

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, July 1, 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

Public:

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

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order by Commissioner Urushima-Conn at 12:33 PM via Microsoft Teams. Their last meeting was on June 3, 2020.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The June 3, 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

The Friends of the San Diego Public Library (FSDPL) continues to adapt to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. Our board of directors has been meeting virtually at least monthly. We are attempting to keep our volunteers engaged in these challenging times of social distancing.

A highlight of the past month was our very successful advocacy outcome in collaboration with the Foundation and Commission members as part of LibrariesTransformSD. FSDPL and our Friends members from across the city put an even greater effort than usual into advocating for restoration of library hours and funding.

FSDPL and a number of our chapters rose to the occasion again this year to help in the final push to meet the million-dollar match (for the 18th straight year). Several chapters included donations to support system-wide resources in addition to donations specifically for their respective branches.

Our FSDPL board has had some interesting discussion—both heartening and humbling—on how we as an organization should best address the issues of racism. As a first step, FSDPL has made an additional \$5000 donation to matching funds to support the acquisition of materials on racism. A statement of our organization's position is in preparation, with input from Friends and friends who are Black and other "people of color."

Our monthly FSDPL book sales for the past 4 months were canceled, and our July book sale has also been canceled.

Our income is significantly reduced this fiscal year due to our inability to sell used books through our volunteer-run used bookstores and book sales at the branch libraries in addition to the greater Friends' monthly sale. As mentioned last month, FSDPL online book sales in collaboration with the Friends of the Central Library also had to be discontinued to inability to access stock that is stored at the Central Library. We believe that we have a way to restart these sales and thank Misty for collaboration in making this possible.

LIBRARY FOUNDATION UPDATE:

Patrick Stewart, CEO – SDPLF

Library Masterplan – is moving forward. G4 and Carson Block Technology Consultants has begun and analysis phase with the library, the foundation and Katherine Johnston looking at gathering data around library technology, usage data and demographics. Moving ahead with assembling a project management team for the Library Masterplan. The role of this group is to be able to lead and inform the planning process to ensure that there is a thorough and inclusive process throughout the entire planning.

Advocacy is not a once a year effort but a 12-month effort. We hope that by Labor Day, have met with all of the 10 current city council candidates who are running for the 5 open seats.

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 signoffs 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. As of mid-June of 2020, the project has all the sign offs except Transportation and Storm Water final approval as well as the final specifications which are due by the end of August 2020.

San Carlos Branch Library:

The architectural team has 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. The estimated time of approval is not time certain; it was first reported in the March 2019, update to the Board of Commissioner. However, due to the recent pandemic resulting in business services disruption will further impact the timeframe. City is dependent on the completion of the site remediation before moving forward. Therefore, City staff recommend removing this project from monthly update (effective after June 2020) until approval from the SDRWQ is about to be received by Stantec.

b. Update from the Library Director

Still doing a lot virtually like Virtual Pride, Drag Queen Storytime, a lot of FB live programming. The Library is participating in Comic Con at home. Summer Reading program is still taking place. We're still trying to engage with the community. Library NExT is going to continue online.

AGENDA ITEMS

a. Library Reopening – draft documents distributed to the Commissioners. Book drops at all locations will be open on Monday, July 6 at 9:00 AM. 7 new pick-up locations will be added on Monday, July 6.

b. Budget Update– is restored and no cuts will be happening this FY.

COMMISSIONER COMMENT

Commissioner Nakamura thanked Misty, Bob and all of you, we are really proud of everything that you're doing.

OTHER BUSINESS

The next Board of Library Commissioners meeting will take place on August 5, 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