

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, June 3, 2020

ATTENDANCE

Commissioners:

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

Absent:

Staff: Misty Jones, Director – Library, Bob Cronk, Deputy Director – Library; Tricia Nool, Executive Assistant – Library; Charlie Goldberg, Director of Marketing – SDPLF

Public:

Ann McDonald, Joan Reese – FSDPL, Patrick Stewart, CEO – SDPLF

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order by Commissioner Urushima-Conn at 12:30 PM via Microsoft Teams. Their last meeting was on March 4, 2020.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The March 4, 2020 minutes was approved unanimously.

REQUESTS FOR CONTINUANCE

None

NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT

REPORT FROM THE FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY:

Joan Reese
President, Friends of the San Diego Public Library

Over the past three months the Friends of the San Diego Public Library (FSDPL) has been working to adapt to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. Our board of directors has continued to meet virtually at least monthly.

FSDPL recently sent a substantial donation to matching funds to be allocated to the area(s) of greatest need, which is our typical practice. As we attempt to meet the million-dollar match again this year, all chapters have been asked to consider making donations to matching funds at this time. Usually, donations to matching funds by individual chapters are directed to support their branch libraries. This year, in addition, the various Friends' chapters have been encouraged to consider donations to support electronic resources system-wide due to the increased demand for these; at least a couple of our affiliate chapters have already done so. This is all the more remarkable as we expect our income to be substantially reduced this fiscal year.

Our monthly FSDPL book sales for March, April, and May were of course canceled, and most likely our June book sale will also not take place. Across our organization, income is very significantly reduced due to our inability to sell used books through our volunteer-run used bookstores and book sales at the branch libraries as well as at the greater Friends' monthly sale. Our online book sales in collaboration with the Friends of the Central Library have also been on hold due to constraints beyond our control.

FSDPL and Friends members from across the city have been actively involved in library advocacy over the past several weeks. We've been fairly nimble in getting the word out to our Friends via email and e-newsletters which has resulted in numerous calls and emails to councilmembers plus written input and phoned-in remarks for each of the virtual City Council meetings. The final push, in collaboration with the Foundation and Commission members as part of LibrariesTransformSD, will occur over the next several days.

LIBRARY FOUNDATION UPDATE:

Patrick Stewart, CEO – SDPLF

Advocacy effort has been an uphill battle. Thank you to Friends, Commission and Foundation. Library Masterplan and G4 – been meeting with them several times in the past few months and they have begun work primarily in the data gathering and analysis area trying to get as much data around our library system usage.

Mid-Year Update – It has been mailed out, it has highlighted the library's work since March 15th.

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. After

two additional rounds of submittals while DSD adjusted to covid-19 closure, current month, the plans are awaiting Electrical and Structural sign-offs before receiving permit.

On May 5, 2020, Library Dept and AEP staffs met and walked adjacent Lot 26 site since the site has reached one year of post construction warranty.

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. Commissioner Nakamura pointed out that the timetable of one to two years has been used for over five years. This will be reflected in updates going forward.

Oak Park Branch Library:

Feasibility Study is moving forward. The site that has been chosen is viable to build on.

Ocean Beach Branch Library:

Moving forward.

b. Update from the Library Director

Pick-Up service started on 11 locations and is doing well. We are working on adding more pick-up locations and getting more staff back. No definite date on reopening yet, working on what services and be offered and on what capacity. E-Books circulation increased by 300% and online services picked up significantly during the closure.

Libraries are always inclusive, never exclusive. Inclusion is not enough anymore. We need to go above and beyond. We will continue to evaluate our services, our programs, our attitudes and perceptions to not just provide equitable access but to reject anything that creates a barrier to that access. We have the unique opportunity to be part of the solution and to affect real change.

AGENDA ITEMS

a. Federal Depository Status Update – We will maintain our Federal Depository status in a very limited and selective collection. Weeding will continue for materials that are also available online and we will continue with the practice of not collecting print materials unless they have significance to San Diego but will rely on the online collection. The Special Collections Librarian has made recommendations for what should be preserved and these items will be assessed for digitization, preservation or possible relocation to another library that would be best suited to house the items.

b. Budget – is restored and no cuts will be happening this FY. More information on the next budget committee meeting next week, June 8th.

COMMISSIONER COMMENT

OTHER BUSINESS

The next Board of Library Commissioners meeting will take place on July 1, 2020 at 12:30 PM via Microsoft Teams.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Wendy Urushima-Conn adjourned the meeting at 1:21 PM.



Misty Jones
Director, Library Department

/tn