



LIBRARY ADVISORY COMMISSION (LAC) DRAFT MINUTES

DATE: April 24, 2017

LOCATION: Main Library Brad Walters Community Room

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

ROLL CALL:

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT: 9 Rebekah Randle, Chairperson
Andrew Racle, Vice Chair
Charles Sanchez
Ain Bailey
Susanne Perkins
Reginald Constant
Lesley Mandros Bell
Victoria Barbero
Kerrick Goodman-Lucker

COMMISSION MEMBERS EXCUSED: 4 Rosa Montgomery
Ken Lupoff
Nidhi Khosla
Aurea Lewis

STAFF PRESENT: Gerry Garzón, Library Director
Jamie Turbak, Associate Director
Winifred Walters, Grants Development Mgr.
Mary Schrader, Special Projects
Rosalia A. Romo, Recorder

Members of the public: Kathy Smith, Laura Liang, and Sarah McClung.

1. Pop-Up Mobile Library Update – Mary Schrader

Mary Schrader, Supervising Librarian for Special Projects, gave an update on the progress of the Pop-Up Mobile Library.

- The Library received \$500,000 in City funds in the 2nd of two years for this project.

- This is not a typical bookmobile, but a compact mobile unit (similar to a food truck) that will reach areas without a library close by to provide basic library services, no checkouts.
- Youth focus groups were formed for ideas/input, which included Hoover Elementary, Lighthouse Community Charter School, East Oakland Boxing Association, and Anna Marie Whalen Boys & Girls Club.
- City Council recently approved a resolution for the purchase of the electric vehicle.
- The mobile unit, called MOVE, is a green electric vehicle that will provide WI-FI Hotspots, tables and seating, movie screen, display monitor, shade umbrella, and other portable amenities.
- This will provide a flexible social gathering space for all, especially teens and children.
- Unit will be staffed by 1 FT and 2 PT employees.
- Almost ready to go out for fabrication; aiming to be in service in late fall.

2. Approval of Minutes

Chairperson Randle called for a motion to approve the minutes of March 27, 2017.

Commissioner Barbero made a motion to approve the minutes as amended; Commissioner Mandros Bell seconded. All approved.

Votes: Yes – 9; Noes – 0; abstentions - 0

3. Chairperson’s Commission Activities Report – Chairperson Randle

- Welcomed two new commissioners Reginald Constant and Kerrick Goodman-Lucker. Waiting for two potential candidates’ approval for appointment. Need representation in Districts 4 and 7.
- Joined library staff at Council meeting to receive a Council Resolution in recognition of National Library Month.
- Attended the OPL volunteer orientation session.
- LAC Annual Report: planning to present to Life Enrichment Committee in May/June.
- The Librarian of Congress Dr. Carla Hayden visited OPL last Saturday. Chairperson Randle gave her a library advocacy t-shirt, for which Dr. Hayden insisted on paying (donation to FOPL).

Overview of Library Commissioner Activities/Obligations4/2017

Vice Chair Racle and Commissioner Mandros Bell talked about the LAC committees and what the role of commissioners is. They prepared a one-page overview of Library Commissioners activities and obligations. The goal is to advise and make recommendations to Council, and Vice Chair Racle reviewed the obligations and tasks of commissioners and fundamental purposes.

As laid out in the ordinances establishing the Library Advisory Commission (adopted in 1969, amended in 1994 for Measure O and 2003 for Measure Q) its main purpose is:

1. To advise and make recommendations on the operation and future development of the library system
2. To act as a liaison between the Library and the Mayor and City Council

3. Submit regular status reports to Life Enrichment Committee at least yearly, including detailed description of operating and staffing needs
4. Oversee and report on the Library use of Measure Q funds (which is why Gene Tom presents LAC with budget updates for our approval)

As we exist now, each commissioner has to:

1. Attend monthly LAC meetings (unless excused in advance)
2. NOTIFY regarding their attendance as requested (we can't meet without knowing whether or not we have quorum)
3. Attend a monthly meeting of Outreach or Sustainability

Additionally, we attempt to:

4. Adopt individual library branches and report on their status/needs
5. Attend meetings with city council members to share information on library programs and funding
6. Attend council and other meetings as needed when votes concerning libraries and library funding are pending
7. Attend city events such as the Oakland Book Festival, Art and Soul, etc, as advocates for the library
8. Advocate personally for libraries and serve as supporters of the system in our community

Director Garzón thanked them for their report. He added that this is a fully staffed commission, where people are waiting to be appointed. Other city staff have noticed the LAC, and this is the commission that other departments want. Director Garzón appreciates all the commissioners and the work they do.

5. OPL Staff Activities Reports

Director's report highlights:

- Visited with Senator Nancy Skinner's staff earlier in the month during the Day in the District.
- Mayor's budget will be released this Thursday. OPL and Measure Q will come out balanced. The mayor and City Administrator made a commitment to LAC and FOPL when she asked them not to go forward with a library tax measure in 2016, and promised that OPL will have funding through the FY2017-19.
- Last Saturday we had the pleasure of having the Librarian of Congress Dr. Carla Hayden, former Baltimore Public Library Director, visit OPL and AAMLO. She was impressed with AAMLO. It was a great experience to have her.

6. Outreach Standing Committee Update – Commissioner Barbero

- Slow progress in scheduling meetings with Council Members.
- Finished talking points for outreach; need to work on talking points for town hall meetings.
- Reviewed the LAC's Strategic Plan
- Would like to have a public meeting in the Council Chambers, featuring the various library services, teen services, tool lending, etc.
- Still need to work with Sustainability Committee.

7. Sustainability Standing Committee – no meeting/report

8. Commissioner’s Advocacy Reports:

- Commissioner Constant: West Oakland Friends are having a social to promote their group and bring more friends to join group; starting social media profiles for Friends to promote group; will start book sale. Need serious maintenance: the grass is really high, custodian is only there for 1 hour per day; ladies restroom has not been accessible for over a month.
- Commissioner Perkins: held Melrose Friends meeting last week; working on a poster to promote and bring people to branch. Contacted the artist who submitted library card design for Melrose, to help with poster ideas/photos. Attending Branch Groups friends meeting this Saturday. Met with CM Campbell-Washington.
- Commissioner Goodman-Lucker visited 81st Avenue Branch. He’s adopted this branch.
- Commissioner Bailey – no report. Have lights at AAMLO been fixed on 2nd floor? There is a leak on top of archival area. Also, the piece out of the fireplace at Montclair branch still needs fixing.
- Commissioner Sanchez: – scheduled meeting with CM Kalb for May 22nd; waiting for response from CM Gallo’s staff.
- Vice Chair Racle: no report.
- Chairperson Randle: no report
- Commissioner Barbero: called for a moment of silence for former commissioner David Bolaños, who passed away recently; he was also involved with the Friends groups at Lakeview and Chavez branches. On May 20th Lakeview is having a book sale and chess tournament. Will donate left over books to West Oakland Friends for their book sale. Lakeview has a full staff now, and now that the park has re-opened, the branch is very busy - had over 100 kids in the library that day. Friends raised enough money to donate books to Lakeview. Custodial work is lacking, branch is not clean. Planning programs for National Night Out.
- Commissioner Mandros Bell: showed a Tool Lending Library (TLL) promo video produced by a TLL Friends member. Having tool sales every Saturday morning. Got approval to become partner with Cole Hardware to do a fundraising for TLL.

10. Agenda Building

- Black Arts Movement and Business District Update (May)
- Overview of library services (June)

11. Open Forum/Announcements

- May 21 Oakland Book Festival
- The Library computer scheduling software system is being replaced
- Dimond Branch scheduled to reopen July 15
- Friends of Dimond Branch exceeded their goal and raised \$52,000 for new furniture as of this date.

12. Adjournment - Meeting adjourned at 7:25 pm.

Submitted by: Gerry Garzón, Library Director