



## LIBRARY ADVISORY COMMISSION (LAC) FINAL MINUTES

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**DATE:** July 27, 2015

**LOCATION:** Main Library Brad Walters Community Room

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**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was convened by Chairperson Sterbenc at 5:40 p.m.

### **ROLL CALL:**

**COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT: 10** Kathryn Sterbenc, Chairperson  
Ain Bailey  
Ruby Bernstein  
Grant Inaba  
Victoria Barbero  
Jeanine Shimatsu  
Rosa Montgomery  
Noelle Tu Duong  
Lesley Mandros Bell  
Andrew Racle, Vice Chair  
(two vacancies)

**COMMISSION MEMBERS EXCUSED:** Roy Chan  
Susanne Perkins  
April Harper

**STAFF PRESENT:** Gerry Garzón, Library Director  
Jamie Turbak, Associate Director  
Winifred Walters, Community Relations  
Manager  
Rosalia A. Romo, Recorder

**Others Present:** Aakaanksha Sharma  
Rose Heredia

### **1. Approval of Minutes**

Chairperson Sterbenc made a correction on the minutes of June 29, 2015, and called for a motion to approve them. Commissioner Mandros Bell made a motion to approve the minutes as amended; Commissioner Barbero seconded the motion. All approved.

**Votes:** Yes – 10; Noes – 0; abstentions - 0

## 2. **Chairperson’s Commission Activities Report** – Commissioner Sterbenc reported:

- National Night Out, August 4<sup>th</sup> – Commissioners Bernstein, Barbero, Inaba and Sterbenc will participate.
- Vacancies, applications update: Traci Spencer Griffin and Rebekah Randle submitted their applications, and the Mayor's Office is being responsive and moving things along. They will attend meetings in the meantime.
- Farewell and thanks to Commissioner Jeanine Shimatsu, who is stepping down from the Library Commission.

## 3. **AAMLO presentation** –

Chief Curator Rick Moss gave a power point presentation. AAMLO, a non-circulating library, was formed in 1994 by merging the Northern California Center for African American Life (NCCAAL) and the City of Oakland. The NCCAAL, formerly the East Bay Negro Historical Society, Inc., was the idea of community members Eugene and Ruth Lasartamay and Jessie and Dr. Marcella Ford who began collecting the oral histories and artifacts that documented the activities of African Americans in Oakland. The early homes for these collections were a storefront on Grove Street, and the Golden Gate Branch Library. AAMLO has grown tremendously and now has an archival librarian; the amount of people visiting online and doing research has increased. AAMLO also has the Barbara Lee and Ron Dellums papers as part of its collection. Future plans include hosting a photo collection that chronicles the life of the Black Panthers in 2016 (the Panther’s 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary); reestablish a friend group. Finally, AAMLO received an IMLS grant to establish a joint class education/museum program for kids to follow on a path to become a librarian/educator.

## 4. **OPL Staff Activities Reports**

### a. **Director Report Highlights** – Director Garzón referred to highlights of his report:

- Labor negotiations continue with a lot of discussion relating to the use of part-time employees.
- Sabrina Landreth was appointed the new city administrator.
- Library aide boot camp training for new library aides is underway.
- More will be coming re the budget and how to use the \$500,000 for additional hours in FY2017.
- Encourage people to sign up for the adult summer reading program.
- Dimond Branch Library 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration, Aug 8<sup>th</sup>.
- Council approved the FY 2015-17 Budget, including \$500,000 funding for expanded library hours in FY2016-17, recommended by CM Kalb.

### b. **Facilities Update** – Jamie Turbak: no updates

- Oakland Pride is September 13<sup>th</sup> and OPL will participate with the bike library.

## 5. **Advocacy Standing Committee** – Chairperson Sterbenc reported

- Sustainability Update: Report on conference call Thursday, July 23<sup>rd</sup>. OPL supporters moving discussion forward about ballot initiative. Commissioner Mandros Bell is researching options for creating t-shirts for the library advocates.
- OPL Attention Campaign: Planning ways to highlight and showcase OPL in the next several months. Keep us in the public eye and build support. Could be a Twitter campaign like “diverse books,” such as “I’m grateful for OPL because.” Reach out to community

members about promoting - -what do you love about the OPL; partnering with other business owners to help in reaching out in the community. Need to build more relationships with local newspapers.

**6. Networking Standing Committee Update** – Chairperson Sterbenc reported in the absence of Commissioner Harper

- Social Networking Update: 40.4% open rate for July newsletter; exceeds our list average of 33% and the industry average of 14%.
- Branch Adoption Review -- several branches available (81<sup>st</sup> Ave, Brookfield, Chavez, Eastmont, MLK). Branches adopted Monday by Bailey (AAMLO); Racle (Temescal) and Bernstein (Dimond).
- Looking for a co-chair for the Networking Committee.
- Find a contact person from the press to promote library programs/events on the paper/media.

**7. Commissioner’s Advocacy Reports:**

- Commissioner Barbero – Lakeview branch is doing well, very busy. Has a new branch manager.
- Commissioner Inaba – attended the literary festival Beast Crawl event for the Oakland Youth Poet Laureate competition, hosted by OPL, Youth Speaks, and ProArts.
- Commissioner Bernstein – the jazz festival continues at the Golden Gate branch; has been in contact with Kari Hatch, Executive Director of the Friends of the Oakland Public School Libraries, who is collaborating with the school district to improve school library services.
- Commissioner Bailey – Montclair branch has new signage, storage for photo exhibit; some shelves need bolting, and lights fixed; story telling nights continue. There is an ongoing issue with neighbors sitting outside the library to use the branch’s WiFi service.
- Commissioner Racle – visited Eastmont Branch for first time.
- Commissioner Sterbenc – no report.
- Commissioner Mandros Bell – also attended the Youth Poet Laureate event, where she briefly talked to the mayor. The friends group for the Tool Lending Library is starting up again; there was a tool sale, and starting a plumbing class for women. The city’s vendor process is delaying Tool Lending from getting a column for bike tools. Also mentioned it would be nice to get a volunteer who can handle the calls from people calling about various tools, this takes valuable time from the limited staff.
- Commissioner Duong – no report.
- Commissioner Montgomery – Elmhurst children’s librarian is doing a tremendous job, have lots of kids participating in activities, such as gardening (growing a vegetable garden).
- Commissioner Shimatsu – visited AAMLO. Added that she will continue to be an advocate for the library, and be available for tech support for LAC, if needed.

**8. Agenda Building:**

- Public information liaison.

**9. Open Forum/Announcements – None**

**10. Adjournment** - Meeting adjourned at 7:23 pm.

Submitted by: Gerry Garzón, Library Director