

CITY OF SANTA MONICA LIBRARY BOARD



Minutes of the REGULAR Meeting of August 6, 2015 To Be Approved

- Call to Order** A REGULAR meeting of the Santa Monica Library Board was called to order by Chairperson, Kathie Sheldon, at 7:01 p.m., Thursday, August 6, 2015 at the Main Library, Administrative Conference Room, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., Santa Monica.
- Roll Call**
- PRESENT:** Boardmember Victor Davich,
Boardmember Marc Morgenstern,
Chairperson Kathie Sheldon and
Boardmember Bryce Snell
- ABSENT:** Vice Chair Ken Blackwell
- ALSO PRESENT:** Lucien Plauzoles, member of the public;
Felix Sahig, member of the public;
Claudia Fishler, Assistant City Librarian;
Rachel Foyt, Administrative Analyst
- Public Input** Member of the public Lucien Plauzoles asked a follow up question from the strategic planning public forums. He asked what role the Library is taking with English as a second language (ESL) classes, seminars and language learning activities.
- Staff will investigate the answer and respond to Mr. Plauzoles.
- Reappointment and Swearing in of Library Boardmember Kathleen Sheldon** Library Boardmember Kathleen Sheldon took the oath or affirmation of allegiance for public officers and was sworn in as Library Boardmember.
- Approval of the Library Board Minutes** Motion by Boardmember Marc Morgenstern, seconded by Boardmember Bryce Snell to approve the minutes of the Library Board meetings of July 16, 2015. The motion was approved by the following vote:
- AYES: Boardmember Victor Davich, Boardmember Marc Morgenstern, Chairperson Kathie Sheldon and Boardmember Bryce Snell
- NOES: None

ABSTAINING: None

ABSENT: Vice Chair Ken Blackwell

Discussion of Internet Use at Santa Monica Public Library

Member of the public, Felix Sahig, asked the Library Board to discuss the implementation of internet filtering on both the public internet computers and the Wi-Fi system.

The Library Board reviewed the Library Policy on Internet Use. Library Board discussion followed.

Claudia Fishler, Assistant City Librarian, addressed questions from the Library Board regarding the Library Policy on Internet Use and the number of complaints the Library receives regarding viewing of adult content.

No action was taken by the Library Board.

Update on the Santa Monica Pop-Up Beach Library

Ms. Fishler updated the Board on the Pop-Up Beach Library being held during the summer on the beach at the Annenberg Beach House and at Dorothy Green Park.

Review of the Santa Monica History Museum Annual Report for 2014 – 2015

The Library Board reviewed the Santa Monica History Museum annual report and budget for 2014-15. Prior to the report Library staff created a checklist for Museum staff based on the lease requirements and questions from the Library Board in past years.

Board discussion followed. Chair Kathie Sheldon directed staff to agendaize for the September Board meeting a review of the History Museum's budget for the upcoming fiscal year 2015-16 and the History Museum's lease.

Report on the How-To Festival

Rachel Foyt, Administrative Analyst, reported on the inaugural How-To Festival held on Saturday, May 30, 2015 from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Main Library and from noon to 3:00 p.m. at all neighborhood branch locations.

The interactive festival featured more than 55 workshops spread over five library locations. Scheduled events ranged from 30 – 60 minutes in length and included *How to make a rain garden*, *How to code a website in HTML*, *How to meditate*, *How to write a short story*, *How to Bollywood dance*, *How to do backyard science experiments*, *How to talk like a pirate*, and many more.

Ms. Foyt reported that 910 people attended workshops at the Main Library and 240 people attended workshops at the Branch Libraries.

Update on the Planning for the 125th Anniversary Celebration

Marc Morgenstern, Library Boardmember and Kathie Sheldon, Library Board Chair updated the Board on the progress in planning for a celebration of the Santa Monica Public Library's 125th Anniversary.

The culminating event is scheduled for January 9, 2016. A committee of staff and community members is working on organizing events to celebrate the 125th anniversary of library service in Santa Monica and the 10 anniversary of the opening of the Main Library.

Nationwide Current Library Trends - Review of Library Journal Articles

The Board discussed nationwide current library trends. Boardmember Marc Morgenstern shared that the Ferguson Municipal Public Library (FMPL), MO was awarded Library of the Year by *Library Journal* for the way it reacted to the crisis and the aftermath of riots brought on by the shooting of Michael Brown. The FMPL stayed open to serve and support the people of Ferguson and became a critical community anchor.

Secretary's Report

Ms. Fishler reported that in July the Library sold \$12,000 in non-resident cards meeting its monthly goal of 11,500. In the same month \$2,258 in computer sessions were sold.

Update on Library Services and Programs

The Summer Reading Program is ending on August 15.

Ms. Fishler reported that with the closure of the Fairview Branch more patrons are using the Pico Branch Library. In July, Pico Branch's visitor count was up 50% with 16,000 visitors. The average number of visitor in a month is 11,000. Also, circulation is up 68% with 21,000 check outs in July. The average number of checkouts is 13,000. Some staff from the Fairview Branch were transferred to the Pico Branch.

Staff launched a Library card sign up campaign in June and July with sign up incentives and ads in the local newspapers and on Facebook.

The Library Board reviewed the 2014/15 annual Library statistics. Library Board Chair, Kathie Sheldon requested that staff agendize a discussion of the annual Library statistics for the September Board meeting.

Update on Library Staffing

The position of Principal Librarian of Information Management has been offered to Greco Venegas from the City of Commerce Library. Selection interviews for the vacant Librarian I bilingual position are ongoing.

Update on Library Facilities and Equipment

The book return bins at Ocean Park Branch are being relocated. The bin is very close to the corner and cars keep hitting the bin. The bin is being relocated by 2-3 feet.

Fairview Branch construction is scheduled to start mid to late August and the construction contract is for 6 months.

The Pico Branch was awarded a Platinum LEED rating. It is the first City facility in Santa Monica to be awarded a Platinum LEED rating.

Update on Library Security and Safety

There are currently three library suspensions and two court ordered stay-aways.

What Are You Reading?

The Boardmembers discussed the books they are reading.

Agenda Building

The Library Board asked that the following items be included in the next Library Board agenda: a presentation of the 2015/16 Library budget; a review of the Santa Monica History Museum lease and annual report; a discussion of the 2014/15 annual statistics; and a report on the Pop-Up Beach Library.

Adjournment

On the order of the Chair, Kathie Sheldon, the meeting was adjourned at 8:34 p.m.

Attest:

Approved:

Claudia Fishler
Assistant City Librarian

Kathleen Sheldon
Library Board Chair

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