



LIBRARY ADVISORY COMMISSION (LAC) FINAL MINUTES

DATE: February 25, 2019

LOCATION: Main Library Brad Walters Community Room

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 5:35p.m. by Chairperson Mandros Bell.

ROLL CALL:

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT: 9

- Lesley Mandros Bell, Chairperson
- Alternier Cook
- Joseph Karwat
- Mary Forte
- Carolyn Moskovitz
- Jessica Jung
- Cathy Smith
- Reginald Constant
- Amy Johnson

COMMISSION MEMBERS EXCUSED: 6

- Sara McClung
- Ada Chan
- Nathaniel Dumas
- Victoria Barbero
- Aurea Lewis
- Tyron Jordan

STAFF PRESENT:

- Nina Lindsay, Acting Associate Director
- Rosalía A. Romo, Recorder

Welcomed two potential commissioners Mary Jo Cook and Caleb Smith. Viola Gonzáles should be appointed tomorrow.

1. Approval of Minutes

Chairperson Mandros Bell called for a motion to approve the minutes of January 28, 2019. Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Commissioner Forte seconded the motion. All approved.

Votes: Yes – 9; Noes – 0; Abstentions – 0

2. Chairperson’s Activities Report – Chairperson Mandros Bell

- Will start working on the LAC annual report for Council’s Life Enrichment Committee. Tentative due date: April.
- Submitted letter to Planning Commission requesting to include a new main library in the plan. Several Commissioners attended the Planning Commission meeting.
- Draft letter to the City Auditor was reviewed and approved with changes.
- Reminder that Form 700 – Conflict of Interest, is due in April. Commissioners should receive a message from the City Clerk’s Office with more details.
- Informational packets for council members visits are available to take. Chairperson Mandros Bell is available to come to these meetings as well.

3. Director’s Report – Nina Lindsay:

- Extended hours: on track with hiring, and new aides are being trained through March to open on April 1st. Finalizing press release for new hours.
- School strike: branch libraries have been opened regular hours and are quite busy – not overwhelmed yet – with additional activities and snacks through the strike. Library staff is working closely with schools to provide information and connecting people with the school community and services.
- Tickets available for “The Public”, a movie by Emilio Estevez. Special screening on March 11th at the 81st Avenue Branch. Contact Rosalía if interested, limited capacity.

Chairperson Mandros Bell thanked staff for their efforts and support during the strike. In response to a question regarding these type of crisis, Ms. Lindsay clarified that there is no special “emergency budget” allocated to city departments. In case of major disasters / emergencies, the City has an Emergency Plan and every city department has a role in it. Some branch libraries have been designated as Point of Distribution (POD) centers to distribute water and/ or other supplies.

Also need clarification whether Measure D is going to be part of Measure Q LAC oversight responsibility.

4. Sustainability Standing Committee Update – Commissioner Smith

Commissioners Smith and Chan are co-chairs. Last meeting discussed LAC orientation packet, and preparation for the Budget 101 session. Questions were reviewed, and one item was added: maintenance and infrastructure costs. Information will be provided to Gene Tom to prepare presentation. Clarification was requested from Library Director re the materials purchase resolution approved by Council and how this affects purchasing at OPL.

5. Outreach Standing Committee Update – Commissioner Constant

Commissioners Lewis and Constant are co-chairs. Committee met on Feb 18 and discussed:

- Annual social mixer Dec 1st - present a shorter program. Staff will check on new date (Dec 8th) for mixer since Dec 1st falls the same week of Thanksgiving.
- Community outreach for council members meetings and develop talking points for these meetings.
- Measure D and how branches benefit their communities.
- Promoting Hoover and San Antonio branches project and how LAC can help. There was a motion to draft a support letter for Hoover project. All approved. Chairperson Mandros Bell will draft.

Commissioners want to know what else is there to do to ensure libraries are included in the Downtown Plan. Chairperson Mandros Bell will send the dates for the upcoming public hearings. It is important to attend these hearings to provide input, be present and have a voice. Ask Library Director what else is needed to ensure a new main library is included.

6. Commissioner’s Advocacy Reports

- Chairperson Mandros Bell: attended an author event featuring a conversation with M.K. Asante and Angie Thomas held at Oakland Tech High with OPL and OUSD participation; there was also a reading by two Oakland Youth Poet Laureates - - Samuel Getachew and Leila Mottley.
- Commissioner Johnson: attended Friends of Dimond meeting; maintenance issues continue with Public Works, there should be a way of making process more transparent on how things move to get done. Trees are dangerous and need to be removed (falling trees in the past), need to put pressure on PW to get things done.
- Commissioner Constant: West Oakland branch staff participated in the Black Joy parade with games and books booth. Other city agencies had prime spaces, and the Library was tucked in a corner out of sight. It was suggested to ask FOPL to pay for a table next year and get more visibility.
- Commissioner Smith: attended Lakeview Friends meeting. The wood carving event did not take place as artist did not show up.
- Commissioner Jung: spoke with Melrose branch manager re programming for next few months. Melrose Leadership Academy is using library space for a program. With extended hours at branches, branch managers will not be on site all the time, and this may pose a challenge for branches. How can this be supported?
- Commissioner Moskovitz: Rockridge Branch is hosting event “What’s new in breast cancer research” by Summit Medical Center. The branch was closed one day due to lack of heat; boiler temporarily fixed for now. The RR Friends do a branch clean-up once a year in March.
- Commissioner Forte: Elmhurst Branch had no heat for two days. Story time at Allen Temple Church. Public Works repainted the handicap parking area.
- Commissioner Karwat: adopted the Chavez Branch and will visit soon.
- Commissioner Cook: Asian Branch has a new children’s librarian aboard. Hoover Durant had a successful street corner lib event; next one is March 23 on Market, 30th Street and San Pablo. Need book donations and volunteers to help with IT and

newsletter, and project in general. Teen meeting on March 7th, 5:30 p.m. at the West Oakland Youth Center. Hoover Durant group met with Director Turbak and looking for a piece of land (donated). Visit Facebook page: friends of the hoover branch library. Email Ms. Cook to pick up book donations.

9. Agenda Building:

- OPL maintenance and infrastructure discussion
- Tool Lending and Hoover Durant partnering
- Funding options, raising money for library (invite Winifred Walters for presentation)
- How do we work with other partners or agencies to acquire land for library sites?
- OPW overview of facilities, maintenance. Invite PW Director
- State advocacy

10. Open Forum/Announcements

Caleb Smith was a member of the Library's Youth Leadership Council. Interested to serve on the LAC and has submitted his application.

11. Adjournment - Meeting adjourned at 7:15PM.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/

Jamie Turbak, Interim Library Director