Ranch Branch Library:

On January 10, 2020 the 90% design package was sent to Development Services (DSD) for Plan check review which was delayed due to development services recent office relocation. Second sets of comments were received mid-February 2020. Third submittal to DSD will take place mid to end of March for structural, mechanical and AV reviews. On January 31, 2020 Commission for Arts & Culture and the artist presented the updated artwork concepts to the architect, library team and project management team. On February 22, 2020 Commission of Arts & Culture held an open house presentation of the art work at the Carmel Valley Branch Library for community's input. According to Lara Bullock of Arts & Culture the community's response was over whelming positive.

San Carlos Branch Library:

The architectural team had completed the bridging documents. Tesoro's site remediation consultant, Stantec, continues to work with San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board (SDRWQ), and estimates one to two years to obtain SDRWQ approval.

- b. Update from the Library Director

Programs/Partnerships:

Spring into STEAM will be taking place in all library locations from March-May. This year's theme is Go Wild and focuses on conservation and biodiversity. There are over 50 programs scheduled.

Over 1500 EXCEL cards have been distributed at 4 of the 5 pilot schools in the Diamond District. We are still waiting on Horton Elementary to respond so that we can distribute card to those students.

Projects:

Mid-City IDEA Lab - Council approved \$2 million in CDBG funds for design on February 3. We are still working on the donative agreement. A kick-off meeting form preliminary engineering is scheduled for April.

Skyline IDEA Lab - Equipment is being ordered for the Skyline IDEA Lab. This will be a mobile lab that will focus on energy and sustainability.

Other:

Coronavirus- The City is keeping close tabs on the virus and according to the latest information from Public Health, we remain at a low risk. However, Custodial staff have increased the cleaning of public areas and I have instructed staff to increase the cleaning of heavily touched surfaces and to make sure we are providing disinfectant wipes for the public to use. We will remain open. Current recommendations from health officials to reduce the risk of spread are to continue regular practice for cleaning, handwashing and personal illness.

AGENDA ITEMS

- a. Federal Depository Status Update – Library staff met with GPO and went through the pros and cons of what converting to digital status is. Misty Jones, Library Director, presented these pros and cons to Library Commissioners. Staff recommendation is to either relinquish the Federal Depository status completely or to maintain a small curated collection with no digital access. Staff are assessing the collection to determine if there are any items we should keep as part of a historical collection. A follow-up report will be presented at the next Commission meeting.
- b. Annual Report- Planning for an annual report is under way. An overview of items to be included was presented to Commissioners for review and input.
- c. Robotics Showcase - Dave Ege, Branch Manager – San Carlos Library
David did a PowerPoint presentation on the Annual Robotics Showcase Extravaganza
- d. Art Gallery Tour – Bonnie Domingos

COMMISSIONER COMMENT

OTHER BUSINESS

The next Board of Library Commissioners meeting will take place on April 8, 2020 at 11:00 AM in Central Library, 5th Floor, Conference Room 508.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Wendy Urushima-Conn adjourned the meeting at 1:50 PM.


Misty Jones
Director, Library Department

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