

LOS ANGELES COUNTY LIBRARY COMMISSION MEETING

DATE: Wednesday, January 16, 2019

TIME: 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

PLACE: La Puente Library
15920 E. Central Ave.
La Puente, CA 91744

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*

*Manhattan Beach Library
1320 Highland Ave.
Manhattan Beach, CA 90266
(310) 545-8595*

AGENDA

Welcome, Pledge of Allegiance, and Roll Call

1. Minutes
 - Approval of November 2018 meeting minutes
2. Announcements from LA County Library Director
 - Book Clubs and Kiosks (Jose Parra)
 - Budget Status Report (Grace Reyes)
3. Commissioner Items/Comments
 - Sunset Review Ad Hoc Committee Update
4. Public Comment (limited to 3 minutes per speaker)
5. Adjournment

Upcoming Meetings:

*Wednesday, March 20, 2019
Willowbrook Library
11737 Wilmington Ave.
Los Angeles, CA 90059*

*Wednesday, July 17, 2019
East Los Angeles Library
4837 East 3rd St.
Los Angeles, CA 90022*

*Wednesday, May 15, 2019
Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
Room 743
500 W. Temple St.
Los Angeles, CA 90012*

*Wednesday, September 18, 2019
Artesia Library
18801 Elaine Ave.
Artesia, CA 90701*

*Wednesday, November 20, 2019
San Gabriel Library
500 South Del Mar Ave.
San Gabriel, CA 91776*



"Enriching Lives"



**January 16, 2019
Library Commission Meeting Minutes
La Puente Library**

Satellite locations: San Fernando and Manhattan Beach Libraries

Welcome, Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call

Chair Corey Calaycay called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and noted that there were Commissioners present at two satellite locations: San Fernando Library and Manhattan Beach Library. He asked Commissioner Revé Gipson to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

It was then determined that a quorum had been met.

Commissioners in Attendance – (13) Chin Ho Liao, Corey Calaycay, Lisa Cleri Reale, Liz Reilly, Nancy Kuechle, Nancy Lyons, Revé Gipson, Linda Charney, Jay Chen, David Lesser (satellite), Joy Williams (satellite), Antonio Lopez (satellite), Waymon Roy (satellite)

Commissioners Absent – (4) Angelita Medina, José Luis Solache, Martha Arevalo, Vy Nguyen

Library Staff in Attendance – (8) Skye Patrick, Yolanda De Ramus, Jesse Walker-Lanz, Debbie Anderson, Geraldine Lin, Jose Parra, Samangi Skinner, Miguel Aguilera

Others in Attendance – (2) Martin Tse, Pitzer College exchange student; Troy Butzlaff, City of La Puente

Announcements from the Chair / Commission Items

- Chair Corey Calaycay informed Commissioners of several items:
 - There was a slight snafu involving Supervisor Barger's office. New Commissioner Linda Charney was thought to be replacing Commissioner Waymon Roy, as he had termed out back in 2016 and was awaiting his replacement, but that was a misunderstanding. Commissioner Roy is currently on the Commission. Charney was actually replacing Commissioner Jim Allen who was serving as Vice Chair of the Commission. As Allen would like to remain on the Commission, he is working with Barger's office to resolve this.
 - Commission Services continues to work on City Selection Committee replacements. The last meeting did not have a quorum,

so no appointments were made. A Councilman from Walnut was identified for one of the seats, but others are still pending.

- Chair Calaycay distributed a sign-up sheet so that Commissioners can supply refreshments for the remaining five meetings this year. He acknowledged that Commissioner Cleri Reale brought coffee and donuts for the current meeting.
- Calaycay also shared Commissioner Cleri Reale's observation that there is no Commission meeting located in SD3 during 2019 while there are sites currently on the schedule that have already served as a meeting site. Library Director Skye Patrick suggested that Topanga Canyon Library (SD3) replace the East LA site in July as the Commission has already had a meeting in East LA.
- Calaycay also announced that he would have to leave at 11:30a.m. for a City of Claremont event and because there is no Vice Chair, he asked the Secretary, Commissioner Cleri Reale, to chair after his departure.
- Lastly, Calaycay introduced his special guest: Martin Tse, an exchange student from Australia who is participating in a one-semester program at Pitzer College.
- All others in attendance then introduced himself or herself.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Commissioner Reilly to approve the Minutes from November 2018. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Liao and unanimously approved.

Chair Calaycay introduced the Library Director's report by congratulating Library Director Skye Patrick on receiving the 2019 Librarian of the Year Award from the Library Journal, acknowledging what an incredible accomplishment it is.

Announcements from LA County Library Director

Library Director Skye Patrick wished everyone a Happy New Year and thanked everyone for attending the meeting. She shared the following announcements:

- Claremont Library re-opened on November 26 after refurbishments and upgrades, which she referred to as "very exciting."
- Avalon Library was closed for renovation on December 29 and opened in a temporary location across the street on January 8. Some of the features in the new library will include "Open Plus," a program in which customers can access the library beyond normal business hours. It is a pilot and, if it works well, it will be implemented at other libraries.

There were several questions from the Commissioners regarding "Open Plus."

- Commissioner Cleri Reale asked if other libraries across the country are using Open Plus. Patrick responded that the closest is in Ventura County.

- Commissioner Chen asked what kind of technology is used for this program? Assistant Director of Public Services, Jesse Walker-Lanz, provided details, which included security cameras and type of technology.
- Commissioner Roy asked what happened when it was tried in Lancaster. Patrick responded that there were lots of cost issues.
- Commissioner Lyons asked about safety and security. Walker-Lanz explained that customers must pre-register for this and must have library cards, and that there would be some security. Also, Avalon Library is adjacent to a Sheriff's office.
- Commissioner Reilly asked about limitations on the entry time. The response was that it could be 1 or 2 hours before opening on Sunday.

Library Director Patrick continued her report by discussing the partnership with the Department of Mental Health (DMH).

- She stated that this was a significant partnership for 2 years and has allowed staff to redesign programs to meet Prevention and Early Intervention (PEI) requirements. The grant is for \$11.5 million over 2 years.
- Library staff submitted a second funding request for 2019/20 which is currently being reviewed by DMH.
- Through their partnership with DMH, Library has secured 8 mental health clinicians who will rotate around the library system.
- Patrick stated that the County is the only library in Southern California to have a program like this at this magnitude.

There were questions from the Commission:

- Commissioner Chen asked how the public could access these services. Patrick responded that this is being worked out with the scope of work. At other libraries, a social worker is available to talk to people, similar to LAHSA's model of outreach.
- Commissioner Liao has been to West Hollywood Library and viewed a lot of homeless individuals who seemed to have mental health issues. He asked if West Hollywood would be covered by these services.
- Patrick stated that she understands the concern, but the initial project will target those libraries where there are significant problems. She added that there is extra security at West Hollywood and that there is a pending meeting with West Hollywood City officials about the issue and costs.

The Library Director proceeded to update the Commission on Maker Mobiles (MāK Mō):

- She stated that the Library has expanded the fleet to serve a wider population.
- This past year, they implemented 850 library programs with 14,000 participants. The vehicles also visited 284 outreach events reaching 43,000 attendees. The program surpassed the prior year's numbers in the first 9 months of the year.

- Patrick stated that “people are really responding to it and it is really taking off.”
- The next step is to try to implement a similar program for adults, which is being assessed.

Patrick discussed several other programs:

- Probation Grant
 - A partnership with the Probation Department resulted in \$2 million for the libraries. There are programs at 5 juvenile day reporting centers: Boyle Heights, El Monte, Long Beach, South Hacienda Heights, and Van Nuys.
 - Overall there have been 16 programs with outreach to 75 youth and 3 field trips to libraries.
- Career Online High School
 - This program is available to those identified locations with low high school graduation rates.
 - There will be bus ads in chosen areas where Library will promote the program through March.
 - Commissioner Cleri Reale asked about the locations and suggested it might be a good opportunity for funding from Enterprise Rent-A-Car.
 - Patrick will send the list to the Commission.
- Artists in Residence (AiR)
 - Creative Strategist has provided programming recommendations targeting youth, teen, and adult populations at various libraries, to include individuals experiencing homelessness
 - Library is one of the first two departments in the County that were chosen for the AiR program.
- New Library App
 - Thanks to Library staff, there is a new app that is more intuitive and easier to use. Patrick asked everyone to access it if they have not already done so, as it is on the Apple App Store and Google Play.
- Microsoft Grant
 - Patrick stated that this was a huge project and received \$5.3 million in funding to refresh software and upgrade the library’s operating system from Windows 7 to Windows 10. It is scheduled to be completed by June 2019.
- CENIC Partnership
 - This project will result in better customer service and an improved internet experience.
 - 30% of libraries have been completed with a projected end by December 2019.
 - Patrick commended Library’s IT staff, as this is a huge undertaking, and added that she is very proud of them.
 - The County is the largest library system in CA and the largest to implement this program.

- Commissioner Cleri Reale stated that while this is not a “sexy” project, it is certainly critical, and everyone should pause to congratulate the staff.
- Librarian of the Year
 - Patrick stated that this has been an incredible honor and it speaks to the Library’s talented, hardworking staff. She expressed a desire to go on the record and thank each one of the staff that helped the Library secure this acknowledgement.
- Library Breakfast
 - This event will be held on April 4 with a cartoonist/author as keynote speaker. The Commission will receive an email reminder.
- Animation Proposal
 - Program is a teaching lab for teens related to animation.
 - Commissioner Kuechle will meet with Sony about this project and will update everyone at a future meeting.

Lastly, Director Patrick reported on the status of the search for the new Executive Director of the Foundation.

- Negotiations have been completed and Andrea Carroll will come on board at the end of the month. She is currently at LA Valley College.
- She will help the Foundation create a strategy and finally start fundraising.
- Patrick stated that she is thrilled that Carroll is coming on board and reminded everyone that Malibu is funding the position for 2 years.

Sunset Review

- Chair Calaycay summarized the requirement by the County for the Sunset Review.
- He reminded the Commission that they were asked as individuals to complete a review, but the entire Commission also needs to send in a report for review.
- As details about the Review became slightly complicated, Calaycay explained that the Commission needs to request a formal extension to June 2019 so that the Ad Hoc Committee can finalize it. The Committee is comprised of Commissioners Cleri Reale, Lesser, and Nguyen.
- Commissioner Lesser made a motion to request an extension to June 30. Commissioner Reilly seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved.
- Commissioner Lesser will serve as Chair of the Ad Hoc Committee until he terms out in April, at which time Commissioner Cleri Reale said she would help complete the work. He committed to following up with a conference call for the Ad Hoc Committee.

Staff Reports

- Jose Parra reported on the Book Clubs and Kiosks funded by DMH. He stated that staff is thrilled with this program.
 - The three kiosk sites are in East LA, La Verne, and Long Beach.

- If customers cannot access or get to libraries, the Library goes to them. The kiosks have an amazing impact.
- They are large vending machine kiosks that hold 235 books, mostly for self-help, finance, cooking, parenting, etc., but if others are needed, they are delivered to the kiosk.
- The Book Club is offered every month, and an important goal is community building and access, and also bringing STEAM to customers to rebuild neurons and develop critical thinking skills. This is particularly important for older adults.
- Parra encouraged the Commission to visit the kiosks.
- Commissioner Gipson asked about the specific programming, and Commissioner Reilly also asked whether it takes place one day per week.
- Chair Calaycay shared that the Fairplex is doing a STEAM Fair, which is a good opportunity for promotion. He also added that Parra received a promotion and congratulated him on behalf of the Commission.
- Commissioner Cleri Reale suggested approaching the Eisner Foundation for funding of the work with older adults.
- Commissioner Chen shared that in Taipei, there are converted mini vans where you can see inside. Staff responded that there are currently 3 bookmobiles with visibility inside, 4 maker mobiles, and reading machines.
- Administrative Deputy Grace Reyes reported on the Budget Status Report:
 - She reviewed the November 2018 Status report on the Operating Budget that reflected \$208 million with a current fund balance of \$44 million.
 - Further highlights:
 - The County is expecting a 5% increase in property tax revenue, which usually hits in January/February.
 - The \$40 million fund balance is not extra money and is spoken for.
 - Patrick clarified that she met with city managers in 49 cities to talk about the potential structural deficit, but many cities are operating at a deficit. The only solution is to secure funding with partnerships from other departments to close the deficit, as nobody will want to decrease hours.
 - Reyes and Patrick also reminded everyone that the goal is for the Foundation to function like other foundations.

Commissioner Comments

- Commissioner Liao asked about renting space to others when the Library is not in use. He stated the example of San Gabriel Library, which has a 2nd floor for community meetings. Patrick responded that they are currently looking at the feasibility of ideas like this.

- Commissioner Lyons asked about how programs are being assessed that may be impacted by the deficit. Patrick stated that staff is constantly visiting programming and revising some to allow a charge back of some costs to the County, like school readiness/reading programs.

At this point in the meeting, Chair Calaycay had to leave for a prior commitment and Commissioner Cleri Reale took over the Chair's role.

- Commissioner Lesser reiterated congratulations to Library Director Patrick for her award and communicated a heartfelt acknowledgement of what she has accomplished and how proactive she is.
- Commissioner Liao invited everyone to a Lunar New Year celebration in San Gabriel Valley on February 2 from 2:00-4:00 p.m., where there will be food and entertainment.
- Commissioner Williams pointed out that the September date in the materials is incorrect and should be September 19.

Public Comment

- Troy Butzlaff, Director of Administrative Services for the City of La Puente, thanked the Commission for visiting the City. Commenting on the Library Director's financial report, he did reiterate that the City also struggles with its finances but can certainly help promote the Library and its many programs in their quarterly newsletter.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 a.m.