Oakland Public Library
Director’s Report to the Library Advisory Commission (LAC)
October, 2016

DIRECTOR’S ACTIVITIES AND UPDATES

- October 1st started with the 50th Birthday of the César Chávez Library and all the activities that staff planned for that day. Food, singing, dancing, a PowerPoint presentation of its history, a photo of Pete Villasenor when he still had hair. Councilmember Noel Gallo remembered going to the old Latin American Library when it was on Fremont Blvd.

- This month, we met with the Executive Director of Libraries Without Borders, Allister Chang. The Library has been in discussion with LWB in the use of the Ideas Box as part of the Pop-Up Mobile Library in its programming with the youth and our discussion has focused on the modifications that will be needed as part of the use of the Ideas Box.

- On October 13, I had the distinct pleasure of introducing the Rev. Dr. Martha Taylor to my Rotary colleagues as the luncheon speaker as she recently released her new book From Labor to Reward – Black Church Beginnings in San Francisco, Oakland, Berkeley and Richmond. Her book is an epic story of black people sojourning from the south to the Pacific Coast and starting their own independent churches in a social context of discriminatory practices. Dr. Taylor did much of her research in the Oakland History Room and AAMLO and acknowledges both in her book.

- On October 14, joined by many of my city colleagues, and Library Commissioner Dr. Rev. Lewis, I attended the Mayor’s State of the City Address in City Hall. It was an inspiring speech which looked to the future of our city, its people and our youth.

- October also began the process for the city’s FY 2017-19 budget process. This month, the Library, with other city departments, submitted its proposed Capital Improvements Projects (CIP) and will follow up with Service Levels Analysis. The budget process will continue into November through January.

- October 22 is the Rockridge Library’s 20th Birthday with lots of activities planned and once again staff have been working hard at making this a special day for the community. I’m looking forward to being there!

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

- The current OPL monthly calendar is available online at www.oaklandlibrary.org/news