



LIBRARY ADVISORY COMMISSION (LAC) DRAFT MINUTES

Date: June 27, 2022

Recording: http://oakland.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?publish_id=866e1d7a-020c-11ed-baa3-0050569183fa

Location: Zoom video conference

Pursuant to California Government Code section 54953(e), Library Advisory Commission Board Members/Commissioners, as well as City staff, will participate via phone/video conference, and no physical teleconference locations are required.

CALL TO ORDER: Co-Chair Carolyn Moskowitz called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: 10

Alternier Cook
Nathaniel Dumas, Co-Chair
Mary Forte, Vice-Chair
Carolyn Moskowitz, Co-Chair
Ayushi Roy
Karen Roye
Caleb Smith
Cathy Smith
Cristina Tostado
Angelica Valentine

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: 0

STAFF PRESENT: 2

Jamie Turbak, OPL Director
Kere Gonzales, Executive Assistant to the Director

1. Approval of Draft Minutes: May 23, 2022

Commissioner Mary Forte reported an error in a section of the minutes and asked that minutes be amended to include the corrections. Commissioner Karen Roye made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Commissioner Mary Forte seconded the motion. Commissioner Cristina Tostado was not present for this portion of the meeting and did not cast a vote. All others in favor. Motion approved.

The minutes, as amended and approved, will be posted to the website.

2. AB-361 Adoption of Teleconference Resolution

In 2020, due to Covid-19, the Governor issued emergency executive order N-29-20 which suspended the teleconferencing requirements of the Brown Act. That executive order expired on September 30, 2021.

In September 2021, Assembly Bill 361 was signed and authorized local agencies to use teleconference without complying with the teleconference requirements imposed by the Brown Act when the legislative body holds a meeting during a declared state of emergency. This resolution is being re-adopted so that the commission can meet via teleconference.

Commissioner Mary Forte made a motion to adopt the resolution. Commissioner Caleb Smith seconded the motion. Commissioner Cristina Tostado was not present for this portion of the meeting and did not cast a vote. All others in favor. Motion approved and resolution adopted.

3. Open Forum/Public Comment (2-minute limit)

There were no public comments made during this meeting.

4. Move Recess to August and Meet in July?

Commissioner Mary Forte shared that Sustainability Committee had discussed moving recess during their meeting and agreed to move recess to August. Others chimed in and were also in agreement. There was a motion made to move the commission's annual recess from July to August. After further discussion and clarification, the motion was amended. Commissioner Caleb Smith made the following amended motion: "Starting now and going forward, the Library Advisory Commission's annual recess will align with the City Council's annual recess." Commissioner Mary Forte seconded the motion. Commissioner Cristina Tostado was not present for this portion of the meeting and did not cast a vote. All others in favor. Motion approved. The next LAC meeting will take place on Monday, July 25, 2022.

5. Updating Library Advisory Commission Ordinance

Director Jamie Turbak explained that the ordinance is the document that authorizes the work of the Library Advisory Commission and names its responsibilities. Due to the passage of Measure C, amendments will be made to the ordinance. Director Jamie Turbak explained that this is an opportunity to make amendments to the ordinance regarding meeting frequency, committee structure, commission size, etc. Following Director Jamie Turbak's comments, Co-Chair Carolyn Moskovitz opened the floor for discussion. Below is a summary of comments received.

- Commissioner Caleb Smith suggested to change the name from Library Advisory Commission to Library Commission.
- Commissioner Mary Forte shared the findings from her research and proposed a discussion about the number of commissioners, term lengths, and term limits. She also asked about bylaws that were mentioned in the ordinance and branch advocacy.
- Director Jamie Turbak explained that staff have never been able to locate a set of bylaws for the commission.
- Commissioner Karen Roye suggested that the commission write bylaws so that future commission members understand their roles better and have a roadmap as part of onboarding.
- Director Jamie Turbak shared an idea that the commissioners are assigned districts rather than branches to ensure that all branches are represented by the commission.
- Commissioner Cathy Smith noted that assigned districts would help to represent all of Oakland.
- Co-Chair Carolyn Moskovitz suggested that the Co-Chairs draft a list of recommendations during their agenda planning meeting then bring it back to the July meeting for consideration by the group.

There was continued discussion and input about updates to the ordinance. Director Jamie Turbak told the commission they can continue the discussions and there is no rush. She suggested an ad hoc committee or sending suggestions to her directly.

As the discussion wrapped up, staff Kere Gonzales suggested a survey or similar document to gather feedback and responses that would be shared at the July meeting.

6. Director's Update

Director Jamie Turbak covered the following:

- Measure C passed on June 7th with an astounding 82.35% of the voters voting yes! This is the highest approval rating ever. By comparison, Measure Q passed with 68% of voters voting yes. This is due to the great work of the LAC and the campaign. With the passage of Measure C, a few procedural things must happen:
 - The County must finalize the results of the election.
 - The City Council must certify the results that the County has finalized.
 - The City must send the County a list of tax measures that County is authorized to levy. At this time, the County is only authorized to levy for Measure Q.
- As part of the budget deliberations, there is a proposal to dissolve the Measure Q reserve fund. This is a fund that was mandated under Measure Q; a set aside for rainy day purposes. That language was removed from Measure C. There is about \$900K in the reserve fund that was set aside. At Jamie's request, Council will consider dissolving that reserve and moving the money into a spendable account.
- Recently, there have been a number of very serious security incidents in the library. We've seen an uptick in violent incidents including three stabbings and an incident with a taser. The request to Council is to use the reserve fund monies for safety and security upgrades.
- The Summer Reading program is happening. OPL is also offering free lunches at seven locations for youth.

- OPL has not yet heard back about the infrastructure grants submitted to the state for facility improvements at AAMLO and Brookfield.

7. Co-chairperson' Commission Update

Co-chair Carolyn Moskovitz congratulated the Measure C team and specifically Commissioner Caleb Smith on their efforts and strategy with getting ballot measure passed.

Co-chair Nathaniel Dumas reported that he planned to screen the LAC applications with the other chairs.

8. Standing Committees Updates

Commissioner Mary Forte reported that Sustainability committee met in June and discussed moving the recess, suggestions for updating the ordinance, ways to bring on new members, and library advocacy. She also reported that Mark Hayes reported progress with the hiring of custodial staff.

Commissioner Angelica Valentine reported that Community Engagement committee did not meet in June but would meet in July and would give an update at the July LAC meeting.

9. Commissioner Advocacy Update

Commissioner Mary Forte reported that Elmhurst Branch closed early on two days due to heat. It was also reported that they have lost three staff in the last month. There is still an issue with the encampment across the street.

Commissioner Cristina Tostado reported that Summer Reading program is starting at the Asian Branch on June 30. There will also be online classes on July 13th, 20th, and 27th where patrons can learn Cantonese. Staff are excited about the upcoming activities. There were no other advocacy reports.

10. Agenda Building

Commissioner Caleb Smith brought the idea of working with Parks and Recreation Commission to draft a joint letter to City Council requesting that they amend their Consolidated Fiscal Policy to write the maintenance of effort contribution into their standard policy.

- **July-** Racial Equity Team/ Ordinance Survey/Joint Letter to City Council
- **August-** Recess
- **September-** Strategic Plan Revision/Public Works Update
- **October-** Budget Update

11. Farewell to Commissioner Mary Jo Cook

Commissioners and Director Turbak gave kudos, well wishes, and expressed gratitude to our departing commissioner Mary Jo Cook.

12. Adjournment - Meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM

Respectfully submitted,

/ s /

Kere Gonzales, Executive Assistant to the Director