



SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA
SANTA MONICA PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD

SANTA MONICA PICO BRANCH LIBRARY
2201 PICO BLVD.
SANTA MONICA, CA 90405
ANNEX MEETING ROOM

THURSDAY, JANUARY 12, 2023
MEETING BEGINS AT 6:00 P.M.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a special meeting of the SANTA MONICA PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD will be held at 6:00 P.M., on Thursday, January 12 at Pico Branch Library.

Call to Order
Roll Call

Please note that Agenda Items may be reordered during the meeting at the discretion of the body.

1. Special Agenda Items

- a. Tour of Pico Branch Library
 - i. Nancy Bender, Librarian III - Branch Operations
- b. Introduction of New Assistant City Librarian, Cecilia Tovar
 - i. Erica Cuyugan, City Librarian
- c. Secretary's Report
 - i. Erica Cuyugan, City Librarian

2. Consent Calendar: Staff recommends approval of the following Regular Library Board meeting minutes:

- a. November 10, 2022

3. Continued Items

- a. 11/10/22: Request and Select a Board Representative to Attend Neighborhood Group Meetings in the New Year with City Librarian Erica Cuyugan

4. **Library Board Member Discussion Items**

- a. Discussion to Explore Alternate Funding Opportunities with Friends of the Library
 - i. Erica Cuyugan, City Librarian
 - ii. Judith Meister, Library Board Chair
- b. Discussion of Nationwide Current Library Trends
 - i. Library Board Members
- c. Future Long-Term Agenda Planning
 - i. Library Board Members

5. **Written Communication**

6. **Public Input:** Public input is permitted only on items not on the agenda that are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the body. State law prohibits the body from taking any action on items not listed on the agenda, including issues raised under this agenda item. (Can be omitted for special meetings.)

Adjournment

STANDARDS OF BEHAVIOR THAT PROMOTE CIVILITY AT ALL PUBLIC MEETINGS:

- Treat everyone courteously
- Listen to others respectfully
- 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

This agenda is available in alternate formats upon request. The Santa Monica Public Library is wheelchair accessible. If you require any special disability related accommodations (i.e. sign language interpreting, access to an amplified sound system, etc.), please contact the Administration Office, Santa Monica Public Library at (310) 458-8606 or priscilla.bouvet@santamonica.gov at least 7 days prior to the scheduled meeting.

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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Transportation Information: City of Santa Monica Big Blue Bus Lines 5 and 7 serve Virginia Avenue Park. Surface parking is available at Virginia Avenue Park off Pico Blvd and Virginia Avenue.

**Library Board, Santa Monica Public Library
Secretary's Report
January 2023**

Citywide:

On December 6, the City welcomed two new Councilmembers, Caroline Torosis and Jesse Zwick and one returning Councilmember, Lana Negrete. The newly installed City Council selected Glean Davis to serve a one-year term as Santa Monica's mayor with Phil Brock serving a one-year term for the second year of the two-year mayoral term. Lana Negrete was selected as mayor pro tempore for two years.

This year's annual **Santa Monica Homeless Count** will be held on January 25, 2023, 11 p.m. to 3 a.m. It is conducted as part of the Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count. Volunteer teams will go out into the community and count people experiencing homelessness on every block of the City.

The annual **State of the City** will be held on February 7, 2023, 5:30 p.m. virtually. To [Learn more](#).

Beginning in March, **Board and Commission** public meetings are expected to return to in-person with the ending of the COVID-19 State of Emergency on February 28th.

Santa Monica Public Library Operations:

Programming

Santa Monica Public Libraries wrapped up 2022 with many great programs and events in the month of December.

LEAF Year-End Celebration: On Thursday, December 1, SMPL's Literacy Education for Adults and Families (LEAF) staff celebrated the tutors, learners, and graduates with dinner and a presentation at the Main Library. Below are highlights for Adult Literacy in 2022, including celebrating Perla Gonzalez, our 21st graduate from the [Career Online High School \(COHS\)](#) program. Ms. Gonzalez received her high school diploma and Career Certificate in Hospitality and Leisure. Her husband and 2 children also attended the celebration and were very proud of her accomplishments.



2022 Adult Literacy Program Achievements include:

- 27 Tutor/Learner Pairs
- Over 550 Hours of tutoring
- Over 840 hours of volunteer time donated
- Relunched Walk-in Tutoring
- Opened Main Library Tutoring Center
- Added E-Media Collection for Adult Learners
- New Partnership with Digital Navigator

Fairview and Ocean Park Branch Open House - Open houses were held at two self-service library locations: Fairview and Ocean Park Branch. Both were a huge success! Visitors had the opportunity to sign up and learn more about self-service, check out books, connect with staff, enjoy desserts while little ones enjoyed winter-themed craft tables. Fairview Branch held a special story time with puppets and songs.



The open houses saw a total of 194 visitors branches, with 43 signing up for self-service.



Library staff supported **Virginia Avenue Park's Annual Las Posadas** celebration by providing free books in English and Spanish, hosting activities and connecting community members with library resources. Studies have shown that more books in the home equate to increased reading readiness for school and stronger literacy skills.

Parents, caregivers, and babies had a "ball" at **Baby Winter Ball!** Little ones were able to show off their fancy outfits and have their photo taken, while listening to stories, dancing, playing with a parachute, and ball pit.



The **Winter Solstice Light-Up Card Workshop** held in the Main Library central courtyard drew a robust crowd of 50 people, who enjoyed figuring out how to create LED card designs and circuits.



New Year, New Job with Chrysalis. Pico Branch began the year by hosting two events with Chrysalis focused on providing job and career assistance, including help with resumes and cover letters. Participants also learned and obtained information on career assistance programs and services that are available through Chrysalis.

This month's **Take & Make Kit** is a collaborative with the **Cayton Children's Museum**. The kit includes a collaborative art project that engages the whole family in meaningful talks about feelings while creating a family art masterpiece at home.

Soundwaves Concert is set to return to Pico Branch this month! This month's concert featured the Lauren Baba Sextet. Baba, a celebrated composer, improviser, violinist, and violist heads the jazz group.

In the coming months, staff will begin exploring an inquiry received from Council related to bringing a **Poet Laureate Program** to Santa Monica.

[January Calendar of Events](#)

Safety and Security

The LSO team has been working with the City's Police Homeless Liaison Program team, various departments, and organizations to address and lessen incidents related to homelessness.

December 2022- Data below only reflects incidents and not day-to-day rule violation interactions

20 monthly incidents (18 major/ 2 minor)

20 Incidents involving people who appear to be unhoused

16 incidents at Main / **4** Branches

5 calls in to police

7 active bans

34 People who appear homeless prior to opening (encampments found)

Last month, the City approved to contract (Good Guard) overnight security in multiple city owned parking structures, including the parking garage at the Main Library that has seen an increase of violations and trespassing over the last couple of months. Good Guard provides experience in being trained to connect individuals to services, if needed.

Partnerships:

Santa Monica History Museum - The new Executive Director, Rob Schwenker, invited Library staff to attend the Dia de los Muertos pop-up exhibit, created by students from Santa Monica, University, Venice, and Culver City High schools. Staff looks forward to collaborating with SMHM staff on programs in the future, as we highlight our own local history resources and events.

Friends of the Santa Monica Public Library held its first Vintage Book Sale on January 3rd, bringing in close to \$900. A total of 1,500 special high value online selection books were made available.

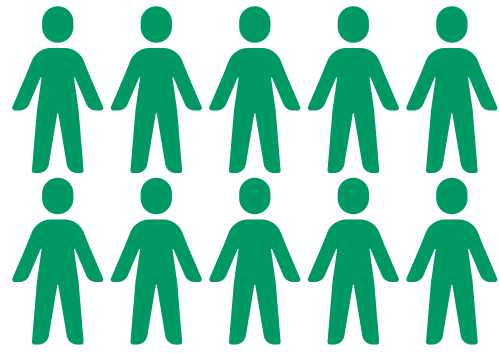
This year, the Friends are looking to attract new Board members and volunteers.

YEAR IN REVIEW

2022

133,845

Walk-in visitors



REGISTERED:

4,213

New Library card holders

RENEWED:

10,162

Renewed Library card holders



731,077

Physical and digital items
checked out

138,190

Hold items were
processed



13,592

Internet sessions.
Allowing connection to
online resources

41,890

Books, magazines and e-
media added to the
Library's collection

14,000

Sessions and user
interactions through
Imagine Santa Monica



2,428

Volunteered hours donated
to the Library through
tutoring and supporting the
Friends bookstore

202

LIBRARY PROGRAM
(Virtual and in-person)

54 Adult Programs

148 Youth Programs



Joined both Los Angeles Public Library (LAPL) and Los Angeles County Public Library systems in adopting Fine Free status for all account users!

EXPANDED HOURS

43%

Increase from 2021

REOPENED MONTANA AND FAIRVIEW BRANCH



(In-person)



(Self-service via Open+)

STUDY & MEETING ROOMS

2,461

Study room reservations



LITERACY CENTER

Created a new space for walk-in tutoring

SANTA MONICA PUBLIC

LIBRARY

Santa Monica Neighborhood Groups

- Friends of Sunset Park
- North of Montana Association
- Ocean Park Association
- Pico Neighborhood Association
- Santa Monica Mid City Neighbors
- Santa Monica Northeast Neighbors
- Wilshire Montana Neighborhood Coalition

City Boards, Commissions and Task Forces

- Childcare Task Force
- Downtown Santa Monica, Inc.
- Human Services Commission
- Public Safety Reform and Oversight Commission
- Recreation and Parks Commission
- Santa Monica Pier Corporation
- Santa Monica Travel and Tourism, Inc.

SCHOOLS

- Santa Monica-Malibu PTA Council - *Judith*
- SMMSD Librarians
 - Olympic High School
 - JAMS
 - SAMOHI
 - Edison
 - James Adams
 - Franklin
 - Grant
 - Lincoln
 - Roosevelt
 - Will Rogers

Others

- 18th Street Arts Center
- Boys and Girls Club of Santa Monica
- FLU
- Human Relations Council of Santa Monica
- Inclusive Santa Monica – Abby
- Kiwanis
- Main Street Business Improvement Association
- Montana Merchants Association
- Pico Improvement Organization
- Police Activities League (PAL), CREST, VAP
- Rotary Club of Santa Monica
- Santa Monica Area Interfaith Council - *Abby*
- Santa Monica Bay women’s Club
- Santa Monica Chamber of Commers
- Santa Monica College General Advisory Board
- Santa Monica Conservancy
- Santa Monica Downtown Neighborhood Association (DNA)
- Santa Monica Education Foundation
- Santa Monica Farmer’s Market
- Santa Monica History Museum
- Santa Monica League of Women Voters – *Abby*
- Santa Monica YMCA
- Unite LA
- Virginia Avenue Park Advisory Board
- WISE & Healthy Aging