



# CITY OF SANTA MONICA LIBRARY BOARD

## Minutes of the Meeting of April 11, 2019 To Be Approved

<b>Call to Order</b>	Chair, Marc Morgenstern, called a special meeting of the Santa Monica Library Board to order at 7:03 p.m., Thursday, April 11, 2019 in the Main Library, Administrative Conference Room, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., Santa Monica.
<b>Roll Call</b>	<b>PRESENT:</b> Chair Marc Morgenstern, Vice Chair Lucien Plauzoles, Boardmember Naomi Seligman, and Boardmember Kathleen Sheldon  <b>ABSENT:</b> Boardmember Arlene Hopkins  <b>ALSO PRESENT:</b> Patty Wong, Director of Library Services; Rachel Foyt, Senior Administrative Analyst
<b>Closed Session: Discussion of the Library Budget Fiscal Year 2019/2021 and Related Human Resources</b>	The Board discussed of the Library budget for fiscal year 2019/2021 and the related human resources issues.
<b>Public Input</b>	None
<b>Approval of Minutes of the Library Board Meetings of March 7, 2019</b>	Approval of the March 7, 2019 minutes was tabled.
<b>Secretary's Report</b>	Patty Wong, Director of Library Services, highlighted information from the secretary's report: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The Library Board was invited to attend the three Facilities Master Plan presentations on May 7, 2019 at 9:00 AM, 11:00 AM, and 1:30 PM</li><li>• Library Staff, Ingha Chopra, was elected to the Silbert Award</li><li>• Friends of the Santa Monica Public Library elevated Santa Monica Reads by donating 50 copies of <i>The Hate You Give</i> by Angie Thomas to each Olympic High and Santa Monica High School</li><li>• Ms. Wong encouraged the Boardmembers to support legislation ACA 1, a constitutional amendment by Assemblywoman Cecilia Aguiar-</li></ul>

Curry which would lower the local vote threshold for local construction bonds and special taxes from the current two-thirds vote to 55%. The bill would establish the same local vote threshold that is currently authorized for K-12 school construction bonds and bring about equality for all local government projects, such as housing, road repair, libraries, and parks

- Ilene Miner, as-needed social worker, is scheduled to start work April 15, 2019
- The two limited term Library Services Officer positions were not converted to permanent positions but were extend for two years

**Library Board  
Discussion of 2018-  
19 Library Board  
Goals:**

Patty Wong, Director of Library Services, reported that on April 23, 2019 the Budget Staff Report for fiscal year 2019/2021 will be issued to Council and discussion of the staff report will be held at the April 30, 2019 Council meeting.

**Advocacy,  
Outreach &  
Partnership**

The Board discussed what role they should have in the budgetary process. Chair Marc Morgenstern and Boardmember Naomi Seligman plan to draft talking points for the Library Boardmembers.

**Promotion &  
Communication**

Chair Marc Morgenstern noted the general communication and postings from the Library seems to be stronger, interesting, and more fun.

Boardmember Kathleen Sheldon commented that with the approaching budget cuts the Library look for opportunities to communicate the importance of the Library. Upcoming events that could be leveraged are: Arts & Literacy Festival (04/27/2019), Fierce Friday (05/03/2019), Free Comic Book Day (05/04/2019).

In support of the communications and promotions of the Library Chair Marc Morgenstern volunteered to write a monthly article about the Library that could be featured in the local media.

**Patron Experience**

Director Wong reported that demographic data from the new analytics tool, Sisense, shows that out of the more than 66,000 Library card holders, 30 to 40-year-olds are the most active, in terms of circulation and participation.

Library staff are working on a Library communication plan. Boardmember Naomi Seligman offered to review the plan.

**Library Board  
Working Group  
Report**

No update.

**Discussion of  
Eliminating Fines  
for Overdue Library  
Material to Improve  
Access to SMPL**

Boardmembers tabled discussion of eliminating fines for overdue Library material until the budget process with the City has been completed.

**Discussion of Library Board Development & Recruitment of New Boardmembers**

- The Library Board needs to recruit two new boardmembers:
- Boardmember Kathleen Sheldon terms out at the end of June
  - Chair Marc Morgenstern resigning at the end of June

The Board discussed strategies to reach out and engage the community:

- social media
- neighborhood associations and organizations
- schools
- Library Branch Managers through the Adopt-A-Branch Program
- City Clerk Posting
- Friends of the Library Bookstore

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

Skye Patrick, Director of the Los Angeles County Library was named Library Journal's 2019 Librarian of the Year.

**Reports from Library Boardmembers on Their Attendance at Library Programs or on Conversations with the Community**

No report.

**Future Agenda Items**

Future agenda items include:

- Report on the budget status from the April 30, 2019 Council meeting
- Outreach efforts on Library board recruitment
- Sisense data on Library user experience
- Invite Ilene Miner, as-needed social worker
- Update on the Communications Plan
- Update from the Library Foundation of Santa Monica
- Schedule a joint meeting with the Friends of the Library regarding fundraising
- Boards & Commissions Dinner will be held on Monday, April 29, 2019

**Adjournment**

Chair Marc Morgenstern adjourned the meeting at 8:43 pm.

Attest:

Approved:

Patricia Wong

Marc Morgenstern

Library Director

Library Board Chair

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