CITY OF SANTA MONICA
LIBRARY BOARD

Minutes of the REGULAR Meeting of April 5, 2018
To Be Approved

Call to Order
Chair, Marc Morgenstern, called a REGULAR meeting of the Santa Monica Library Board to order at 7:01 p.m., Thursday, April 5, 2018 at the Main Library, Administrative Conference Room, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., Santa Monica.

Roll Call

PRESENT: Chair Marc Morgenstern, Vice Chair Lucien Plauzoles, Boardmember Naomi Seligman, and Boardmember Kathleen Sheldon

ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Patty Wong, Director of Library Services; Greco Venegas, Principal Librarian for Information Management; Nancy Bender, Librarian III Public Services; Lou Enriquez, Supervisor Library Services Officer; Alisa Orduna, Senior Advisor to the City Manager on Homelessness; Brian Hardgrave, Senior Administrative Analyst; Erika Aklufi, Sergeant, Homeless Liaison Program (HLP); Robert Graves, Fairview Branch Manager; Kathy Lo, Librarian II, Reference Services; Rachel Foyt, Senior Administrative Analyst; Tara McKinney, community member; and Marsha Berkowitz, community member

Public Input
None

Approval of Minutes of the Library Board Meetings of February 1, 2018 and March 1, 2018
Motion by Boardmember Kathleen Sheldon, seconded by Vice Chair Lucien Plauzoles to approve the minutes of the Library Board meeting of February 1, 2018. The motion was approved by the following vote:

AYES: Chair Marc Morgenstern, Vice Chair Lucien Plauzoles, Boardmember Naomi Seligman and Boardmember Kathleen Sheldon

NOES: None

ABSTAINING: None
ABSENT EXCUSED: None
ABSENT: None

Motion by Vice Chair Lucien Plauzoles, seconded by Boardmember Naomi Seligman to approve the minutes of the Library Board meeting of March 1, 2018. The motion was approved by the following vote:

AYES: Chair Marc Morgenstern, Vice Chair Lucien Plauzoles, Boardmember Naomi Seligman and Boardmember Kathleen Sheldon

NOES: None
ABSTAINING: None

The Facilities Master Plan will move forward in the budgeting process.

The RFP and implementation of a new Integrated Library System will be initiated using one time only funds.

California State Librarian Greg Lucas visited Santa Monica Public Library on March 12.

In mid-April the Library will hold Read Away Your Fines for youth to remove fines from their record through reading.

The Library is exploring options with Parking and Traffic for a 90-minute parking validation.

Legislative update on Federal and State funding

The Library Board requested Library staff draft a letter addressing two points regarding the 90-minute parking validations. First, that indefinitely, the Library would not be assessed for the cost of the 90-minute parking validations. Secondly, that the validation solution that Parking and Traffic decides on respects the amount of time and attention needed from staff and minimizes that need.

Nancy Bender, Librarian III, Public Services reported on the Santa Monica Reads Program. 2018 marks the sixteenth year of the annual community reading program. Santa Monica Reads provides an opportunity for people to engage, read and discuss the same book through guided conversation in discussion groups and special programs held throughout the city May 12 – June 16, 2018.

This year’s selection, Farewell to Manzanar, Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston’s poignant memoir, tells the story of her Japanese American family’s experience during World War II and its aftermath. The book opens on December 7, 1941,
when news of the bombing of Pearl Harbor sets into motion a series of events that would forever change the lives of the Wakatsukis and other American families of Japanese descent.

Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston will be speaking at the kickoff event at the Main Library on Saturday, May 12.

Alisa Orduna, Senior Advisor to the City Manager on Homelessness and Brian Hardgrave, Senior Administrative Analyst, Community and Cultural Services reported on the results of the 2018 homeless count. The local homeless count increased 4% with 957 individuals counted. In addition to the count City Staff conducts a demographic survey in cooperation with homeless individuals. Locally, City Council allocated 1.5 million in funding to help address homeless issues. The homeless multidisciplinary team had launched and works in downtown Santa Monica.

The City released a Homelessness Toolkit which helps the community know how to help those in need and understand the issue.

Sergeant Erika Aklufi, Homeless Liaison Program (HLP) discussed the way City Departments are working together and with Caltrans to address issues related to homelessness and the impact on the community.

Mr. Hardgrave spoke about the pop-up resource fairs being held at the Main Library. The fairs help people connect to local and county resources including: public benefits; counseling; case management; housing assistance; employment services; and youth services.

Lou Enriquez, Supervisor, Library Services Officer reported on Library safety and security. Three new Library Services Officers were hired. A Services Officer will be posted at both entrances and additional patrols will be conducted at Main and the Branches.

Patty Wong, Director of Library Services distributed an updated draft copy of the Library Rules of Conduct for the Library Board’s review. The rules have been organized into similar categories. She reported that the City Attorney’s Office stated the rules need to be more specific in order to prosecute individuals who break the Rules of Conduct. Staff continues to meet with the City Attorney’s Office to streamline the rules.

Library staff will work on placement, enforcement, and consistency of the Rules of Conduct.

Greco Venegas, Principal Librarian for Information Management Division created and distributed a glossary based on questions from the March 1 Library Board meeting.
Motion by Vice Chair Lucien Plauzoles, seconded by Boardmember Naomi Seligman to approve the Library 3-5 year technology plan. The motion was approved by the following vote:

AYES: Chair Marc Morgenstern, Vice Chair Lucien Plauzoles, Boardmember Naomi Seligman and Boardmember Kathleen Sheldon

NOES: None

ABSTAINING: None

ABSENT EXCUSED: None

ABSENT: None

Robert Graves, Fairview Branch Manager met with Marsha Berkowitz the current events class organizer to discuss meeting room usage.

The Boardmembers reported on working groups.

No report.

Board discussion of Library outreach services to individuals experiencing homelessness and the homeless coalition meeting that was held at the Main Library.

Board discussion of adding a ballot initiative to increase the number of boardmembers on the Library Board.

The Board discussed an article on Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library.

Vice Chair Lu Plauzoles visited Senator Ben Allen’s office as part of California Library Association’s Day in the District.
The Boardmembers discussed the books they are reading.

The Boardmembers are available to attend the May 3, 2018 Library Board meeting and the Annual Boards & Commissions Dinner on Monday, April 30.

There is interest from the Board in attending the Serving with a Purpose Workshop in Ontario, CA on Wednesday, May 2, 2018.

The Board would like to include in a future agenda:
- Further discussion of Library Board development
- Approval of the Rules of Conduct
- Discussion of Publicity for Library Board meetings

On the order of the Chair, Marc Morgenstern, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Attest: Patricia Wong
Approved: Marc Morgenstern
Library Director
Library Board Chair

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