

CITY OF SANTA MONICA LIBRARY BOARD



Minutes of the SPECIAL Meeting of September 10, 2015 To Be Approved

Call to Order	A SPECIAL meeting of the Santa Monica Library Board was called to order by Chairperson, Kathie Sheldon, at 6:10 p.m., Thursday, September 10, 2015 at the Main Library, Community Meeting Room, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., Santa Monica.	
Roll Call	PRESENT:	Boardmember Victor Davich, Boardmember Marc Morgenstern (via conference call), Chairperson Kathie Sheldon and Boardmember Bryce Snell
	ABSENT:	Vice Chair Ken Blackwell
	ALSO PRESENT:	Shawn Landres, member of the public; Lucien Plauzoles, member of the public; Maureen Sullivan, Organizational Consultant; Maria Carpenter, Library Director; Wright Rix, Principal Librarian for Reference Services, Acting City Librarian; Claudia Fishler, Assistant City Librarian; Greco Venegas, Principal Librarian for Information Management; Cecilia Tovar, Principal Librarian for Public and Branch Services; Erica Cuyugan, Fairview Branch Manager; Kara Steiniger, Librarian III, Information Management; Paul Zhou, Lead Systems Analyst; Roger Kelly, Youth Services Coordinator; Silvia Cisneros, Pico Branch Manager; Nancy Bender, Librarian II, Public Services; Rachel Foyt, Administrative Analyst
Public Input	Shawn Landres resident of Sunset Park and Chair of the Innovation Technology Task Force offered the Task Force's support for the Library Strategic Plan.	
Library Board Discussion and Approval of the Santa Monica Public Library Strategic Plan	Maureen Sullivan, Organizational Consultant guided the Library Board through the Santa Monica Public Library Strategic Plan.	

The Board reviewed the four strategic focus areas: Vibrant Learning Center; Wellbeing Cultivator; Dynamic Third Place and Community and Cultural Connector.

Boardmember Marc Morgenstern questioned how the term literacy is being used in the Vibrant Learning Center strategic focus area. Forms of literacy other than reading are important to note such as; financial, technology and coding.

Maria Carpenter, Library Director responded that the literacy addressed in the section SMPL as Vibrant Learning Center was a broad use of the term was multi-modal and encompassed all forms of literacy including reading, financial, technological, and coding.

Boardmember Victor Davich stated that he supports innovation and change but feels the fundamental issue of safety is missing from the strategic plan.

Maureen Sullivan responded that the issues of safety and cleanliness did come up in the community forums and in discussions with staff. However, those issues would be addressed as specific objectives in the plan. They are conditions that need to be addressed in partnership with other community agencies and with support from the community.

Boardmember Marc Morgenstern questioned as to if there were statistics that demonstrate any kind of negative attendance in recent years attributed to safety concerns.

Ms. Carpenter explained that statistics are kept related to disruptive behavior but they did not show a correlation between negative attendance and safety concerns.

Boardmember Marc Morgenstern asked if a strategic goal should be to increase user ship among 20 and 30 year olds.

Ms. Carpenter stated that as the Library shifts toward implementation staff will look at the different populations that the Library serves.

Boardmember Bryce Snell asked for clarification between the goals in the Wellbeing Cultivator and those of the Community and Cultural Connector sections.

Ms. Carpenter explained that the goals in the Community and Cultural Connector are focused on strategic partnerships and collective impact whereas Wellbeing encapsulates everything the Library does.

Boardmember Victor Davich asked where the funding for the potential programs and changes will come from.

Ms. Carpenter explained that staff will request capital improvement project funds and look at ways to refocus some of the Library's resources for the projects. Grant funding for projects will also be explored.

Boardmember Victor Davich asked if the Library was becoming an educational and continuing educational facility as opposed to a Library that can facilitate others who offer educational opportunities.

Ms. Carpenter explained that much of what the Library does is around providing opportunities for life-long learning as well as programs for after school time and early literacy.

Motion by Boardmember Marc Morgenstern, seconded by Boardmember Bryce Snell to approve the Library Strategic Plan as discussed. The motion was approved by the following vote:

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

NOES: Boardmember Victor Davich

ABSTAINING: None

ABSENT: Vice Chair Ken Blackwell

Agenda Building

The Library Board asked for a report from Youth Services on the 2015 Summer Reading Program. The next Board meeting will be in November.

Adjournment

On the order of the Chair, Kathie Sheldon, the meeting was adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Attest:

Approved:

Maria Carpenter
Library Director

Kathleen Sheldon
Library Board Chair

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