



## MINUTES

### SANTA MONICA PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD

### SPECIAL MEETING

SANTA MONICA PICO BRANCH LIBRARY

2201 PICO BLVD.

SANTA MONICA, CA 90405

ANNEX MEETING ROOM additional

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 12, 2023**

**6:00 P.M.**

Call to Order

Chair Meister called the meeting to order at 6:08 p.m.

Roll Call

The following persons were recorded in attendance by the Recording Secretary:  
List in order called during the meeting.

Present: Chair Judith Meister, Vice Chair Abby Arnold, Boardmember Dana Newman, Boardmember Laurel Schmidt, and Boardmember Lucien Plauzoles

Absent: None

Also present: Erica Cuyugan, City Librarian  
Cecilia Tovar, Assistant City Librarian  
Nancy Bender, Librarian III - Branch Operations  
Priscilla Bouvet, Executive Admin. Assistant

## 1) Special Agenda Items

- a. Tour of Pico Branch Library
  - i. Nancy Bender, Librarian III - Branch Operations

Ms. Bender led board members on a tour of the Pico Branch Library from 6:10 p.m. to 6:46 p.m.

- b. Introduction of New Assistant City Librarian, Cecilia Tovar
  - i. Erica Cuyugan, City Librarian

Ms. Tovar was introduced as the new Assistant City Librarian to the Santa Monica Public Library and shared a little bit of her background and experience.

- c. Secretary's Report
  - i. Erica Cuyugan, City Librarian

The following items were highlighted from the report:

- New and returning Councilmembers
- Santa Monica Homeless Count
- State of the City, February 7
- LEAF Year-End Celebration
- Fairview and Ocean Park Open Houses
- Year-End Programming roundup with highlights to Baby Winter Ball, Winter Solstice Light-Up Card Workshop
- Job and career assistance at Pico through Chrysalis
- Take and Make Kits and efforts to explore more partnerships
- Poet Laureate Program: Council request to report back with ideas, timeline, budget, limitations, etc. Program would make poetry accessible to community
- Safety and Security
- Good Guard overnight security pilot program will include monitoring of the Library when closed
- Santa Monica History Museum partnership
- Friends of the Santa Monica Public Library book sales
- Library Year in Review statistics

## 2) 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

The following board members volunteered to join Ms. Cuyugan and attend neighborhood group meetings in the coming year:

- Newman and Meister volunteered to attend the Friends of Sunset Park
- Plauzoles volunteered to attend North of Montana Association
- Schmidt and/or Arnold volunteered to attend Ocean Park Association
- Arnold and Meister volunteered to attend the Pico Neighborhood Association

3) 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

The Board discussed ideas for exploring alternate funding opportunities with the Friends of the Library: Reaching out to local businesses, family foundations and local Little Libraries

Board expressed interest in taking a look at those Santa Monica residents who have little libraries and explore having a recognition event.

Meister volunteered research and compile a list of foundations using the library's databases.

4) Library Adjournment

Chair Meister adjourned the meeting at 8:26 p.m.

Attest:

Approved:

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Erica Cuyugan

Judith Meister

Secretary

Chair