



MINUTES

SANTA MONICA PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD

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

<https://primetime.bluejeans.com/a2m/live-event/ustughjh>

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2021

7:00 P.M.

Call to Order

Chair Plauzoles called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

Roll Call

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

Present: Chair Lu Plauzoles
Boardmember Marcia Ferreira
Boardmember Michael Klein
Boardmember Abby Arnold

Also present: Erica Cuyugan, Interim City Librarian
Priscilla Bouvet, Executive Admin. Assistant
Norma Angel, Senior Admin. Analyst
Greco Venegas, Principal Librarian – Collections, Technology & Patron Services
Susan Lamb, Principal Librarian – Administrative & Business Services
Cecilia Tovar, Principal Librarian – Community Engagement & Programming

1. Special Agenda Items

a. Swearing-In and Oath of Office of new Library Boardmember Abby Arnold

Abby Arnold was sworn-in and welcomed as a board member to the Library Board.

b. Secretary's Report

Report highlights from Interim City Librarian, Erica Cuyugan.

City issued new COVID-19 vaccination policy for all Santa Monica City employees, volunteers, members of Council, Boards, Commissions, Task Forces and certain contractors be vaccinated for COVID-19, absent a medical or religious exemption.

Klein objected to City's new COVID-19 vaccination policy on the grounds that it violates his civil liberties. Klein was advised by City staff that the Clerk's Office respond to any questions related to the City's new COVID-19 policy.

Patty Wong concluded her role as library director on November 3 and accepting a new position with the City Santa Clara.

The Library concluded its Integrated Library System (ILS) migration. Staff continue to iron out wrinkles in system.

Summer Reading wrapped up with 1,089 total registered with 270,030 minutes read.

Santa Monica Reads wrapped up with 57 special virtual events, 61 virtual book discussions, 29 post-program YouTube views and 100 book giveaways.

Two in-person programs are scheduled to be piloted in the month of September and will be held outdoors.

Two Librarian I's are being welcomed back. The Library continues to work on bringing back staff through additional funding received.

Friends of the Santa Monica Public Library continues to work towards opening its bookstore.

Plauzoles praised Ms. Wong's effort to promote the Library's independence with City leadership and Council until the day she left the City.

- c. Presentation on the Library's collection and development
 - i. Greco Venegas, Principal Librarian – Collections, Technology and Patron Services

Presentation included impacts on collections and materials access; service modifications and adapting to change during the pandemic: no late fees, e-library card, phone and email support; overview of effects of COVID-19 and budget reductions; overview of the Library's electronic resources funding allocations and snapshot of e-audio and e-books use during the pandemic.

- 2. Consent Calendar: All items will be considered and approved in one motion unless removed by a member for discussion.

MOTION

Plauzoles moved and Ferreira seconded a motion to approve the Consent Calendar. The motion carried unanimously.

The Consent Calendar consisted of the following items:

- a. Approval of the minutes for the May 13, 2021 Special Library Board meeting
- 3. Staff Administrative Items
 - a. Quarterly meeting schedule for 2022 reviewed: January 6, 2022, April 7, 2022, July 7, 2022, and October 6, 2022.

4. Library Board Member Discussion Items
 - a. Staff recommendation to explore eliminating Fines with City leadership for overdue library materials for adults resulting in the removal of barriers to access and supporting economic recovering.
 - i. Erica Cuyugan, Interim City Librarian

MOTION

Arnold moved and Ferreira seconded a motion to approve and move forward with exploring the elimination of Fines with City leadership. The motion was approved by the following vote:

AYES: Arnold, Ferreira, and Plauzoles

NOES: None

ABSTAINING: Klein

ABSENT: None

- b. Discussion of need for diversified funding for the future of Library
 - i. Erica Cuyugan, Interim City Librarian

Board members expressed interest in exploring opportunities to seek diversified funding for the Library. More discussion needed.

5. Closed Session

On order of the Chair, the Board recessed at 8:29 p.m., to consider closed session and returned at 8:50 p.m., to report the following:

7.A Conference to identify participation for providing input for the recruitment of new Library Director

Library board members and City staff discussed tentative recruitment timeline, gathered input and requests for the Board's participation in the recruitment process. No reportable action taken.

Adjournment

Chair Plauzoles adjourned the meeting at 8:50 p.m.

Attest:

Approved:

Erica Cuyugan

Interim City Librarian

Lucien Plauzoles

Chair