



MINUTES

JOINT MEETING OF THE SANTA MONICA PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD AND FRIENDS OF THE SANTA MONICA PUBLIC LIBRARY

SPECIAL MEETING

SANTA MONICA MAIN PUBLIC LIBRARY
601 SANTA MONICA BLVD
SANTA MONICA, CA 90401
COMMUNITY ROOM,
SECOND FLOOR

**THURSDAY, MARCH 9, 2023
5:30 P.M.**

Call to Order

Chair Meister called the meeting to order at 5:39 p.m.

Roll Call

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

Present: Library Board - Chair Judith Meister, Vice Chair Abby Arnold (arrived at 5:42pm), Boardmember Newman, Boardmember Lucien Plauzoles and Boardmember Schmidt

Friends Board – Rachel Ginnerty, President; Kent Lewis, Vice President and Ben Ballard, Recording Secretary

Absent: None

Also present: Erica Cuyugan, City Librarian
Priscilla Bouvet, Executive Admin. Assistant
Rachel Foyt, Senior Admin. Analyst

1) Special Agenda Items

- a. Welcome and Introduction of the Friends of the Public Library Board
 - i. Judith Meister, Chair
 - ii. Rachel Ginnerty, Friends President

The Friends Board President, Rachel Ginnerty; Vice President, Kent Lewis; and Recording Secretary, Ben Ballard introduced themselves and shared a little about the mission and work to support the library and its programs.

- b. Walking tour of the Friends Bookstore led by Rachel Ginnerty

Walkthrough of the Friends Bookstore from 5:40 p.m. – 6:02 p.m.

- c. Presentation of RED Kits collection
 - i. Karen Reitz, Librarian III – Adult & Neighborhood Services
 - ii. Simran Khalsa, Librarian II – Collections & Technology

Reitz and Simran presented a few samples of the RED Kits collection. Each kit included materials and books curated by a librarian based on multiple themes. Kits presented included a ukelele, cookie/pie baking and technology.

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

The following components of the Secretary's Report were highlighted:

- Council annual retreat
- Resumed Board and Commission in-person meetings
- Declaration of Local Emergency on Homelessness
- End of COVID-19 state of emergency
- Women's History Month
- Adult Education Center ESL student citizenship success
- Computer classes are back!
- Traveling Storytime
- New Zip Books pilot program

2) Continued Items

- a. February 9, 2023: Serving with a Purpose Conference

Chair extended invitation to attend conference to the Friends Board.

3) Staff Administrative Items

- a. Review and adoption of updated Rules of Order, Rule 7. Agenda, section (d).

MOTION

Plauzoles moved and Meister seconded a motion to adopt updated Rules of Order as amended. The motion was approved by the following vote:

AYES: Meister, Arnold, Newman, Schmidt and Plauzoles

NOES: None

ABSTAINING: None

ABSENT: None

4) Library Boardmember Discussion Items

- a. Library Board and Friends collaborative efforts

Rachel Ginnerty, Friends President, shared opportunities for community involvement, advocacy, and fundraising. The Friends Board is looking to recruit volunteers that bring added energy, providing a unique opportunity to donors to see a direct impact of their donations in library programs. Both the Library and Friends Board expressed interest in collaborating.

The Library Board welcomed the opportunity to support recruitment efforts in the month of April during National Volunteer Week, asking each board member to reach out to their neighborhoods and contacts and help recruit volunteers for the Friends Board. Ginnerty agreed to review and update the board position descriptions. Staff will provide support and assist with marketing and preparation of website and flyer.

- b. Little Libraries Project Ad Hoc Committee update and discussion to explore National Library Week, April 23-29 to honor community libraries.

Meister provided an update on efforts to write a blurb and survey that will be sent out in the month of April during National Library Week in an effort to recognize little libraries in the neighborhood. Those little libraries that complete survey will be invited to a future event where the Friends Bookstore welcomed a donation of its books to attendees with little libraries. Ginnerty and Kent shared ideas for how to proceed with donating books.

5) Public Input

Member of the public, Mr. Coleman shared concerns regarding hours of operation and homelessness surrounding the Main Library.

Adjournment

Boardmember Plauzoles adjourned the meeting at 7:21 p.m.

Attest:

Approved:

Erica Cuyugan
Secretary

Judith Meister
Chair