

BOARD OF LIBRARY COMMISSIONERS

Members

Wendy Urushima-Conn, Chair

Marshall Anderson • Elizabeth Hansen • Shawna Hook-Held • Ben Moraga • Linda Sotelo

MINUTES

BOARD OF LIBRARY COMMISSIONERS

SAN DIEGO PUBLIC LIBRARY

Wednesday, April 6, 2022

ATTENDANCE

Commissioners:

Present: Wendy Urushima-Conn, Elizabeth Hansen, Ben Moraga, Marshall Anderson, Linda Sotelo, Shawna Hook-Held

Absent:

Staff: Misty Jones, Director – Library, Raul Gudiño, Deputy Director – Library; Bob Cronk, Deputy Director – Library; Jennifer Jenkins, Deputy Director – Library; Tricia Nool, Executive Assistant – Library; William Curtis, Program Manager – Library; Oscar Gittemeier, Program Manager – Library; Ady Huertas, Katia Graham – SDPL Staff

Public:

Joan Reese, Ann McDonald – FSDPL, Patrick Stewart, CEO – SDPLF, Steve Hermes, Pat Wilson, Steve Hermes, Vanessa, Catherine Hoang, Rachel, Chida Warren-Darby, Kymberly Mueller

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order by Commissioner Urushima-Conn at 12:30 pm via Zoom. Their last meeting was on March 2, 2022.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The March 2, 2022 minutes was approved unanimously.

REQUESTS FOR CONTINUANCE

None

NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT

None

REPORT FROM THE FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY:

Joan Reese

President, Friends of the San Diego Public Library

With spring come the final weeks of the City's budget cycle, and the Friends of the San Diego Public Library is fully engaged in library advocacy efforts in a number of ways in collaboration with the Foundation and the LibrariesTransformSD coalition.

The application period is now open for the 2022 John McAllister Memorial Library Scholarship for library staff who are pursuing degree or certificate programs in Library and Information Science or related fields. We appreciate Deputy Director Bob Cronk's support in helping notify staff of this opportunity. The deadline for receipt of applications is April 14. We are aware of at least three of our past recipients who have gone on to become Youth Services Librarians for SDPL and two who have become Branch Managers! We are proud of their achievements. Online book sales continue to bring in some income for the "greater" FSDPL and several of our chapters. Friends chapters continue to hold both outdoor and indoor book sales, and Friends' used bookstores are open at many branch libraries—most still on curtailed schedules relative to pre-pandemic times due to limited volunteer availability. The greater FSDPL has now held two indoor book sales; the March sale was expanded to include both Saturday and Sunday. These have been successful relative to the constrained space currently available but have not generated the sort of income of the legendary monthly book sales in the years leading up to the pandemic.

In addition to selling books at sales and online, FSDPL provides books to chapters for their used bookstores and sales, which has always been popular; chapter volunteers are invited to "shop" following each of our monthly book sales, and so the impact of the efforts of our volunteers who labor in the bowels of the UH Branch Library has a ripple effect throughout the system. This is in addition to donations made directly by the greater Friends to Matching Funds which are typically directed to support the area(s) of greatest need to facilitate equity and maximize impact.

The FSDPL board and the Presidents' Advisory Council will meet next on April 6th. The Annual Meeting will be held on the morning of Saturday, May 14, 2022.

LIBRARY FOUNDATION UPDATE:

Patrick Stewart, CEO – SDPLF

We are in the throes of the budget season and advocacy has taken a much greater priority. The advocacy efforts are certainly thriving and growing. The relationship that the coalition has with our elected officials is deep and each year, it's much more meaningful.

I want to remind everyone that this year was the first year that all 9 of our City Council members included the library in their budget priority memos that were published by the IBA

office in January. One of the things that gives me great joy is this time of year when I get to talk and sit down and have a really substantive conversation with each one of our elected officials and hear from them how important and how meaningful the library is and they're telling us the impact that the library is having on their constituents in their communities.

The Library Foundation has rebranded itself, I want to thank many of you again, who participated in that rebranding effort and if you haven't had a chance, yet please go on over to our new website <https://libraryfoundationsd.org>. It does a really great job of clarifying the role of the Foundation. The role of the Foundation in relation to community in relation to the library, the way that the Foundation serves as a conduit for the Community to support the work that you do and then an additional opportunity for the Foundation to be able to communicate to the Community the incredible impact of the work that you all do.

We've had some really good responses to communications that we have sent out to supporters around library appreciation week and just want to extend a bit of gratitude to all of you during this library appreciation week.

Library Masterplan: We've met with G4 up in San Francisco and Carson Block Technology and they submitted their final proposal, library master plan phase two.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

a. Report on Library Construction Projects

The Pacific Highlands Ranch Branch Library:

ECC-Soltek Joint Venture bid was the lowest, the City is working with them on receiving their responsible documents and sign the contract. On our end, we are working on issuing the Purchase Order through routing a Mayoral Action. The lowest bid came at \$20,184,623, that is significantly higher than the first bid, before the project had to be re-advertised (approx. \$2 Million increase), due to construction cost increases, supply chain shortages, and inflation, and the project will require an additional \$1.45Million in funding by July of 2022.

The Scripps Miramar Ranch Library Parking Lot Expansion:

The design consultant is working with the City DSD towards the Building Permit, and with the City Storm Water towards their clearance. The E Contract process is in progress.

b. Update from Library Director

Budget Hearing – Scheduled on May 5, 2022 at 9:00 AM. First item on the agenda.

Staffing and Hiring Updates – We had 165 vacancies and are able to extend offers to about 140 candidates. North Clairemont and Serra Mesa reopened fully. We have 3 more locations to reopen, Ocean Beach, Clairemont and Beckwourth.

National Library Week – All library staff were given 1-day discretionary leave for everything that they have done this past year.

Library Master Plan – We were supposed to take this back to Council in March, but we postponed. After speaking to the consultants, there was some thought that maybe we should beef up the framework and have some actionable items in there and take that for adoption. A meeting will be set up with the Planning Director regarding CEQA for more steps.

Retirement – Valerie Hardie, Executive Director of READ San Diego, Library Department retired from the City after 36 years. Jennifer Jenkins will start the recruitment process soon.

On March 17, Jennifer Seibel Newsom visited the Mission Valley Library along with the State Librarian, Greg Lucas. She attended one of our storytimes and crafts. This gave Misty the opportunity to have a discussion with Greg regarding the Infrastructure Funding that will be coming from the State.

AGENDA ITEMS

- a. Concept Kits – Katia Graham presented to the Commissioners Containing Themed Books on Important Topics for Children. Made possible by a grant from the Ellen Browning Scripps Foundation
- b. EDI Committee – Jennifer Jenkins and Ady Huertas shared the presentation with the Commissioners regarding the Equity, Diversity and Inclusion committee. The mission of the Library’s EDI Committee is to foster an environment where an Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion perspective is embedded in every aspect of our work at San Diego Public Library; creating meaningful, measurable, and lasting progress towards equity, diversity, and inclusion that will improve both employee and patron experience. The vision is to have an equitable and diverse library system promoting a culture of inclusion and belonging that empowers and values staff, patrons, and partners of all races, genders, ethnicities, sexual orientations, abilities, ages, and beliefs.

COMMISSIONER COMMENT

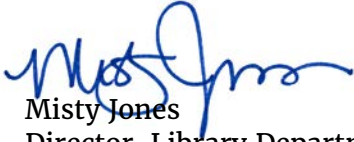
Public Safety – Commissioner Anderson commented regarding the request for 350K for security. He suggested piloting a metal detector which is under 10K for 3 months and see what it does for incidents and go from there.

OTHER BUSINESS

The next Board of Library Commissioners meeting will take place on May 4, 2022 at 12:30 PM via Zoom.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Wendy Urushima-Conn adjourned the meeting at 1:55 PM.



Misty Jones
Director, Library Department

/tn