



## LIBRARY ADVISORY COMMISSION (LAC) FINAL MINUTES

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**DATE:** March 27, 2017

**LOCATION:** Main Library Brad Walters Community Room

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**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was convened by Chairperson Randle at 5:35 p.m.

**ROLL CALL:**

**COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT: 9**

Rebekah Randle, Chairperson  
Ain Bailey  
Lesley Mandros Bell  
Susanne Perkins  
Rosa Montgomery  
Kerrick Goodman-Lucker  
Victoria Barbero  
Nidhi Khosla  
Charles Sanchez

**COMMISSION MEMBERS EXCUSED: 5**

Ken Lupoff  
Andrew Racle, Vice Chair  
Noelle Tu Duong  
Traci Griffin  
Aurea Lewis  
Reginald Constant

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Gerry Garzón, Library Director  
Jamie Turbak, Associate Director  
Winifred Walters, Grants Development Mgr.  
Lana Adlawan, Teen Services Supervisor  
Peggy Simmons, Teen Services  
Wendy Chen, Teen Services  
Rosalía A. Romo, Recorder

Members of the public: Grace Li, Emily Chow, and Laura Liang - members of the Youth Council Leadership (YLC), Katherine Sterbenc (FOPL), Sarah McClung, Nate Dumas, Mariah Matthews, Kathy Smith, and Wilma Wallace.

## 1. Teen Services Update – Lana Adlawan

Ms. Adlawan, Supervising Librarian for Teen Services reviewed a power point presentation. Peggy Simmons and Wendy Chen also provided information on various teen programs.

Highlights included:

- Statistics - - programs, teen usage, volunteer hours, satellite usage
- 574 cumulative programs; 7718 participants
- School partnerships and community connections
- Ready, Set, Connect!
- Youth Leadership Council: Teen advocates & ambassadors - interested in leadership and communication skills. Planning Cultural Festival event in June
- Juvie to Library Pipeline: Outreach to teens in the justice system
- *The Beat Within* writing workshop at Eastmont Branch
- Youth Poet Laureate poetry workshop in the Juvenile Hall

## 2. Approval of Minutes

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

Commissioner Montgomery made a motion to approve the minutes as amended; Commissioner Goodman-Lucker seconded. All approved.

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

## 3. Chairperson’s Commission Activities Report – Chairperson Randle

- Recruitment: on March 21<sup>st</sup>, Reginald Constant and Kerrick Goodman-Lucker were appointed by Council to LAC.
- Met with Council Member McElhaney; Assembly Member Tony Thurmond, along with Director Garzón, and discussed state Bill SCA 3, CENIC, high-speed broadband for libraries.
- Proposal to hold future LAC meeting at various branch libraries. Due to commissioners’ commitments, it was agreed to hold off and bring back for consideration in the summer.

## 4. Approve Letter in Support of the Black Arts Movement and Business District (BAMBD) Application to Become a California Cultural District

*Recognition would contribute to the BAMBD's efforts to preserve and honor the contributions of the Black community in developing Oakland's unique identity, to engage in creative placemaking through the arts, and to foster a new generation of Black culture makers.*

BAMBD was created over a year ago by a City task force, and approved by a Council resolution in 2016. BAMBD includes a number of businesses and organizations in the downtown area, including AAMLO and OPL. The Library was approached by City Council Member McElhaney’s office, seeking support for legislation to the State to establish BAMBD as a state cultural district. AAMLO has already submitted a letter of support. Questions followed. Chairperson Randle called for a motion in support of the Black Arts Movement and Business District (BAMBD) application to become a California Cultural District. Commissioner Bailey made a motion in support of BAMBD’s application to become a California Cultural District. Commissioner Montgomery seconded. All approved.

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

## 5. OPL Staff Activities Reports

Director's report highlights:

- Staff developed a process for \$1000 mini grants for FOPL funding. Teen Services received one of these grants.
- Meetings with Assembly members Tony Thurmond, Rob Bonta later this week. Main topic of discussion is Assembly Bill SCA3 (lowering the voting threshold for local library bond measures to 55%). Thurmond is a huge supporter of the library. Also, seeking funding for high speed internet for libraries. OPL has received funding for Main Library and now needs funding for the branches.
- Budget Update. Attended two budget meetings in the last 2 weeks. The City is going into the new fiscal year facing a 40 million dollar deficit.

### Associate Director's report highlights:

- Jamie Turbak oversees operations and technical services. Two branch managers were selected - Susan Maldonado for Eastmont Branch, and Brian Guenther for 81<sup>st</sup> Avenue Branch; two full time librarians for Main and AAMLO. Holding interviews for PT library aides.

## 6. Outreach Standing Committee Update – Commissioner Mandros Bell

- Talked about talking points and scheduling meetings with council members. Touched on ground rules for commissioners.

## 8. Sustainability Standing Committee –

- Talked about personal interests to be on the committee. What can we do for sustainability, try to be practical for things that can be accomplished.
- Encourage people to find out what district they live and visit their councilmember.
- Chairperson reminded that commissioners are needed to co-chair these committees.

## 9. Commissioner's Advocacy Reports:

- Commissioner Bailey: Montclair Friends raised \$4000 for lighting. Public Works maintenance issues still pending (fixing shingles, drainage issue affecting neighbor). Materials holds have increased due to Dimond's temporary closure. Lots of babies at toddler story time. Doing well and is super busy on Saturday.
- Commissioner Mandros Bell: Tool Lending Friends group is getting really fancy doing promos; need to purchase container for tools, volunteer design assistance, hosting a plumbing workshop.  
*Book recommendation: Evicted, by Matthew Desmond.*
- Commissioner Perkins: Melrose Friends held retreat on March 18<sup>th</sup> and discussed focus on fundraising, continue to manage overflow of patrons due to Dimond's closure – hope to keep these patrons at Melrose since this is their neighborhood and they were not aware that this branch existed. Planning a book sale during the Summer Reading kick-off event, will have a Friends wall and buying a display rack. Got the petting zoo for national night out. Planning a yard work day. Still interested in chess board games programs. Wall is still exposed and needs fixing.
- Commissioner Montgomery: spoke with Pat Mossburg, Councilmember Reid's staff, who would convey message to CM Reid regarding how he can help to achieve the funding goals. Elmhurst branch has a chess program, new sofa in children's area. Litter

walks continue twice a month, and will contact a business owner on 88<sup>th</sup> Ave. for participation in this effort. Play Café going strong with lots of children and caregivers. Landscape volunteer to help with outside garden.

- Chairperson Randle: met with Assembly member Tony Thurmond. Also met with CM McElhaney who wanted to know when West Oakland tiles will be fixed, and also mentioned she has told the community that the Commission is very involved and supportive. Positive meeting with her. Reminded Commissioners that Vice Chair Racle is almost done serving as vice chair; need someone to step up as vice chair.
- Commissioner Kerrick: no report
- Commissioner Barbero: met with CM Guillen's assistant who asked for the numbers to staff Saturday hours at all branches. Discussed mostly the budget which was very timely due to budget process. On May 20 Lakeview Branch will hold a book sale and chess tournament, need more friends volunteers.
- Commissioner Khosla: no report.
- Commissioner Sanchez: no report.
- Commissioner's Bailey asked why OPL does not have a library foundation like Berkeley and San Francisco Public Libraries, which also have Friends groups. OPL did have a foundation at one time that discontinued its operations and dissolved. Winifred Walters was president of FOPL during existence of foundation. SFPL used to have a friends organization which then merged into foundation. Berkeley PL still has a foundation and friends group; the foundation does a gala event to raise money. Foundations require funding to hire staff and they have to raise money for salaries. Ms. Walters added that FOPL does pretty well raising money without the cost for salaries.

## 10. Agenda Building

- Budget Overview presentation.
- Adult programming, include programming events for young adults as well.
- Overview of library services.

## 11. Open Forum/Announcements

- Commissioner Kerrick was at a town hall meeting where people were talking about police at libraries. Would this make patrons feel safe and comfortable at libraries? Director Garzón commented that part of partnering with police officers is to present a different face to the community and young people through the programming we offer. Will talk with staff in children services about this issue.
- Kathryn Sterbenc, new FOPL vice president, announced that FOPL has granted more than \$1M for library programs. Invited attendees to visit the FOPL website and join FOPL.
- May 4: annual online giving event EastBayGives fund raiser, 24 hour fund raiser event.
- Fenton's Ice Creamery May special sundae to benefit FOPL all month long.
- April 20, 21, 22, 23: Annual FOPL book sale.
- FOPL and OPL advocates have secured booths for May 21 Oakland Book Festival.
- June Bay Area Book Festival: FOPL will have a table.

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

Submitted by: Gerry Garzón, Library Director