

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, October 7, 2020

ATTENDANCE

Commissioners:

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

Absent:

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

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order by Commissioner Urushima-Conn at 12:34 pm via Microsoft Teams. Their last meeting was on September 2, 2020.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The September 2, 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 and evolve how we function due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Our board of directors has been meeting virtually each month since March. The first virtual meeting of the combined Presidents' Advisory Council with the FSDPL board held last month went well. We are looking forward to the second such virtual meeting this weekend.

Our in-person monthly FSDPL book sales have been on hold since the start of the pandemic. Fortunately, our online book sales in collaboration with the Friends of the Central Library have brought in some income. We appreciate the support of Misty and Central Library staff in accessing our stock which has allowed us to post an expanded inventory. A couple of our Friends' chapters have similarly been able to reactivate their online book sales, and we are hoping to facilitate this for others. We appreciate Misty's support in facilitating this.

FSDPL is pleased to help sponsor the Write Now! writing workshops for teens which are being held this month. This is an online program developed by a team of librarians in collaboration with Words Alive!. FSDPL has agreed to provide funding for the books which will be awarded to participants.

LIBRARY FOUNDATION UPDATE:

Patrick Stewart, CEO – SDPLF

Master Plan Advocacy – The staff has been finishing up the survey that G4 and Carson Block has put together to better understand the Library from staff's perspective. We have been working with our consultant, Katherine Johnston in developing community outreach plan.

Management Team – We continue to meet and we're putting together a larger steering committee to be able to check and provide inside advice expertise. Advocacy Role – Board Chair Pat Wilson who had this idea in the middle of July to try to meet with every single City Council candidate before the election so we can share with them the role of the library, the Library Foundation, the Commission, the Friends and to make a connection and bridge. We have received very encouraging responses from all of them regarding the library funding and supporting the library in serving the community at this time.

Foundation Priorities – Our priority is that we continue to make digital and equity issue a priority.

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. In the month of September, E&CP Contracts Team continues to be working with AEP to process the latest set of comments on AV

equipment, furnishings, and contractual issues to finalize Specifications. Advertising and bidding process are estimated to initiate by October 2020.

b. Update from the Library Director

Pacific Beach Library curfew park is moving forward. Trying to get that to committee this Fall along with some other park curfews.

Matching Fund revision – this year is our first report to Council on Pool Distribution. Raul is putting a presentation and will be presented to the Commissioners.

We are a ballot drop off at all 36 library locations from 9:30 AM – 5:30 PM, Monday – Saturday.

Operation Shelter to Home – will be in operation through December 2020.

There was a press conference at the Malcolm X Library during the reopening, Saturday, October 3, 2020.

AGENDA ITEMS

- a. Library Reopening Updates – 12 libraries reopened on Saturday, October 3, 2020 with 25% limited capacity. We're open from 9:30 AM – 5:30 PM, closed from 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM for sanitation break. We have about 140 vacancies and about 50 staff are out due to health issues or childcare. We have a staffing shortage. We have been given the go ahead to start hiring for our vacant positions.

Reopening went well. Browsing is not allowed yet. We are looking for ways for patrons to be able to look at our collection. Safety is our number 1 priority.

- b. Program Updates – The San Diego Public Library Virtual Hub is a Facebook group where Library Staff and partnering organizations offer daily virtual programs for all ages including read alouds, crafts & DIY, booktalks, and more! Our library buildings may be closed at the moment, but the fun never stops in our virtual club. Join and get access to our growing collection of videos and resources.

<https://www.sandiego.gov/public-library/sdplvirtual>

The San Diego Public Library has partnered with Words Alive and published authors to offer a teen writing workshop series during the month of October. The first workshop will be this **Thursday, October 8th at 10am** with Julia Walton, author of *Words on Bathroom Walls* (movie adaptation just came out in theatres!) and participants register via the Words Alive Website at <http://www.wordsalive.org/write-now>. Participants can receive free copies of books from the participating authors!

Do Your Homework is now online. The Do Your Homework @ the Library Virtual Homework Help will be available 6 days a week to serve K-8th grade students.

Homework help is available to students and their families for free. Math, English and Science help will be available everyday.

Regular Hours: Monday – Thursday 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM 2:30 PM – 5:30 PM

Friday 2:30 PM – 5:30 PM

Saturday 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM

SD Access4All – targeted at bridging the digital divide while maintaining existing COVID-19 programs and practices. The program creates patio areas at select library locations to offer free WiFi and plastic-coated laptop computers for public use in a physically distanced setting. Capacity and cleaning requirements for the in-person reopening will also apply to all SD Access4All locations. While additional locations are currently being retrofitted for this program, these services are currently offered at the following locations: Central, San Ysidro, Skyline Hills, Malcolm X/Valencia Park. More locations to be added soon.

Library NExT – Library NExT (Network of Education x Training) is a series of workshops for elementary, middle and high school students on topics including robotics, circuits, Quest for Space: Heat Experiments on the ISS and 64 + other STEAM subjects. Initially started as a pilot program at six San Diego libraries in 2017, it has expanded to 21 locations in 2020 with plans to be offered at all City of San Diego library locations. This San Diego Public Library program is a collaboration with UC San Diego Extension and Sally Ride Science. If supplies are needed for a course you will receive an email directing you to a contactless pick up service <https://www.sandiego.gov/public-library/pickup-service> location to pick up your supplies.

NExT Level Access – We are issuing laptops to the students in that program to continue their literacy learning. 200 – 300 computers have been secured for that project with the help of the San Diego Public Library Foundation.

Take Home Kits – 24 libraries are serving as pick-up locations. Some libraries continue their pickup service, and some are not able to do both. Librarians have been putting together craft kits and people can come to the branch to pick them up.

OneBook – On Tuesday, October 27, 2020, 6:00 – 7:00 PM, we are having Rise Up with George Takei: On Activism, Democracy, and Incarceration of Japanese Americans One Book, One San Diego Live Virtual Author Event for Students ages 15 & up

They Called Us Enemy may be purchased online from The Library Shop. Proceeds support the entire San Diego Public Library System. Actor, author, and activist George Takei has long talked about his experience with the forced Incarceration of Japanese Americans, and how that experience has shaped his definition of patriotism and democracy. With his latest release, “They Called Us Enemy,” he shines further light on his experience in a frank and accessible way for readers of all ages. In “Rise Up with George Takei,” we discuss his experiences and how he (and we) can use our voices to rise up against injustice and inequality. <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/one-book-one-san-diego-live-virtual-author-event-for-students-ages-15-tickets-118522238205>

Performance Annex at City Heights – we’ve been working with Jonathan Glus, Executive Director, Arts & Culture at looking at doing a residency program. We’re doing a request for proposal to provide programming for the community.

COMMISSIONER COMMENT

OTHER BUSINESS

The next Board of Library Commissioners meeting will take place on November 4, 2020 at 12:30 PM via Zoom.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Wendy Urushima-Conn adjourned the meeting at 1:20 PM.



Misty Jones
Director, Library Department

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