Minutes of the REGULAR Meeting of May 4, 2017
To Be Approved

Call to Order

A REGULAR meeting of the Santa Monica Library Board was called to order by 
Chair, Marc Morgenstern, at 7:00 p.m., Thursday, May 4, 2017 at the Main Library, 
Administrative Conference Room, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., Santa Monica.

Roll Call

PRESENT: Boardmember Victor Davich, Chair Marc 
Morgenstern, Boardmember Lucien Plauzoles, 
Boardmember Kathleen Sheldon, and Vice 
Chair Bryce Snell

ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Robert Graves, Librarian I Public Services; 
Priscilla Bouvet, Executive Administrative 
Assistant; Patty Wong, Director of Library 
Services; and Norma Angel, Senior 
Administrative Analyst

Public Input

None.

Approval of the Library Board Minutes

Motion by Boardmember Lucien Plauzoles, seconded by Boardmember Victor 
Davich to approve the minutes of the Library Board meeting of April 13, 2017. The 
motion was approved by the following vote:

AYES: Boardmember Victor Davich, Chairperson Marc Morgenstern, and 
Boardmember Lucien Plauzoles

NOES: None

ABSTAINING: Boardmember Kathleen Sheldon and Vice Chair Bryce Snell

ABSENT: None

Library Staff Introductions - 
Introduction of Executive 
Administrative Assistant Priscilla 
Bouvet

Patty Wong Director of Library Services introduced Priscilla Bouvet the new 
Executive Administrative Assistant in Library Administration. Ms. Bouvet started on 
May 1, 2017.

Wrap Up Report on 
Santa Monica 
Reads Program

Robert Graves Librarian I Public Service reported on the 2017 Santa Monica Reads 
program held February 25 through March 30. Santa Monica Reads is a community 
reading program that invites Santa Monica residents and visitors to read the same 
book and then come together in book discussions and special events to talk about
In 2017, the Library celebrated the fifteenth anniversary of Santa Monica Reads by reading *Fun Home: A Family Tragicomic* by Alison Bechdel. This was the first year the committee selected a non-fiction graphic novel.

The program launched on February 25 with An Afternoon With Alison Bechdel. There were a number of special events and programs throughout the program including: Scott McCloud: Comics & the Art of Visual Communication; Cartoon Your Story Workshop Series with Carlos Nieto III; The Cartoon Self with Charles Hatfield; Women to Watch Out For: Women in Comics Panel; The Bechdel-Wallace Test: Women in Film Panel; book discussions and movie screenings.

Mr. Graves reported on the Library’s Fierce Friday event held on Friday, April 28, 2017 in conjunction with YALLWEST the young adult book festival. Over 1,000 people attended the event, which included signings by 16 young adult authors. Authors included Shannon Hale, Dean Hale, Veronica Roth, Roshani Chokshi, Caleb Roehrig, James Dashner, Kami Garcia, Nicola Yoon, Kate Hart, Victoria Aveyard, Alexandra Bracken, Danielle Paige, Rachel Renée Russell, Ryan North, Maurene Goo, S. Jae-Jones and more.

In addition to the author signings, there was Teen Trivia, retro video games, post-it murals, a photo booth, and a coloring area.

About 17,000 people attended the YALLWEST event on Saturday, April 29 at Santa Monica High School.

Ms. Wong reported to the Board on the Library budget. The Library is scheduled to present its budget during City Council budget hearings scheduled on May 23 and May 24.

Ms. Wong met with Danielle Noble, Assistant Director, Community and Cultural Services and Maggie Willis, Human Service Manager to begin talking about a collaborative approach to homeless services.

Ms. Wong plans to begin meeting weekly with the homeless community in the North Courtyard prior to the Library opening.

Library leadership reviewed existing and prospective new services, shifting collections, and the need for expanding services at the Main Library in light of the Strategic Plan priorities.

The Library received a virtual reality grant.

Santa Monica Public Library is now a registered location to host student interns from the San Jose State University School of Information. The University of Southern California Center for Library Leadership and Management is also interested in sending interns to the Library.
The Fairview Branch Manager position is vacant. An interim Manager will be selected and serve from three to six months until the position is filled.

The Friends of the Library Bookstore was open during the Fierce Friday event and generated many sales of young adult and children’s materials.

A group of Friends leadership and Library staff plans to meet with the Palos Verdes Library District Friends and Library leadership for ideas on diversification of fundraising and organizational development.

Ms. Wong and Erica Cuyugan Assistant City Librarian met with Antonio Spears of the Santa Monica Library Foundation.

The automated handling system at the Pico Branch is scheduled for replacement in Fall 2017. The system is under warranty.

Single stall restrooms in the Library will be converted to family and transgender restrooms.

The Library has six active stay away orders and six bans.

Chair Morgenstern reported that at the April Board meeting the Board requested Library staff draft a resolution in support of the American Library Association’s Resolution on Access to Accurate Information.

Board discussion followed. Boardmember Davich commented that digital literacy is a board topic and it needs further definition. He said staff should be neutral, impartial, and unbiased when developing, offering and teaching patrons how to use and weigh information.

Motion by Boardmember Kathleen Sheldon, seconded by Boardmember Lucien Plauzoles to approve the resolution as written and presented to the Board. The motion was approved by the following vote:

AYES: Chairperson Marc Morgenstern, Boardmember Lucien Plauzoles, Boardmember Kathleen Sheldon, and Vice Chair Bryce Snell

NOES: Boardmember Victor Davich

ABSTAINING: None

ABSENT: None

Library Staff presented a draft letter for Library Board review and approval in support of funding for the Institute of Museum and Library Services.
Board discussion followed.

Motion by Boardmember Lucien Plauzoles, seconded by Vice Chair Bryce Snell to send the letter as written and presented to the Board to Representative Ted Lieu, Senator Diane Feinstein, Senator Kamala Harris and the Budget Appropriations Committee. The motion was approved by the following vote:

AYES: Chairperson Marc Morgenstern, Boardmember Lucien Plauzoles, Boardmember Kathleen Sheldon, and Vice Chair Bryce Snell

NOES: Boardmember Victor Davich

ABSTAINING: None

ABSENT: None

The Library Board continued its discussion from the April Board meeting of forming ad hoc Library Board Committees.

Chair Marc Morgenstern spoke to the Board about broadening the Library Board’s reach and getting more people involved in the Library Board through the formation of ad hoc committees on outreach and advocacy.

Boardmember Lucien Plauzoles suggested a Board development committee focusing on outreach to attract candidates for Library Board vacancies, liaising with City staff and City Council about the types of Boardmembers that are needed on the Library Board.

Motion by Vice Chair Bryce Snell, seconded by Boardmember Kathleen Sheldon to create one ad hoc Board Development committee chaired by Boardmember Lucien Plauzoles to explore the possibilities and rationales for expanding the size of the Library Board. The motion was approved by the following vote:

AYES: Boardmember Victor Davich, Chairperson Marc Morgenstern, Boardmember Lucien Plauzoles, Boardmember Kathleen Sheldon, and Vice Chair Bryce Snell

NOES: None

ABSTAINING: None

ABSENT: None

Ms. Wong reported that staff are working to develop a number of programs in complement to the Library services and collections to focus on tolerance, equity, diversity, and inclusion.

Ms. Wong reported that she was asked to sit on a regional consortium of academics and public officials who are interested in increasing awareness and
The Board reviewed the Library holiday calendar and the Library’s calendar of planned events and programs.

Boardmember Victor Davich reported on an article in *Library Journal* on library security and safety.

Boardmembers discussed attending the Alison Bechdel presentation and the Fierce Friday event.

The Board shared the books they are reading.

No items.

On the order of the Chair, Marc Morgenstern, the meeting was adjourned at 8:57 p.m.

Attest:  
Patricia Wong  
Director of Library Services

Approved:  
Marc Morgenstern  
Library Board Chair

This document is available in alternate format upon request. The Santa Monica Public Library is wheelchair accessible. For special disability accommodations contact Library Administration at (310) 458-8606 at least 3 days prior to the scheduled meeting.