Oakland Public Library
Director’s Report to the Library Advisory Commission (LAC)
July 2017

DIRECTOR’S ACTIVITIES AND UPDATES

- On July 5, I met with the Board of Directors of the Friends of the Oakland Public Library and reported on the renewal of the lease for the Piedmont Avenue Library.
- On July 7, I chaired the meeting of the Bay Area Library & Information System (BALIS) here at the Main Library. This is a legacy system that has been subsumed by the Peninsular Library Partnership (PLP), which I now chair.
- On July 11, Lana Adlawan, Supervising Librarian for Teen Services and I attended a meeting with other City Departments and non-profits and church organizations involved in violence prevention. The meeting was organized by the Mayor’s Director of Public Safety, Venus Johnson, and was a follow-up to meetings and work that this group had done earlier around community safety in Oakland and developing an action plan.
- On July 11, Mary Schrader, Supervising Librarian for Special Projects and I attended City Council’s Life Enrichment Committee to present a report and recommend a 5-year lease with the Oakland Unified School District for the Piedmont Ave Library on Echo Street. We also had representatives from the Friends of Piedmont Ave Library to speak in support of the resolution which passed unanimously and was forwarded to full Council for their July 18 meeting.
- On July 15, I was pleased to go to the “soft” opening of the Dimond Library that just came off so well due to such hard by so many staff. Mary Schrader was the Library’s project manager working with PWA and other city departments and contractors, as well as with our own staff. Kudos to Mary, Dimond Staff, our IT staff, and many, many others who pulled it off!
- On July 20, I had the pleasure of hearing Mary Roach, the author of Stiff, Grunt, Bonk, Packing for Mars, among others, being interviewed by a fellow Rotarian. Mary Roach was nice enough to accept my offer to speak to my colleagues at Rotary. She is an Oaklander, quite humorous, and she was a hit with the crowd at our Rotary #3 luncheon.
- During this month, we also continue to work on The MOVe, the Pop-Up Mobile Library. The City will need to go out again to rebid the fabrication of the vehicle due to a technical change in the type of RFP that will be issued. Unfortunately, this delays the completion of the vehicle and likely pushes it out to the new year.

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

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