



LIBRARY COMMISSION DRAFT MINUTES

Date: November 25, 2024

Recording: https://oakland.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?publish_id=2f199695-ac2a-11ef-ab4b-005056a89546

Location: Dimond Branch, 3565 Fruitvale Avenue, Oakland, CA 94602

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Gabrielle Sloane Law called the meeting to order at 5:54 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: 6

Brad Boyd
Carolyn Jones
Karen Roye
Gabrielle Sloane Law, Chair
Cristina Tostado
Karen Zukor

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: 5

Chiye Azuma, Vice-Chair
Brittany Rae Buckmire
Alternier Cook
Anand Patel
Alex Weinberg

STAFF PRESENT: 2

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

1. Roll Call

2. Open Forum/Public Comment

There were no members of the public present during open forum.

3. Approval of Draft Minutes: October 28, 2024

Commissioners Cristina Tostado noted that she had been present for the October meeting although the minutes reflected her as absent. Staff Kere Gonzales apologized for the error and introduced an amendment to the minutes. Commissioner Karen Roye made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Commissioner Karen Zukor seconded. All in favor. Motion approved.

4. Finalize Action Plan

The following changes were made to the Action Plan:

Objective 2, item 5- The words “As required” were added in the When column.

Objective 3, item 1- The word “Commission” was changed to “Committee” in the Who column.

Objective 5, item 3- The words “for Library staff” were removed from the statement in the What column.

Commissioner Karen Roye made a motion to approve the Action Plan as amended. Commissioner Karen Zukor seconded. All in favor. Motion approved. The Action Plan will be added to the website and the new commissioner orientation packet.

5. Racial Equity Training and Mentorship

Commissioner Karen Roye shared her findings regarding the onboarding, mentorship, and racial equity training and processes for other library systems.

Staff Kere Gonzales shared the process OPL uses for onboarding commissioners.

There was discussion among commissioners regarding the availability, type, and frequency of the racial equity training. It was decided that this portion of the discussion and the decision regarding training options will be deferred to the January 2025 meeting when more commissioners are present.

6. Elections in January

Staff Kere Gonzales explained that per the bylaws, elections must take place at the first meeting of each calendar year. In January 2025, there will be elections for the Chair and Vice-Chair of the full commission. There will also be elections for the Chair of each of the committees.

Commissioner Gabrielle Sloane Law shared her experience as well as the summary of the duties and encouraged commissioners to consider a role and prepare for nominations and a vote at the January meeting.

7. Director’s Update

Director Jamie Turbak covered the following:

- Main Library will reopen with on December 2nd. There will be an open house on a later date, possibly in January.
- Due to the recent rain, Rockridge and West Oakland branches had roof leaks that are being addressed.
- OUSD has decided not to extend the lease at the space where the Piedmont Avenue branch is located.
- Departments have been asked to come up with proposals for cuts as part of the ongoing budget process.

8. Update on West Oakland Branch

Commissioner Karen Roye reported that West Oakland Branch is seeing more patrols and walking from OPD which is supporting the security guards on site at the branch.

9. Chairperson’s Update

Chair Gabrielle Sloane Law reported that she met with the OPL Advocates which is a coalition of friends’ groups. She reported that she will attend each meeting and encouraged commissioners join a meeting as well because it’s important to have a liaison between the OPL Advocates and the commission. She also reported that the ‘save the date’ for the mixer will go out in February for which the commission will provide one co-host and some of the food.

Chair Gabrielle Sloane Law also shared that she has talking points from the OPL Advocates that she will share with the commission.

10. Standing Committee Updates

Community Engagement Committee

There was no report because the committee did not meet due to lack of quorum.

Sustainability Committee

There was no report because the committee was not scheduled to meet in November.

11. Ad Hoc Committee Updates

Survey- The survey is with Director Turbak and team for next steps.

12. Commissioner Advocacy Updates

Commissioner Karen Roye reported that AAMLO is hosting their holiday meet and greet on December 14th from 11a-1p.

Commissioner Karen Roye also reported that Lakeview branch is hosting an artwork exhibit. Anyone can go to the branches’ website to find instructions to get their art displayed.

13. Agenda Building

December 2024- Recess

January 2025- Elections, Commission Assignments, Racial Equity Training,

February 2025- Quarterly Maintenance Report

March 2025

14. Adjournment - Meeting adjourned at 7:16 PM

Respectfully submitted,

/ s /

Kere Gonzales, Executive Assistant