

SANTA MONICA PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD



Minutes of the REGULAR Meeting of April 2, 2015 To Be Approved

Call to Order	A REGULAR meeting of the Library Board was called to order by Chairperson, Kathie Sheldon, at 7:04 p.m., Thursday, April 2, 2015 at the Main Library, Administrative 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; Lou Enriquez, Supervisor, Library Services Officer; Claudia Fishler, Assistant City Librarian; Rachel Foyt, Administrative Analyst; Marsha Moutrie, City Attorney; Lucien Plauzoles, community member; Captain Ken Semko, Police Department – Homeless Liaison Team; Setareh Yavari, Manager, Human Services Division</p>
Public Input	No report.
Approval of the Library Board Minutes	Approval of the minutes of the Library Board meeting of March 7, 2015 was tabled until the May Board meeting. Boardmember Marc Morgenstern requested additional information on the discussion of the role of the Library Board in the strategic planning process be recorded in the March 7 minutes. The minutes should also reflect that Maureen Sullivan, Organizational Consultant, plans to meet with the Library Board for an interim consultation following the completion of the community forums.
Overview and Library Board Discussion of City of Santa Monica Services for Homeless Persons in Santa Monica and the City's Philosophy Around Service and Legal Issues of Serving All Members of the Public Including the Homeless	<p>Setareh Yavari, Manager, Human Services Division in Community and Cultural Services spoke about the types of direct services and funding to non-profits that the Human Services provides. The Division funds child care, early education services, senior services, homeless services, disability services and youth enrichment programs. Human Services provides \$2.5 million in funding for homeless services to various non-profits in the community for shelter beds, permanent supportive housing beds and case management slots. They fund the Ocean Park Community Center (OPCC), the OPCC access center SAMOSHEL (SANTA MONICA SHELter), the Cloverfield location day center and a range of programming.</p> <p>The Human Services Division works in partnership with City Attorney's Office and the Santa Monica Police Department on Santa Monica's Homeless Community Court and</p>

Project Homecoming. Homeless Community Court is a problem-solving court program that addresses the legal issues of homeless individuals with the purpose of connecting them to services and permanent housing. Through Project Homecoming, homeless individuals in Santa Monica are reunited with family and friends who are willing and able to offer permanent housing and ongoing support.

Board questions and discussion followed.

Captain Ken Semko, Police Department, spoke to the Library Board. Captain Semko oversees the strategic services division which houses the Homeless Liaison Team consisting of 6 officers and a sergeant. The Homeless Liaison Team works closely with the Human Services Division and City Attorney's Office to get chronically homeless people into services and permanent housing. The Team helps to facilitate the program Project Homecoming and educates officers and residents on how to deal with homeless individuals. The education includes training on mental health and knowledge of resources to help get individuals into services and housing.

Boardmember Victor Davich asked if the City of Santa Monica has the equivalent of a criminal trespass to prevent individuals from entering the library.

City Attorney, Marsha Moutrie explained that the Library Rules of Conduct allow for the exclusion of a person from the Library. A person can be excluded from the Library by enforcement of the Library Rules of Conduct or if an individual committed a crime the City Attorney's Office prosecutors can seek stay away orders.

The Board questioned what a free and open public facility means in terms of tolerance of certain levels of behavior that may not be criminal but may be disruptive and the right of other users to have a peaceful enjoyment of the library.

City Attorney Moutrie explained that what people can be held responsible for in the Library are standards of lawful conduct set by state and local law and standards of conduct that appear in the Library Rules of Conduct. The Library Rules of Conduct can be amended if issues are arising. Staff can evaluate if the standards of conduct are adequate and if the enforcement is adequate.

Board questions and discussion followed.

Lou Enriquez, Supervisor, Library Services Officer addressed the Board explaining that the Library Rules of Conduct are enforced fairly for all Library patrons. The Library Services Officers have a variety of duties but the priority is enforcement of the Library Rules of Conduct. The Officers direct people who appear homeless to places where they can receive services. Mr. Enriquez reported that approximately 10 people a day are asked to leave because they are not obeying the Rules of Conduct.

Claudia Fishler, Assistant City Librarian, explained the consequences of violation of the Library Rules of Conduct, local, state or federal law in the Library including the suspension of Library privileges.

Consequences:

- A verbal warning is given
- Instruction to leave the Library for the day
- Suspension of borrowing privileges
- Suspension of Library privileges including removal from, and denial of access

- to, all Library services and facilities for up to one year
- Criminal sanctions

Board questions and discussion followed.

Boardmember Marc Morgenstern suggested that staff evaluate the public comment on homeless individuals in the Library from the public forums. What is the public perception on individuals who appear homeless in the Library?

**Library Board
Approval of
Definition for
Library Co-
Produced Events**

Motion by Boardmember Marc Morgenstern, seconded by Boardmember Bryce Snell to accept the definition for Library co-produced events language as written and presented. The motion was approved by the following vote:

AYES: Boardmember Marc Morgenstern, Chairperson Kathie Sheldon and Boardmember Bryce Snell

NOES: None

ABSTAINING: Boardmember Victor Davich

ABSENT: Vice Chair Ken Blackwell

**Library Board
Engagement and
Attendance at
Workshops,
Meetings and
Conferences
Produced By the
Library Community**

Chair Kathie Sheldon led the Library Board in a discussion on attending workshops, meetings and conferences produced by the library community. Staff will forward information to the Board on local workshops pertaining to libraries.

**Board Discussion
of Nationwide
Current Library
Trends and Review
of Library Journal
Articles**

Chair Kathie Sheldon brought to the attention of the Library Board several articles on current library trends. The November 2014 issue of *Library Journal* had an article and photo on the Pico Branch Library. An article titled It's All About the Board from volume 53, number 3 of *Public Libraries* was distributed to the Board.

Maria Carpenter, City Librarian, shared that Cecilia Tovar, Principal Librarian for Public and Branch Services at Santa Monica Public Library was named a "Mover and Shaker" by *Library Journal*. The article appears in the March 15, 2015 issue.

Secretary's Report

**Update on Library
Services and
Programs**

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 \$107,000 in non-resident Library card fees which is a lower projection than what was planned. An adjustment will be made in the Library budget to offset the loss of revenue. Staff will be assessing the non-resident fee in June which will be the two year mark.

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

Computer literacy classes are being held in both Spanish and English at the Branch Libraries.

YALLWEST is being held at Santa Monica High School on April 11 and at the Main Library on April 12, 2015. Boardmembers are encouraged to attend.

Update on Library Staffing

Staff is in the process of interviewing candidates to fill the Librarian I, Public Services position. Paul Zhou was hired for the position of Lead Systems Analyst, Information Systems Division. Sylvia Cisneros was hired to fill the vacant Pico Branch Library Manager position. The Principal Librarian position for Information Management Division has been posted.

Update on Library Facilities and Equipment

Ms. Carpenter reported that the Fairview Branch Library will be closing on June 1 for interim improvements. The Branch will be closed for a year.

Update on Library Security and Safety

Ms. Carpenter reported that the Library has undertaken a lock your bike awareness marketing campaign at the Main Library. 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: a report on YALLWEST, a report on Santa Monica READS and a report on the foundation discussion from the Friends' Board meeting.

Adjournment

Chair Kathie Sheldon adjourned the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

Attest:

Approved:



Maria Carpenter

Kathie Sheldon

Director of Library Services

Library Board Chair

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