



LIBRARY ADVISORY COMMISSION (LAC) DRAFT MINUTES

DATE: September 26, 2016

LOCATION: Main Library Brad Walters Community Room

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was convened by Chairperson Sterbenc at 5:25 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT: 11 Kathryn Sterbenc, Chairperson
Rebekah Randle, Vice Chair
April Harper
Lesley Mandros Bell
Andrew Racle
Victoria Barbero
Aurea Lewis
Rosa Montgomery
Noelle Tu Duong
Ain Bailey
Charles Sanchez

COMMISSION MEMBERS EXCUSED: 4 Ken Lupoff
Susanne Perkins
Sophia Rodríguez
Traci Griffin

STAFF PRESENT: Gerry Garzón, Library Director
Winifred Walters, Grants/Comm. Relations
Jamie Turbak, Associate Director
Rick Moss, AAMLO Chief Curator
Rosalía A. Romo, Recorder

Others Present: Linda O'Brian.

1. Approval of Minutes

Chairperson Sterbenc called for a motion to approve the minutes of July 25, 2016. Commissioner Mandros Bell made a motion to approve the minutes as amended; Commissioner Duon seconded. All approved.

Votes: Yes – 11; Noes – 0; abstentions - 0

2. Presentation of Check for AAMLO

Commissioner Montgomery presented a \$10,000 check from the John C. Hampton Living Trust to Rick Moss for AAMLO. Mr. Hampton was born in Mississippi in 1925 and was given away during the great depression. He spent his life in the health care industry, and ran the John C. Hampton food pantry for over 15 years. He believed in promoting blacks and authors.

3. Eureka Leadership Institute Presentation

Director Garzón stated he was one of the mentors at the Eureka Leadership Institute that brought 30 librarians from various library systems. Emily Weak was one of the participants and gave this presentation at the Institute.

Ms. Weak gave a presentation on the lack of staff diversity in libraries - - white librarians serving a diverse community. Taking a deeper look at how library culture perpetuates its whiteness. There is a need to be willing to redefine librarianship and abandon core beliefs that create barriers for librarians of color to build a more diverse workplace. Taking a look at education, hiring practices, standards of behavior Libraries are changing; according to the US Census Bureau, by 2018 children of color will make up the majority of children. Our future depends on our ability to shift the center of librarianship so that those children's voices and experiences are at its heart.

4. Chairperson's Commission Activities Report:

- Received clarification that as private citizens, commissioners can campaign for city measures as generic advocates - - not as commissioners.
- Committee Restructure proposes to retire the Advocacy and the Networking Committees and create new standing committees: Sustainability, Outreach, and Facilities Ad Hoc Committee. Also, asking commissioners to serve on one committee. Chairperson Sterbenc asked for a motion to adopt the new standing committees. Commissioner Barbero made a motion to adopt these new committees. Commissioner Montgomery seconded the motion. All approved.
- Chairperson Sterbenc asked for a motion to adopt the 2017 LAC Strategic Plan. Commissioner Mandros Bell made a motion to adopt the Strategic Plan. Chairperson Randle seconded the motion. All approved.
- Reminder about the California Library Association Conference in November.
- Met with the Library Coalition Advocate groups last Sunday. We have a new table drape with the library advocate logo.
- The memorial service for Ruby Bernstein was wonderful.

4. OPL Staff Activities Reports

a. Director Report Highlights – Director Garzón:

- Library administration held its strategic planning retreat, which was also attended by Chairperson Sterbenc and Vice Chair Randle.
- On September 14th the Library presented two reports to Council's Life Enrichment Committee related to 2nd Start Adult Literacy overhead and Friends of OPL grants over \$50,000. Both reports were approved.
- The construction bids for Dimond Branch were rejected and a request was made of by City Council to go into negotiations with one of the contractors to reach agreement and bring bid closer to what we can afford. Still looking at construction starting in December and opening in April.
- Attended the memorial service for Ruby Bernstein at Rockridge Branch on 9/18.

b. Facilities Update – Jamie Turbak

- She will address any concerns that commissioners bring regarding their branches.
- The Library is celebrating 3 birthdays- - Melrose 100th, Chavez 50th on Oct 1st, and Rockridge 20th on Oct 22.
- Started to check-out hotspots and we have a hold list for 45 people. The Library is also using Hoopla, a service that provides videos, movies, music.

5. Measure Q Parcel Tax Training – Vice Chair Randle

- The presentation covered what parcel taxes are, how to find information about parcel taxes, how Measure Q came to be and how Measure Q funds can be used. The current Measure Q legislation is showing its age, and needs to be updated. Staff is looking at amending it in 2018.

5. Advocacy Standing Committee Update – Commissioner Racle

- Reviewed in depth outreach, start getting people excited about the library in preparation for the 2018 Measure Q amendment. Also, there is a public calendar at saveoaklandlibrary.org, which will change to oaklandlibraryadvocate.org, to serve all the advocate groups.

6. Networking Standing Committee – Commissioner Harper

- Social Mixer will be Dec 4, 1- 3pm. Commissioner Bailey will do invitations; need a food coordinator. Working to identify a speaker, do a memorial for recently deceased advocates related to OPL, and include a Eureka Leadership presentation.
- Have new Facebook page, merchandise, table throw – thanked FOPL for the table throw grant. We have an OPL Advocates Facebook, twitter. Social media training in Nov.

Commissioner's Advocacy Reports:

- Commissioner Lewis: AAMLO is doing great programs for the fall. Working with Brookfield branch manager on the furniture. Attended the National Night Out, and Art & Soul festival.
- Commissioner Montgomery: no report for Elmhurst Branch.
- Commissioner Duong: no report.

- Commissioner Sanchez: Chavez branch had an increase in circulation, lots of activities, 50th anniversary in preparation.
- Commissioner Bailey: Montclair branch has lots of events, doing work repairs for the fireplace. Rick Moss is preparing a CIP request for AAMLO.
- Chairperson Sterbenc: Attended kick off for Measure KK and talked with the Mayor and Council Member Guillen. Invited to participate on a TV ad re Measure KK along with Commissioner Lupoff. Also talked to Peggy Moore who is running for city council.
- Vice Chair Randle: West Oakland branch is doing well, and the friends group meets every 3rd Saturday and is going strong. Attended the Library's strategic planning day.
- Commissioner Harper: Piedmont Ave. branch has a new children's librarian, e-readers ready to check out, e-book assistance available. Looking into Measure KK to possibly get a new branch. Plans for a new farmers market at Piedmont Avenue school, not sure when.
- Commissioner Mandros Bell: Tool Lending held an edible garden class, with home inspections classes coming soon. The Friends group holds meetings at Lanesplitter Pizza.
- Commissioner Barbero: Lakeview branch was really busy with a National Night Out party, chess tournament and book sale. Would like to get more ideas for adults and older people programs. The books that don't sell after two or 3 weeks are discarded, looking for ideas to discard books, suggestion to explore Every Library which collects books to rebuild libraries. Also went to 4 National Night Out parties.
- Commissioner Racle: no report.

8. Agenda Building –

- Library divisions updates.
- Adult services/programs.

9. Open Forum/Announcements - none

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

Submitted by: Gerry Garzón, Library Director