Director’s Report to the Library Advisory Commission (LAC)
November 2017

DIRECTOR’S ACTIVITIES AND UPDATES

- On November 1, I attended the State Library’s Public Library Director’s Forum in Riverside, CA. This was an opportunity for directors from throughout the state to come together to discuss areas of common interest, network, hear from systems and their projects, and review the five-year State Library plan it submits to the Institute of Museums and Libraries (IMLS).

- On November 2-4, several OPL staff, including me, attended the annual California Library Association Conference in Riverside. We had a variety of staff who attended programs related to using data, CalREN, Teen services, homeless, maker mobiles, and who also were on panels and presented items. Great conference!

- On November 7, at the City Council meeting, with Councilmember Lynette McElhaney, I introduced Susan Anderson, Interim Chief Curator of AAMLO, to the Council, City Administrator and the public.

- On November 8, 10, 16, staff met to plan an exhibit unveiling for the late Carter Gilmore, the first African American elected to the Oakland City Council. The event and reception will occur on Saturday, December 9 with family, friends and officials present. This is a culmination of a process begun earlier this year to acknowledge the contributions of Mr. Gilmore to the African American community in Oakland and northern California.

- On November 13, the City Administrator held a retreat for the Department Directors of the various departments in Oakland. This was an extremely valuable day for all of us as we learned to use a tool - Results Based Accountability – as part of the City’s efforts to align with the type of outcome focused racial equity work that is a priority in Oakland.

- The month of November continues to focus on briefing the City of Oakland’s various departments that will be involved in the Library’s tax measure in 2018. This includes City Administrator, Finance, Budget, City Attorney’s Office.

- This month is a short month due to the Thanksgiving holiday. I wish all of our Library Advisory Commissioners a Wonderful Holiday!

BUDGET

- The Library’s vacancy rate of 8.5% rather than the 4.0% applied to departments, continues to be a challenge. We will continue to monitor its impacts on the ability of the Library to provide services adequately.

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

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