

LA COUNTY LIBRARY COMMISSION MEETING

DATE: Wednesday, September 26, 2018

TIME: 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

PLACE: San Fernando Library
217 N Maclay Ave
San Fernando, CA 91340

A member of the Library Commission has requested this meeting be accessed via video conference. Remote access will be available at the following location:

*LA County Library Headquarters
Administrative Conference Room #222
7400 E Imperial Hwy
Downey, CA 90242*

AGENDA

Welcome, Pledge of Allegiance, and Roll Call

1. Minutes
 - Approval of July 2018 meeting minutes
2. Announcements from Chair
 - Presentation of scrolls
3. Announcements from County Library Director
 - Budget Status Report (Jesse Walker-Lanz)
 - Probation Partnership (Darcy Hastings and Tiffany Chow)
4. Commissioner Items/Comments
 - Ad Hoc Committee Updates
5. Public Comments (limited to 3 minutes per speaker)
6. Adjournment

Upcoming Meeting:

***November 28, 2018 at 10:00 am
South Whittier Library
11543 Colima Rd
Whittier, CA 90604***



**September 26, 2018
Library Commission Meeting Minutes
San Fernando Library
Satellite location: Library Headquarters**

Welcome, Pledge of Allegiance, and Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 10:02 a.m. Commissioner Nancy Lyons led all attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

Quorum was met.

Commissioners in Attendance – (14) Corey Calaycay, Laura Zahn Rosenthal, Vy Nguyen, Nancy Anderson Kuechle, Angelita Medina, Jim Allen, José Luis Solache, Waymon Roy, David Lesser, Joy C. Williams, Jay Chen, Nancy Lyons, Lisa Cleri Reale, Chin Ho Liao

Commissioners Absent – (5) Bob Archuleta, Martha Arevalo, Liz Reilly, Revé Gipson, Antonio Lopez

Library Staff in Attendance – (11) Skye Patrick, Barbara Custen, Jesse Walker-Lanz, Samangi Mudalige, Paul Immerman, Miguel Aguilera, Ting Fanti, Darcy Hastings, Tiffany Chow, Valerie Bailey, Eddie Mora

Others in Attendance – (2) Robert Gonzalez, Marry Ann Morato (Commission Services, Executive Office of the Board)

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made to approve minutes from July 2018, prepared by Library staff. The motion was made by Commissioner Rosenthal and seconded by Commissioner Liao.

Comments from Chair

The Sunset Review has been extended until December. The Sunset Review Ad Hoc Committee will continue, with Commissioners Nguyen, Lesser, Nguyen and Cleri Reale to join Committee Chair Allen. After Sunset Review, the Commission will re-focus on Bylaws Committee.

Chair Calaycay proposed ending the Ad Hoc Committee on the Library Foundation, to revisit after an Executive Director is hired. Commissioner Cleri Reale requested the Committee continue, and County Librarian Patrick agreed. The motion was dropped.

A scroll was presented to former commissioner Councilmember Robert Gonzalez. Commissioner Lesser presented him a Claremont City pin. Commissioner Rosenthal provided additional recognition. Councilmember Gonzalez made brief remarks about his love of libraries and introduced his Grandmother.

The Director of the San Fernando Library welcomed the Commission to the Library.

Report from the County Library Director

The Library has several partnerships with the Department of Mental Health thanks to a \$25M grant. One such partnership is Book Kiosks. Library has identified two book kiosk sites: Carmelitos in Long Beach (for older adults) and Dave & Maggie's Café in La Verne (for Transition Age Youth and family services). Program implementation began in July, and installation is slated for November. The Housing Authority is canvassing other potential kiosk sites.

An event to celebrate the launch of the Reading Machine and the Library Foundation's support was held September 12 at the Sorensen Tiny Tots Program at Sorensen Park Library. The program served around 5,000 children since June. The number of vehicles expanded from 2 to 5.

Reading STARS program launched successfully at 5 libraries, however, due to challenges launching the program at Compton Library, Library ran a special project at Compton every Tuesday in July called Summer STARS. Volunteer recruitment and training has begun for the new school year, which will be launching on October 1 at all 5 sites: La Puente, Compton, San Fernando, Hawaiian Gardens, and Lake Los Angeles.

The Creative Strategist for the Artist in Residence program, Alan Nakagawa, started with the department in July, and will be the first Artist in Residence for the Library. He will be with the department for one year, aiding with the project and is visiting five libraries of focus: Claremont, Willowbrook, Topanga, Clifton M. Brakensiek, and Quartz Hill. A goal of the program is to create an isolated arts program for those locations, with a secondary goal to create an arts-informed template to implement at all other locations.

Lancaster Turns the Tables, the final workshop of the program, started on August 24 and the student showcase will be on October 20. Former students DJ PriceTag and DJ Runaway have gone on to performed at various venues and popular events several times since completing this program.

The Source continues to be held at Lancaster and San Fernando Libraries. There has been a downturn in attendance, which could be due to successful routing of services or existing outreach in the area. Library is exploring additional sites, such as Willowbrook and Norwalk. Further expansion is desired but will take time given various complications and the number of resources required.

Lunch at the Library expanded from 15 locations to 25. Over 25,000 total lunches were served (645 per day).The Library has taken the opportunity to program to children when they come.

Due to the additional funds received through PEI in 2018, Library has been able to expand MakMo from 4 vehicles to 10 and staff each vehicle with a Librarian and Library Assistant. The number of programs and attendees in 2018 has greatly increased, surpassing last year's total in only 9 months. Library is developing a MakMo program for adults. MakMo services almost every library, in addition to community events. It can be booked using the new website.

Library is involved in Census 2020 activities, including Census Action Kiosks, Census Goodwill Ambassadors Program, Walkabout, and developing outreach toolkits for training County employees as messengers.

In partnership with Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk, 49 libraries have been selected to be a Vote by Mail drop-off location. This program is a way to make voting accessible and convenient for voters. Participation will be from October 9 to November 6.

From June through July, the Great Read Away has had a total of 4,200 sessions and 260,000 minutes read, over 1,000 accounts unblocked, and 1,600 customers were cleared of all fines and fees. A survey indicated that 78% of customers are more likely to check out materials if their fines were cleared. Staff enjoys the program as it gives them a positive option to offer youth while encouraging reading. The money lost to forgone fines is inconsequential.

Library is winning three Productivity and Quality Awards: a Top 10 award for the Great Read Away, a Special Merit for "Expanded Hours at LA County Library," and an additional award for "Opening a Time Capsule - Historical Park Photos for All," a collaboration with Parks and Recreation to make historical County Parks photographs easily accessible to everyone through a digitized special collections section of the website.

Commissioner Lesser clarified the intention of the Senior-to-Senior program to assist older adults with technology, but Library Director Patrick explained the program needed to be altered to accommodate the Library's resources.

Commissioner Lesser also asked what commissioners can do to promote both Library's Census activities and the new website. Library Director Patrick explained Library's intention not to promote the new website because it could give a false perception of their financial situation. She then asked commissioners and city representatives to utilize social media and websites to promote the Library's Census activities.

Commissioner Nguyen commented on how many wonderful programs are available and recommended the Library research the Snap Foundation, which focuses on connecting young people in low income populations to the creative economy. Library Director Patrick suggested they may be able to help with programming for incarcerated youth.

Commissioner Liao asked what the Library can do to educate new voting populations on political issues and how to get non-citizens to participate in the Census. Commissioner Nguyen elaborated on her work in this area and referred commissioners to the Complete Count Committee for effective messaging. Commissioner Cleri Reale recommended the website completecount.org. Library Director Patrick detailed challenges toward voting informational initiatives and mentioned some preexisting programs.

Budget Report

Jesse Walker-Lanz provided a budget status report.

As in past years, the Library will be receiving \$2M for books and materials. A one-time \$8M grant will go into a designation account to be spent on security upgrades, IT projects, books and materials, and programs.

The Library is working with CEO and the Board Office to address the structural deficit. The Library received a \$25M two-year grant of Prevention and Early Intervention (PEI) funding through the Department of Mental Health, which has helped generate departmental revenue by being able to charge back funds spent on programs redesigned to fit PEI parameters. Last year's funds were mostly spent on equipment and supplies, but this year, they will primarily go toward staffing and salaries. Library Director Patrick noted that this does not eliminate the structural deficit, but it pushes it back another year and a half. It accounts for \$5M and the structural deficit is \$6M.

Library Director Patrick and Chief Deputy Director Yolanda De Ramus participated in recruitment for the new Executive Director of the Library Foundation. The Library has offered the position to a candidate and is awaiting their response (expected by the end of the week).

There was a question from Commissioner Liao regarding RDA funding.

Probation Partnership Presentation

Darcy Hastings and Tiffany Chow presented on the Library's Probation Partnership.

While the Library has already been working with the Probation Department, this new partnership expands into new grounds. Through the Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (JJCPA), funding was made available to decrease delinquency and crime among at-risk youth and prevent recidivism. The Library received a \$2M grant to design and deliver services.

Tiffany Chow detailed the environment and functions of Juvenile Day Reporting Centers.

Of the \$2M funding, most will go toward staffing, including outreach librarians and library assistants. Two positions are currently vacant: one librarian and one library assistant. The rest of the money will go toward programs for teens and families.

Teen programming includes the DJ Series, Adult 101, library field trips, book clubs, and MakMo. Family programming includes MakMo, Storytime, guest speakers, wellness programs, work experience at libraries, and Career Online High School. Programming is aimed to build confidence/self-esteem, create relationships, and prepare youth for adulthood. Programming began in August and now has a presence in all five Juvenile Day Reporting Centers. The program is short-staffed but the reach is expanding.

Ms. Chow provided an anecdote about how MakMo engages probation youth to learn STEM. She shared another anecdote about the emotional impact being made. She then expanded on how interdepartmental collaboration will enhance programs and other offerings.

Commissioner Liao asked why there is no program activity in District 5 and suggested a potential collaboration with the Asian Youth Center. Commissioner Lyons suggested donations of books for the Centers and a suggestion was made to reach out to Friends of the Library groups for material. Ms. Hastings detailed some of Library's Probation efforts in District 5.

Commissioner Nguyen stated that there is a Coalition of Arts for Incarcerated Youth that would be a good partner and Library staff responded that they are aware of this coalition.

Commissioner Comments

Chair Calaycay thanked everyone for their reports. He outlined the Sunset Committee process, as requested by Commissioner Lesser. They have received an extension to December and created an Ad Hoc Committee to respond to Commission Services' related survey.

Commissioner Nguyen expressed concern over the public charge proposal and the role Library could have in providing services for immigrant communities. A discussion ensued on the County's approach.

