

SANTA MONICA PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD



Minutes of the REGULAR Meeting of February 5, 2015 To Be Approved

Call to Order	A REGULAR meeting of the Library Board was called to order by Chairperson, Kathie Sheldon, at 7:01 p.m., Thursday, February 5, 2015 at the Main Library, Administration Conference Room, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., Santa Monica.
Roll Call	<p>PRESENT: Boardmember Victor Davich, Boardmember Marc Morgenstern, Chairperson Kathie Sheldon and Boardmember Bryce Snell</p> <p>ABSENT: Vice Chair Ken Blackwell</p> <p>ALSO PRESENT: Maria Carpenter, Director of Library Services; Rachel Foyt, Administrative Analyst; Robert Graves, Librarian I, Public Services; Lucien Plauzoles, community member; Samantha Roberts, Library Intern; and Antonio Spears, community member</p>
Public Input	The Library Board read an email communication from Marcy Winograd requesting the Board consider discontinuing the Library card fee for City of Santa Monica of employees.
Approval of the Library Board Minutes	<p>Motion by Chairperson Kathie Sheldon, seconded by Boardmember Marc Morgenstern to approve the minutes of the Library Board meeting of December 4, 2014 with the correction of Storycore to StoryCorps. The motion was approved by the following vote:</p> <p>AYES: Boardmember Victor Davich, Boardmember Marc Morgenstern, Chairperson Kathie Sheldon and Boardmember Bryce Snell</p> <p>NOES: None</p> <p>ABSTAINING: None</p> <p>ABSENT: Vice Chair Ken Blackwell</p>
Update on the Santa Monica Reads Program	<p>Robert Graves, Librarian I, Public Services discussed the 2015 Santa Monica Reads program which runs from February 14 through Saturday, March 21. The selected title is <i>Longbourn</i> by Jo Baker.</p> <p>Staff has planned many special events and book discussions over the five weeks including a discussion with <i>Longbourn</i> author, Jo Baker. The Santa Monica Reads kickoff celebration is scheduled for Saturday, February 14 at 2:00 p.m. at the Main Library.</p>

This year people who received a free copy of the book were asked to provide their email address. Staff plans to send an email each week reminding participants of the Santa Monica Reads events taking place. Board discussion followed.

**Update on
YALLWEST**

Mr. Graves updated the Library Board on YALLWEST. Santa Monica Public Library is partnering with bestselling authors Margaret Stohl (Beautiful Creatures) and Melissa de la Cruz (Frozen) to create Santa Monica's first young adult book festival, YALLWEST, on April 11 & 12, 2015. The first day's activities will take place on the Santa Monica High School campus, while the second day will move to Santa Monica Public Library's Main Library.

YALLWEST will be a West Coast sister festival to the five-year-old Charleston, SC-based YALLFEST.

Vice Chair Ken Blackwell joined the meeting via Facetime from London.

Mr. Graves continued discussing YALLWEST event coordination, publicity and social media. He invited the Board to participate as volunteers at YALLWEST.

**Discussion of
Establishing a
Santa Monica
Public Library
Foundation**

Antonio Spears addressed the Library Board about establishing a Santa Monica Public Library Foundation. Mr. Spears presented a proposal detailing how a library foundation would work in Santa Monica.

The foundation would complement the city's responsibility to fund the Santa Monica Public Library by raising funds for the public library. He discussed the foundation Board of Directors, what the foundation could fund, non-fundraising activities including advocacy and public awareness and potential partnerships with local civic groups.

Membership could range from \$250 for the Young Literati Circle on up to \$10,000 for the President's Circle. Private support through memberships, corporate sponsorships, gifts, trusts and bequests would be encouraged.

A potential partnership could be with the 125th Santa Monica Public Library Anniversary.

Board discussion followed.

Boardmember Marc Morgenstern made a motion to further explore the creation of a Santa Monica Public Library Foundation and to empower the City Librarian and Library Staff to take a first step of exploration of the idea by talking to the appropriate officials in the City Manager's Office. There was no second.

Further discussion of the creation of a Santa Monica Public Library Foundation will be agendaized for the March Library Board meeting.

**Opportunities for
Library Board
Participation in
Library Programs
and Events**

Boardmember Marc Morgenstern asked about the role that the Board might play in Santa Monica Reads and ways in which the Board can participate in Library events.

Rachel Foyt, Administrative Analyst spoke to the Board about the How-To Festival. The idea of the How-To Festival is 55 free workshops in 5 hours at all Library locations.

The event will be held on Saturday, May 30 at the Main Library from 11-4 and the Branch Libraries from 12-3.

The How-To Festival committee is recruiting community volunteers with skills or talents they would like to share to lead the workshops. Thus far, workshop topics include: how to meditate, to how to get published, how to create paper earrings, how to live clutter free, how to write a screenplay, and how to fight like a ninja.

In order to engage the community, the committee is reaching out to possible community partners including: local businesses contacted through the Chamber of Commerce and Downtown Santa Monica; the Friends of the Library and the Library Board; local neighborhood organizations; other City Departments and our Library Staff.

Maria Carpenter, Director of Library Services spoke to the Board about available opportunities on the Technology and Innovation Task Force which will advise on technology needs across the Library system.

Boardmember Marc Morgenstern will serve on the 125th Anniversary Task Force.

Boardmember Marc Morgenstern suggested that the Library Boardmembers attend the Santa Monica Reads book discussions being held at their neighborhood Library Branch.

Update on Strategic Planning for the Library

Maureen Sullivan organization development consultant and past American Library Association President who has been selected as the strategic planning consultant will be coming for her inaugural visit on February 18 to work with Library staff.

On March 5-7 Maureen Sullivan and Margaret Sullivan, architect and space planner, will be working with staff and the Library Board. The pair will be introducing library trends and working with staff on strategic planning. In the coming months five community meetings are planned to discuss strategic planning.

Audio/Visual Issues in the Martin Luther King Jr. Auditorium at the Main Library

Ms. Carpenter gave a report on the audio issues in the Martin Luther King Jr. Auditorium at the Main Library. An audio visual company is making some adjustments to the sound design already in the Auditorium. The company can also provide a quote and work with library staff to plan for upgrades to the audio visual system.

Nationwide Current Library Trends - Review of Library Journal Articles

No report.

Secretary's Report

Ms. Carpenter reported on the non-resident Library card fee. The annual non-resident Library card fee target is \$235,000. Currently the Library has taken in \$86,000 in non-resident Library card fees. An adjustment will be made in the Library budget to offset the loss of revenue.

Update on Library Services and Programs

The computer sessions fees are on track to reach an annual estimated income of \$25,000.

Update on Library Staffing

The recruitment for the vacant Library Systems Engineer position has closed.

The Librarian II position vacancy in Youth Services has been filled by Denise Nunez who was an internal candidate.

Cecilia Tovar has been promoted to Principal Librarian for Public and Branch Services.
Recruitments for Pico Branch Manager and Librarian I in Public Services are beginning.

**Update on Library
Facilities and
Equipment**

The main sewer line at the Pico Branch Library has been replaced.

**Update on Library
Security and Safety**

Ms. Carpenter reported on Library suspensions and court ordered stay-away orders.

**What are you
reading?**

The Boardmembers discussed what they are reading.

Agenda Building

The Library Board asked that the following items be included in the next Library Board agenda: discussion of establishing a Santa Monica Public Library Foundation.

Adjournment

Chair Kathie Sheldon adjourned the meeting at 8:47 p.m.

Attest:

Approved:



Maria Carpenter

Kathie Sheldon

Director of Library Services

Library Board Chair

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