



San Francisco Public Library

MINUTES
Council of Neighborhood Libraries
January 24, 2019
4:00 p.m.
Meeting Notes
CALL TO ORDER

Meeting Location: Latino Hispanic Room

Facilitator: Cathy Delneo, Chief of Branches

Attendees: AJ Cave (ANZ), Larry Ware (BAY), Nina Youkelson (BHE) Excused, Lena Yu (CHI) Excused, Penni Wisner (EVA), Marcia Parrott (EXC) Excused, Ruth Grabowski (EXC) Excused, Nora Dowley (GPA), Jules Older (GGV) Excused, Susan Leurey (MER), Judy Blanchard (MER), Mailine Chew (MBA), Ruth Maginnis (NVA), Kathleen McClay (NBE), Tyrone (Ty) Robinson (NBE), Pinkie Bolden (OVI) Excused, Edna James (OVI), Bessie Hahn (ORT), Marcia Ehrlich (PAR), Diane Silver (PAR), Michael Leahy (PSI) Excused, Don Thielges (POR) Excused, Marcia Popper (PRE), Kaitlyn Tran (PRE) Excused, Elaine Cahn (RIC), Joan Walton (SUN) Excused, Deborah Oppenheim (SUN) Excused, Rochelle Fort (VVA), Maryam Roberts (WPO) Excused, Callen Taylor (WSA) Excused

Library Administrators: Sue Blackman (Library Commission Secretary)

Guests: Anne Vannucchi (Southeast District Manager), Roberto Lombardi (Facilities Director)

HOUSEKEEPING

- There will not be a CNL Meeting in February. The next regular **CNL Meeting** will be on **Thursday, March 28, 4:00 p.m. in the Latino Hispanic Room B, Main Library, Lower Level**
- The next **Library Commission Meeting** will be on **Thursday, February 7, 4:30 p.m. at the Koret Auditorium, Main Library.**

CNL Members to attend the upcoming Library Commission Meeting:

_____ & _____

Please contact the Chief of Branches Office if you would like to volunteer to attend the meeting.

- The Library Commission on February 21 has been cancelled. There will be a second Library Commission Meeting on Thursday, February 28, which will be a closed session to discuss the City Librarian Recruitment.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Upcoming Branch Open Houses**

Saturday	February 23	Bayview	1:00 – 4:00 pm
Saturday	March 9	Richmond	1:00 – 5:00 pm
Saturday	March 9	Parkside	2:00 – 5:00 pm
Saturday	March 16	Presidio	1:00 – 5:00 pm
Saturday	March 16	Visitacion Valley	12:00 – 4:00 pm

- Cathy introduced Anne Vannucchi, who is the new provisional South East District Manager in the Chief of Branches Office. Anne has most recently served as the Branch Manager of the Eureka Valley Branch. She currently oversees the Bayview, Bernal Heights, Excelsior, Glen Park, Portola, and Visitacion Valley Branches.
- [*Take Part*](#) is a program in partnership with the SFMOMA exhibiting a scale model of San Francisco from 1938 built by the WPA. From January 25th through March 25th, a piece of the model will be on view at each branch, the Main and at the Public Knowledge Library at SFMOMA. There will be over 100 related programs and activities for adults, youth and children, as well as a passport activity.
- [*Night of Ideas*](#) is a program in partnership with the SFMOMA and the French Consulate where ideas are exchanged to envision a San Francisco of the future. The seven-hour marathon of debate, performances, readings and music is a free event that will take place at the Main Library on February 2nd from 7pm – 2 am! Free tickets are available on Eventbrite.

UPDATES

Library Commission Report – Sue Blackman

- The Library Commission now has a full board with the appointments of Pete Huang and Connie Wolf.
- City Librarian Recruitment Update

- The Hawkins Company has begun the recruitment process. The [City Librarian recruitment announcement](#) can be found on the [Library's website](#).
- The Hawkins Company will submit the names of candidates to the Library Commission during a closed session meeting on February 28.
- The names of three finalists for the position will be presented to the Mayor for consideration on March 15.
- Fine Free Presentation – The Library Commission approved the recommendation to eliminate overdue fines in order to better support SFPL's mission of providing free and equal access to the community.
 - [Fines and Fees Memo: January 14, 2019](#)
 - [Fines and Fees Schedule Revision](#)
 - [Fines and Fees White Paper](#)
 - [Fines and Fees Resolution](#)
 - [Fines and Fees Ordinance](#)
- Supplemental Budget 2019
 - The Library is expected to receive \$9M from a state property tax fund refund. This money will be used for projects at the Main Library.
 - Seismic Moat Replacement – The moat is the granite that surrounds the building which allows it to move safely during an earthquake.
 - Fulton Street Activation Project – As part of the Civic Center Commons and Public Realm Plan, the project would create a new entrance to the Children's Center on Fulton Street, as well as study the possibility of creating gardens, a teaching space and public gathering space.
 - [Supplemental Budget 2019](#)
 - [Property Tax Allocations November 29, 2018](#)
- Budget FY20-21
 - The funds to renovate the Mission and Ocean View Branches has been secured.
 - \$20M has been identified to fund the Chinatown Branch renovation.
 - [Branch Capital Projects Memo: January 14, 2019](#)
 - [Branch Capital Projects January 2019](#)

Branch Renovations – Roberto Lombardi

- The three branches set for renovation: Mission, Chinatown and Ocean View, were not part of the Branch Library Improvement (BLIP) bond of 2000, and since the 1990's, when these branches were last renovated, library buildings have evolved to accommodate the changing role of the library in the community, and the services it provides.
- The Branch Capital Projects Feasibility Study relied on staff input to convey the changing needs of the branch, and to establish a set of guiding principles for building planning.
- Mission Branch
 - Community engagement meetings have taken place in order to stay in touch with the needs of the neighborhood, test fit ideas, and provide progress reports on the collaboration with the historic architect.
- Ocean View
 - The first community meeting will be on February 20th.

- Prior to the meeting there have been conversations with community leaders, and multilingual surveys filled out by the community.
- Chinatown
 - The first community meeting will be held in June 2019.
- **ACTION** – The Library relies on community members to let us know what they want for their neighborhood branch. CNL members please spread the word about the community meetings, and use your connections to help get people to attend!

Fine Free Presentation – Cathy Delneo

- With help from the Financial Justice Project, the Library has found that overdue fines do not mesh with SFPL’s ideal of open access for all, and is recommending the elimination of overdue fines.
- According to the [Fines and Fees white paper](#) written by Joseph Monardo, a UC Berkeley Goldman School of Public Policy Fellow, overdue fines do the following:
 - disproportionately affect low-income, racial-minority communities and those without college degrees
 - create a barrier to access and exacerbate inequality
 - create conflicts between patrons and the library
 - do not ensure materials are brought back
- More than fifty libraries across the country have removed overdue fines, and the proposal has support from Mayor London Breed.
- In addition to removing overdue fines, SFPL is looking into implementing auto renewal, billing items sooner, and increasing the frequency and number of late notices before an item is billed.
- AJ (ANZ) expressed concerns that by going fine free patrons will no longer be held accountable for late materials. Edna (OVI) expressed the same concern, and added that it could create bad habits in young people. Both suggested a rewards program for patrons who return their materials on time.

Adjournment: 5:30 pm

Respectfully Submitted by Florinda Battad