

# BOARD OF LIBRARY COMMISSIONERS

## Members

Wendy Urushima-Conn, Chair

Marshall Anderson • Elizabeth Fitzsimons • Elizabeth Hansen • Cindy Marten • Ben Moraga • Linda Sotelo

## MINUTES

### BOARD OF LIBRARY COMMISSIONERS SAN DIEGO PUBLIC LIBRARY Wednesday, September 2, 2020

#### ATTENDANCE

##### Commissioners:

**Present:** Wendy Urushima-Conn, Cindy Marten, Elizabeth Fitzsimons, Elizabeth Hansen, Ben Moraga

**Absent:** Linda Sotelo, Marshall Anderson

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

##### Public:

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 July 1, 2020.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The July 1, 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 since March. Communication with our chapters has been mainly by email, and we have a listserv to facilitate communication among the chapters. And, we will be holding our first virtual meeting of the combined Presidents' Advisory Council with the FSDPL board this month.

Our monthly FSDPL book sales for the past 6 months were canceled, and our September book sale is canceled as well. As our major source of income has been from these monthly weekend-long sales, we are projecting a loss of income of over 50% compared to the most recent past years. We appreciate the support of Misty and library staff which enabled us to reactivate our online book sales in July; these sales, conducted in collaboration with the Friends of the Central Library, have been robust, which has been encouraging.

The Summer Reading Program has officially ended. FSDPL is sponsoring prizes for all adult finishers who will receive a certificate for a book of their choice from the Friends' bookstores or sales at participating libraries. Until we know more about what reopening will involve, the details of which libraries/Friends' chapters will participate and when the books can be picked up are unclear. Finishers will be provided with a list of participating sites by email.

FSDPL is pleased to sponsor the prizes for the winners of San Diego Public Library's My SD Poster Contest, which is planned as part of the library programming in conjunction with One Book One San Diego

If this were an ordinary year, my report would have included an announcement of our Annual Meeting, which has traditionally been held in September. However, this is no ordinary year, and it's obviously not possible to hold a meeting of that size in the manner it's been done in the past. We are expecting to hold the Annual Meeting at some point in the future which will most likely be virtual.

**LIBRARY FOUNDATION UPDATE:**

Patrick Stewart, CEO – SDPLF

Library Masterplan – the work with G4 and Carson Block has really kicked off and moved forward in a big way. They've met with the Steering Committee which we put together.

The next step is an anonymous survey that will be going out to all library staff in September. The consultants and our small planning group have been talking about the kind of information and data that we're looking for from the staff. After that, we're looking at ways to continue community-wide survey that will ensure as I mentioned before, broad completely inclusive community input. We want as many opportunities for the community to participate in this process as possible. We're looking also into bringing some other partners onboard that will be able to help us amplify that community input.

The Foundation is also participating in some City Council candidate meetings. This is an opportunity to meet the remaining 10 City Council candidates for the 5 open seats and talk

with them from the commission, friends and foundation's perspective presenting the library. It is a unanimous response back thus far, that the library is one of the most important essential infrastructural elements of our community. All of them has pledged their support to library efforts.

Part of the library efforts right now is ensuring equitable access to resources especially now that we are in a purely digital environment. The Foundation is partnering with the library and Computers 2 Kids SD to ensure that the students who want to take part in library programs that may not have access to computers at home and connectivity are able to do so. We're starting this project with Library NExT called NExT Level Access. Applications are currently being accepted. They're also providing an opportunity for adult learners, career online high school students and READ San Diego students to get computers if they don't have computers to work with. We're working to make sure that we can do what we can to address digital inequity, part of that also includes connectivity. We've been working with San Diego Unified and the San Diego County Office of Education to understand the programs that are available to students and families and how to be best support their ability to communicate what is available and how they can access internet, computers, devices, technologies so that we can address as best we can digital inequity.

#### **CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

- a. Report on Library Construction Projects

##### **Pacific Highlands Ranch Branch Library:**

In month of August, the stamp transfer process has been completed by DSD and the architect, and the new building permit is ready for issuance. The AVI portion of specification is being coordinated and finalized with effort from Library IT staffs and the architect. ECP Contracts Teams working with AEP to process the latest set of comments on storm water and contractual issues to finalize Specifications; Advertising and bidding process is estimated to initiate by October 2020.

- b. Update from the Library Director

The San Diego Public Library has been selected as Stigma Buster of the Year for the 17th Annual NAMI San Diego Color Ball and Inspiration Awards.

The Library is considering hosting a Library NExT Futures Program, called Manage Your Future. Similar to Program Your Future, a 30-hour certificate and pre-college credit course for High School student to learn computer programming. Manage Your Future is the same type of program, but the subject is Business Management. We are taking a poll to see if students are interested and would participate.

#### **AGENDA ITEMS**

- a. Library Reopening - State guidance was issued Friday allowing libraries to open at 50% capacity. There are currently 24 locations doing pick-up service and book drops are open. We are looking at October 3<sup>rd</sup> to reopen at a very limited capacity. We will start with 12 locations, 1 in each Council District. We are also looking at outdoor computer service.

- b. Student Support - We are looking at ways to do Learning Hubs and ways that we might do different types of programs in outdoor spaces. We have a lot of libraries that have good outdoor spaces. The Do Your Homework transitions to a virtual program starting Mid-September via Zoom.

**COMMISSIONER COMMENT**


The Library Board of Commissioners welcomed Cindy Marten to the board. Meet and greet followed.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

The next Board of Library Commissioners meeting will take place on October 7, 2020 at 12:30 PM via Zoom.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Wendy Urushima-Conn adjourned the meeting at 1:30 PM.



Misty Jones  
Director, Library Department

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