

LOS ANGELES COUNTY LIBRARY COMMISSION MEETING

DATE: Wednesday, April 20, 2016

TIME: 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

PLACE: Library Headquarters
7400 East Imperial Hwy.
Downey, CA. 90242

A member(s) of the Library Commission has requested this meeting be accessed via conference call. The address is 117 Macneil Street, San Fernando, CA. 91340 located in the Community Room. The call-in number is: 1-866-768-4146. Participant Pass Code: 6283863

AGENDA

Welcome, Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call

1. Approval of Minutes of meeting
 - February 17, 2016
 - March 16, 2016
2. Announcements from Chair
3. Announcements from County Librarian
 - Budget Overview (Arena Turner / Ting Fanti)
4. Commissioner Items/Comments
5. Public Comments (limited to 3 minutes per speaker)
6. Adjourn

NOTE: The May Meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 18, 2016 at Hall of Administration.

June: LHQ Headquarters

July: Culver City

August: Dark

September: Compton

October: Huntington Park

November: La Crescenta

December: Dark



Library Commission April 20, 2016 Meeting Minutes

Pledge of Allegiance

The meeting was called to order at 10:28 a.m. Chairman Calaycay led the Pledge of Allegiance and all attendees participated.

Roll Call

Quorum was met.

Commissioners in attendance – 11: Chairman Corey Calaycay and Commissioners Vy Nguyen, Bob Archuleta, Waymon Roy, Laura Zahn Rosenthal, David Lesser, Cynthia Sternquist, Revé Gipson, James P. Allen, Joy C. Williams, and Lisa Cleri Reale.

Commissioners absent – 8: Jose Luis Solache, Martha Arevalo, Velma Ashford, Robert Gonzales, Sonny Santa Ines, Herb Hatanaka, Richard Colbary, and David Spence.

Vacancy – 1: Second District (City Selection Committee)

Library staff in attendance – 7: Skye Patrick, County Librarian; Chris Deherrera, Executive Assistant to the County Librarian; Yolanda De Ramus, Chief Deputy Director; Barbara Custen, Assistant Director of Public Services; Arena Turner, Interim Administrative Deputy; Ting Fanti, Head of Fiscal Services Roxane Marquez, Special Assistant for Communications.

Announcements from County Librarian

The Library Breakfast was held on April 14 with three Library Commissioners preset and Sam Quinones was a great speaker.

The Artesia Library Groundbreaking Ceremony was on April 13 and the new library should be completed in 18 months.

The My Brother's Keeper event will be on May 7 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the East Los Angeles Library.

The ESL/Citizenship Class (Immigration) Press Conference with Board Chair Hilda Solis was held on April 11 and the Library is working with the Asian Americans for Advancing Justice of Los Angeles (AAAJ-LA).

The Library's first "Pop-Up" event is scheduled for Saturday, May 21 at the View Park Library. The Library will be emptied and will have a "Pop-Up" museum in the empty library. The "Pop-Up" will take place instead of a closing ceremony and when one of the Libraries will either be renovated and/or a new library will be constructed, a "Pop-Up" will be utilized. Please note that the date of this event has changed to June 11; more information forthcoming.

Approval of Minutes of Meeting Meeting's Minutes

Both the February and March minutes were approved by the Commission.

Commissioner Items/Comments

Approve Amendments to Bylaws: Jill Jones of County Counsel commented on the Bylaws; that the proposed change was to the membership section of the Bylaws and that only the Board of Supervisors could approve them. The commission can make recommendations but cannot approve them. A board motion would have to be prepared by the Library and then presented to the Board Deputies to have the recommendations be put on the Board of Supervisors' agenda.

Commissioner Allen suggested putting together the motion and submitting it to the Board Deputies who might make changes to the motion. Commissioner Archuleta asked for changes on the Bylaws with compensation changes and then to have it sent to the Board Deputies. Jill Jones said that when changes are made, they need to go to the Board Deputies. Commissioner Allen said that one of the problems is making a quorum and that the City Selection Committee should take under consideration that, besides filling the vacancies that currently exist, the Commission should have five "at-large" members so that the meetings have a better chance of making quorum since the five "at-large" members most likely will be more interested in participating on the Commission. Commissioner Roy stated that those who sign up to be on the Commission do so but they don't show up for the meetings. Jill Jones mentioned that the Board of Supervisors must find replacements for their district when there is a vacancy created either by resignation or retirement.

Budget Overview: Arena Turner, Interim Administrative Deputy and Ting Fanti, Departmental Finance Manager conducted a Budget Presentation via PowerPoint which included an overview of Public Library Fiscal Year (FY) 2016-17 Operating Budget consisting of: Major Operating categories (Salaries and Employee Benefits; Services and Supplies; Other Charges; and other various categories); Revenue Funding Sources; Property Tax Revenue Trend; and an overview of the various Major Budget Changes recommended in the department's FY 2016-17 Operating Budget and Unmet Needs Request.

Commissioner Nguyen had a question regarding the Property Tax for the Libraries and how some of the Libraries have special taxes but she was informed that most of the Libraries have a General County Free Library Tax. Jill Jones mentioned that the Public

Library has some Libraries with "Special Tax Allocation" and Ting Fanti mentioned that there are four or five cities that fit in this category. County Librarian Skye Patrick stated that all the cities receive a Cost of Service Report every year. Commissioner Lesser stated that the City of Manhattan Beach was ready to leave the County Public Library system due to funding. The Library Foundation was mentioned with regard to Grant preparations and it was clarified that the Library does not have a Grant Writer but exploring that the new Head of Marketing could potentially take on that responsibility. Commissioner Rosenthal stated that the City of Malibu is not getting any funds for the Library and that the city is providing funds for projects in partnership with the Library for the projects at the Library.

As part of the budget presentation and discussion, Arena Turner mentioned the Unmet Needs Request includes \$500,000 to increase the department's Security Services budget to provide additional sheriff patrol services for the libraries. Additionally, Ms. Turner mentioned that the department researched other neighboring jurisdictions to find that many libraries have few facilities, but with equitable coverage. For example, the City of Los Angeles has a budget of \$4.8 million, yet with fewer libraries. There was a comment that \$500,000 was not a lot for security at the Libraries. Additionally, Commissioner Reale emphasized this should be referenced in the Commission's Budget letter to the Board -- adding the department's current budget for Security Services, which consists of \$1 million should be referenced in the Commission's letter in support of Public Library's FY 2016-17 Operating Budget. Additionally, a few commissioners voiced there was some uncertainty as to the goals to articulate and advocate for the Library in discussions with the Board deputies and at the Budget Hearing scheduled in May. Chief Deputy Director De Ramus provided an explanation: It is to let the Board of Supervisors know that we are requesting the funds and she noted that other County Departments also provide support letters for their respective departments. On May 11 at 9 a.m., Budget Hearings will be held and Commissioners were encouraged to provide their testimony on behalf of the Library. Commissioner Lesser asked how Commissioners could support County Librarian Patrick at the Budget Hearings. County Librarian Patrick stated that this could be accomplished as long as the Library and the Commission were on the same page. Commissioner Roy agreed that the Library and the Commission should work together. Commissioner Lesser mentioned the Utility Tax Program and said that it sounded like there had not been an increase from Fiscal Year 2006-07 and also no Cost of Living Increase either. County Librarian Patrick mentioned that the Board Deputies have shared stories of success at the first level of engagement and that there is a "personal" feeling that the Library knows that our requests are brought to their attention. Commissioner Rosenthal asked if the conversation was on the Budget Hearing that is on May 11 or the next Commissioner Meeting on May 18 and Chair Calaycay answered that the Commissioners were discussing the Budget Hearing on May 11.

Ad Hoc Nominating Committee: Chair Calaycay introduced Library Foundation Secretary Evelyn Gutierrez. Chair Calaycay stated that a Nomination Committee was being formed for the upcoming election of officers of the Commission. He stated that he would happy to stay on as Chair but wanted to give someone from the Commission the

opportunity to fill the position. Commissioners Allen, Gipson and Sternquist volunteered to form the committee. Commissioner Sternquist indicated that she would like to relinquish the position of Secretary of the Commission as she is extremely busy at Temple City and felt she could not provide proper attention to the Commission in this capacity. Assistant Director Custen asked if a candidate could nominate themselves for a position on the Commission and Jill Jones answered, "Yes".

Commissioner Allen thanked Arena Turner and Ting Fanti for the Budget Presentation and also thanked Jill Jones for attending, complimenting her expertise on the subjects at the meeting that required legal analysis. The Commissioners collectively thanked Public Library staff and County Counsel for their overview and input in today's meeting.

Commissioner Roy announced that he would be in attendance at the May meeting.

Commissioner Nguyen asked about the Strategic Plan and asked that a "formal" meeting be scheduled to discuss it. She also mentioned that in 2020, the Census would be conducted and asked if the Library would have volunteers to assist with the Census.

Public Comments

There were two individuals at the San Fernando site who wanted to speak to the Commission. They provided their names but audio difficulties prevented the Commission from hearing what they were. The first individual thanked the Commission, saying that she used the Library in San Fernando all the time and when time permits in her schedule. The second individual told the Commission that he had visited the Sylmar and Pacoima Libraries and wanted to collaborate with the San Fernando Library in the future.

Library Foundation Secretary Gutierrez thanked the Commission for being supportive and said that the Foundation is looking forward to working with them in the future and to setting a date to discuss System-Wide Programs.

Adjournment

The Commission meeting adjourned at 11:43 a.m.

Minutes Approved: _____ as submitted

Date: _____

_____ as amended

Date: _____

Cynthia Sternquist, Secretary

Commission