



**MINUTES
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
SANTA MONICA PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD
THURSDAY, MARCH 4, 2021
7:00PM**

**SPECIAL MEETING VIA
TELECONFERENCE PURSUANT TO
EXECUTIVE ORDER N-29-20 ISSUED BY,
GOVERNOR GAVIN NEWSOM**

Call to Order

Chair Lucien Plauzoles called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Roll Call

The following persons were recorded in attendance by the Recording Secretary:

Present: Chair Lucien Plauzoles, Vice Chair Arlene Hopkins, Boardmember John Hart, Boardmember Marcia Ferreira and Boardmember Michael Klein.

Also present: Patty Wong, Director of Library Services; Priscilla Bouvet, Executive Administrative Assistant; Greco Venegas, Principal Librarian

(This is a special Library Board meeting. Public comment is restricted to only items listed on the agenda.)

1. Reports of Staff Liaisons/Members:

- A. Secretary's Report, Patty Wong, Director of Library Services**
 - a. Update on City of Santa Monica and Library Budgets
 - b. Update on Library Operations
 - c. Update on Library Partnerships
 - d. Update on Library Safety and Security

Report highlights from Director Wong.

The City presented a report to Council for its efforts to address homelessness in which the Library was featured highlighting its partnerships and work to address homelessness while promoting a safe and welcoming environment for all.

Approval for ongoing funding of \$30,000 have been allocated for library pages. Along with funding requests for the implementation of Open + at Ocean Park Branch, new position youth services position and additional support for library pages was submitted as part of the Biennial Budget process.

With the passing of Measure SM, the Library will is set to receive ongoing funding but amount has yet to be determined by the City.

A notification was sent out to all Los Angeles County libraries announcing that staff serving youth would be eligible to receive the COVID vaccination.

An overview of the timeline for reimagining the Library was shared along with identification of the three key areas: Collections, Technology and Patron Services, Community Engagement and Programming, and Administration and Business Services.

Plauzoles inquired for plans to staff the Branches.

Hart inquired to the percentage of the budget allocated to security and if a possibility to pass security costs to other departments such as the Santa Monica Police Department was possible.

Hopkins questioned whether imaginative and future trends were being incorporated, including request to seek community engagement. Hopkins remarked whether operation costs for the Main Library were being considered to better manage costs.

Hart remarked on the idea of opening all four neighborhood branches and closing the Main Library. Hopkins suggested an analysis be completed.

Klein shared observation over the importance of seeking public comment to ensure full scope received vs. only receiving feedback from those receiving services. In addition, Mr. Klein commended staff for their work during the pandemic.

2. Approval of Minutes:

- A.** Staff recommends that the Library Board approve the minutes of the November 5, 2020 Special Library Board meeting.

MOTION

Klein moved and Hopkins seconded a motion to approve minutes of November 5, 2020 Special Library Board meeting as amended. The motion was approved by the following vote:

AYES: Plauzoles, Hopkins, Hart, Ferreira, Klein

NOES: None

ABSTAINING: None

ABSENT: None

3. New Business:

- A. Ocean Park Branch, Open + presentation and status update by Greco Venegas, Principal Librarian.

Mr. Venegas gave an overview of the California State Library Grant received allowing SMPL to implement a self-service model at its Ocean Park Branch Library using Open + through a partnership with Bibliotheca. The self-service model would require minimal staffing, provide an opportunity to reopen Ocean Park Branch to the community in a limited capacity and while providing highly desired services such as access to computers and the collection, self check-out and wi-fi. Pilot would include opening Ocean Park Branch 12 hours a week with minimal staffing. City staff will be coordinating tours for council members once ready.

Hopkins inquired whether HVAC fresh air exchanges were being considered and sanitation plans.

Ferreira asked for clarification of the logistics involved with the mandated user agreement and how it would work for individuals and families using facility.

Klein questioned camera set-up and privacy issues that may arise.

Board discussed the following future agenda items:

- Report on the current condition of the collection, how much has been lost or not returned (due to no late fees) and damaged
- Drafting of letter to City Council during budget review
- Analysis for closing the Main Library and opening all four branches

Adjournment

MOTION

Chair adjourned meeting at 8:58 p.m.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Patricia Wong
Director of Library Services

Lucien Plauzoles
Library Board Chair

STANDARDS OF BEHAVIOR THAT PROMOTE CIVILITY AT ALL PUBLIC MEETINGS:

- Treat everyone courteously;
- Listen to others respectfully;
- Exercise self-control;
- Give open-minded consideration to all viewpoints;
- Focus on the issues and avoid personalizing debate;
- Embrace respectful disagreement and dissent as democratic rights, inherent components of an inclusive public process, and tools for forging sound decisions

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Any person wishing to speak to the Library Board may do so under "Public Input," or to address an agenda item by first presenting their name, address and/or affiliation with an organization if any. All remarks shall be addressed to the Library Board as a body, and not to any one member thereof. All persons shall be given three minutes to make a presentation.

This agenda is subject to change up to 72 hours prior to a regular meeting and 24 hours prior to a special. Please check the agenda for prior to the meeting for changes.

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