

LOS ANGELES COUNTY LIBRARY COMMISSION MEETING

DATE: Wednesday, November 28, 2018

TIME: 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

PLACE: South Whittier Library
11543 Colima Road
Whittier, CA 90604

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

*San Fernando Library
217 N Maclay Ave
San Fernando, CA 91340
(818) 365-6928*

AGENDA

Welcome, Pledge of Allegiance, and Roll Call

1. Minutes
 - Approval of September 2018 meeting minutes
2. Announcements from Chair
 - Presentation of scrolls
3. Announcements from LA County Library Director
 - Civic Engagement Presentation (Jesse Walker-Lanz & Lenore St. John)
4. Commissioner Items/Comments
 - Ad Hoc Committee Updates
5. Public Comments (limited to 3 minutes per speaker)
6. Adjournment

Upcoming Meeting:

***Wednesday, January 16, 2019
Manhattan Beach Library
1320 Highland Avenue
Manhattan Beach, CA 90266***



November 28, 2018
Library Commission Meeting Minutes
South Whittier Library
Satellite location: San Fernando

Welcome, Pledge of Allegiance, and Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 10:04 a.m. by Chair Corey Calaycay and he asked all to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance. He introduced new Commissioner Linda Charney who was just appointed by Supervisor Katherine Barger. He then asked everyone to introduce himself or herself including those via satellite in San Fernando.

Roll Call

A quorum was met by the end of the meeting.

Commissioners in Attendance – Angelita Medina, Chin Ho Liao, Corey Calaycay, David Lesser, Laura Zahn Rosenthal, Lisa Cleri Reale, Liz Reilly, Nancy Kuechle, Nancy Lyons, Revé Gibson, Linda Charney, Antonio Lopez (satellite), Joy Williams (satellite), Waymon Roy (satellite)

Commissioners Absent – Bob Archuleta, Jay Chen, Jim Allen, José Luis Solache, Martha Arevalo, Vy Nguyen

Library Staff in Attendance – Skye Patrick, Yolanda De Ramus, Jesse Walker-Lanz, Geraldine Lin, Grace Reyes, Carolyn Kobayashi, Claudia Angel, Paul Immerman, Miguel Aguilera, Oscar Villagomez, Alejandro Garcia (satellite)

Others in Attendance – Cynthia Sternquist

Announcements from the Chair

Chair Calaycay thanked Library staff for the renovation of the Claremont Library and stated that the community was very pleased with it.

The Chair recognized former Commissioner Cynthia Sternquist, who had represented the 5th District City Selection Committee and Commissioner Laura Rosenthal who has completed her service representing the City of Malibu. They both received a proclamation from the Board of Supervisors and the City of Claremont from Chair Calaycay, a

proclamation from Commissioner Liao and a pin from the City of Manhattan Beach from Commissioner Lesser. Sternquist remarked about how much she loved serving on the Commission and also discussed the soon to open Library in Temple City.

Rosenthal remarked that it has been an honor and privilege to serve and said she was most proud of having funded so many valuable Library programs.

The Chair announced that Commissioner Bob Archuleta was recently elected to the State Senate. He encouraged all departing City Selection Committee members to ensure that all open spots are filled.

Announcements from LA County Library Director

Library Director Skye Patrick started her report stating that the recent Woolsey fire affected four libraries: Malibu, Westlake Village, Topanga and Agoura Hills. Patrick reported no damages and said they were all able to reopen beginning November 17. She also informed the Commission that once the libraries re-opened, they provided immediate public service to those who needed it. Library staff has been serving as greeters for those who visited the Disaster Assistance Center. Since the outbreak of the fires, the Library Marketing and Communications staff was called in to assist the County Public Information Office. Patrick stated that this dependence on Library staff speaks to the reach of the Library and its ability to assist customers on the ground. Patrick also reported that the Library is a part of the Health and Human Services Recovery Task Force. Lastly, she announced that 45 library staff members were evacuated from their homes.

Patrick proceeded to summarize the following Library programs:

Book Kiosks with Department of Mental Health

- Three kiosks are being installed this week at the Carmelitos senior housing in Long Beach, Dave and Maggie's Café in La Verne and Nueva Maravilla Rosas in East LA. Staffing accompanies each kiosk.

Reading Machine

- The program was launched this past year as an early literacy offering. It is a bright and colorful mobile van unit. The program has grown from one van to five vans – one for each supervisorial district. The program currently serves 3,700 children and 740 adults with programs and services.

Reading Stars

- Reading Stars was the beginning of the Library's Senior-to-Senior program and it now resides at five sites with a goal of expanding to fifteen sites.
- A unique component is that the Library offers a stipend for older adults who are tutoring students fulfilling some of the goals of the County's Purposeful Aging initiative.

Lancaster Turns the Tables

- This program taught youth how to deejay using professional equipment. The last program was held at the Lancaster Library on October 20.

- While the program is ending, it met its goal of training for jobs in the creative economy and actually generated real deejays who are being paid for their work.
- The next iteration of this program will focus on filmmaking and animation, and Library staff is looking for grant money to support this new initiative.
- Commissioner Cleri Reale requested a draft of the concept paper to share with Sony executives.

The Source

- This program, which provides services to the homeless, was launched with LAHSA at the Lancaster Library and then the San Fernando Library.
- The program is showing signs of success as its numbers are going down.
- The program will continue to expand to Norwalk and each supervisorial district.

MakMo Maker Mobile

- This is a STEM and STEAM initiative, which started with four mobile units and has now expanded to ten – two per supervisorial district, impacting 11,000 attendees with 530 programs – a massive impact according to Patrick.

Great Read Away Program

- Youth under the age of 21 may participate in this fine reduction program where they receive \$5 per hour in library bucks to pay down their fines.
- The program has been wildly successful and to date has resulted in 3 million minutes read and 13,000 accounts unblocked.
- The program was started in response to the Obama administration’s goal of all students having library cards.
- The Library surveyed 26,000 customers, and 78% said they are more likely to check out materials if their fines are cleared; however, for now the focus will remain on school-age youth.

Awards

- Patrick was proud to announce that the Library has received several awards:
 - From the County of LA:
 - A Top Ten Award for *The Great Read Away*.
 - A Special Merit Award for *Expanded Hours at LA County Library*.
 - A Productivity and Quality Award for *Opening a Time Capsule: Historical Park Photos for All*.
 - “Best in Show” at the California Library Association (CLA) PRExcellence Awards for *Compton Turns the Tables*.
 - Library Journal Marketer of the Year for the Library Marketing team.

DMH Partnership

- As part of the DMH grant, there will be eight dedicated mental health clinicians for the Library, who will assist in mapping the assigned regions to the nearest DMH clinic.

Public Health Partnership – Flu Shot Clinics

- Once again, the Library is partnering with the Department of Public Health to provide flu shots to those who need them. The program expanded from last year. 19 library locations hosted flu shot clinics, administering over 2,000 flu shots, up from 17 locations and 1,600 shots administered in 2017.

Annenberg Foundation Partnership

- In addition to a potential partnership related to seniors, there is currently a partnership with Annenberg's Explore.org program, a technology-focused program that will allow students to converse with experts around the world on a variety of topics. Library staff is working out some of the technology components to create a pilot involving 125 students and 41 adults.

Building Digital Equity

- This project is part of a \$3.3 million grant from the Microsoft Corporation. Patrick referred to the initiative as very significant. It will allow the Library to upgrade its digital systems as well as create Microsoft Digicamps that will teach STEM, STEAM, coding, etc. in a camp setting.
- Pilots will be held at the Lennox and Compton Libraries with 50 middle school students training for two full days. The students will end the session with a Microsoft certification.
- The President of Microsoft North America, Kate Johnson, will participate at Lennox Library on December 6.

Food Service Partnerships

- Supervisor Barger introduced a motion to explore and research public library systems with established cafes. A report will be generated at the end of 90 days.
- Patrick noted that in her experience, these partnerships do not generate revenue but can be valuable as a public service.

Digital History Mobile Unit

- This project involves the digitalization of community documents, photos and other A/V materials important to individual communities. The Library sees it as a public service enhancement.
- There is an estimated one-time cost of \$400,000, and the mobile unit would roam throughout the County to participate in community enhancement projects.
- All materials would reside on the Library's website.
- Malibu expressed interest in funding the project in partnership with other cities.
- Commissioner Lesser voiced his own interest and would like to see the concept paper for his city.

Library Foundation

- Patrick announced three new board members: David Ford, Monica Gomez and Laura Rosenthal. She urged other Commissioners to consider serving on the Board or to think of potential Foundation Board members.
- She also announced that a final candidate for the Executive Director position is undergoing a final stage of contract review.

Discussion

The Chair asked for questions from the Commissioners.

- Commissioner Kuechle asked about the digital camp project.
- Commissioner Cleri Reale asked if the Library has a summary written for the film and animation program, as Sony might be a good target. Director Patrick stated that they could certainly have something available in early 2019 and that they had met with Janice Pober at Sony on a couple of occasions, but Sony has not yet engaged.
- Commissioner Liao asked who has the authority to approve food services for Libraries, and Patrick responded that it's the Board of Supervisors.
- Commissioner Lesser expressed interest in digitizing for the Manhattan Beach community. Patrick said there is a need for funding in order to launch the project.
- Commissioner Cleri Reale suggested the Library consider the Haynes Foundation for the digitization project as they have funded archival projects at the City of LA Library.

Civic Engagement Presentation

Jesse Walker-Lanz, the new Assistant Director of Public Service, shared a presentation related to civic engagement. It was also announced that Debbie Anderson has filled a new position of Assistant Director of Programs and Engagement.

Walker-Lanz focused on the following two issues:

- Voting
 - The Library has a long relationship with the Los Angeles County Registrar Recorder to provide access to voter registration and to serve as polling locations.
 - In addition, this year, there were many educational workshops and programs at various libraries presented by groups like the League of Women Voters.
 - The Library participated in the Vote by Mail drop-off program and also participated in a pilot for early voting, which was held at East LA, Willowbrook, West Covina and Lancaster libraries.
 - Walker-Lanz announced that there is new program proposed for 2020 that will locate Voting Centers throughout the County. Commissioner Rosenthal stated that there is a meeting next week, and the County will secure input on where these centers should be located. She urged everyone to suggest libraries.
- Census 2020
 - The Library is working with the County's Complete Count Committee and has submitted a plan detailing its objectives for Census 2020.
 - The plan involves promoting libraries as a welcome place to complete the census.
 - There will be social media and informational programs offered to the community along with census kiosks at key locations.
 - The Library also participated in LUCA day in LA County with library staff collecting new data and addresses.

- Commissioner Cleri Reale requested a 1-sheet of the Library's efforts so she can share with potential funders.

Commissioner Cleri Reale asked Walker-Lanz if the Library has ever considered educating youth before they register to vote and suggested a partnership with the Constitutional Rights Foundation, which is a national civic education organization working throughout the County.

Patrick ended this portion of the meeting by announcing that the Library was finally fully staffed at the executive level.

Approval of Minutes

With a quorum in place, a motion to approve the amended minutes was made by Commissioner Nancy Lyons and seconded by Commissioner Reve Gipson. The motion was unanimously approved.

Commissioner Items/Comments

The Chair discussed the Ad Hoc Committee related to the Sunset Review. Serving on the Committee are Commissioners Lesser, Nguyen and Cleri Reale. Commissioner Jim Allen has stepped down from the committee as he is now in a new role at the County dealing with the fires.

Commissioner Nancy Lyons thanked the Library IT staff for correcting the email warnings about overdue books. She also asked if there are unfilled positions at the community libraries. Patrick responded that throughout the library profession, many people are retiring resulting in promotional opportunities and many openings. This is an important issue for Library staff.

Commissioner Liao asked if the Library is recruiting staff that are bilingual. Patrick responded in the affirmative.

Chair Calaycay noted that the next meeting is scheduled for Manhattan Beach but suggested that the Library staff consider a location that has not yet been visited. Commissioner Cleri Reale asked about the status of Commissioners donating coffee and snacks for meetings. She volunteered to cover the next meeting and suggested other Commissioners sign up at that meeting.

Public Comment

There were no members of the public in attendance.

Adjournment

Chair Calaycay adjourned the meeting reminding everyone to think about the reason for the season – that it's not just about shopping but helping those in need. He wished everyone a Happy Holidays and Happy New Year. The meeting was adjourned at 11:42 a.m.