



San Francisco Public Library

SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC LIBRARY COMMISSION

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 6, 2012

(As approved at the Regular Meeting of February 7, 2013)

The San Francisco Public Library Commission held a regular meeting on Thursday, December 6, 2012 in the Koret Auditorium Main Library.

The meeting was called to order at 4:46 pm.

Commissioners present: Kane, Munson, Nguyen and Ono

Commissioners excused: Gomez and Randlett

Vice-President Munson announced that due to the number of items on the agenda and the fact that we will lose a quorum shortly after 7:00, he is going to limit public comment to two minutes for each speaker.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1 PUBLIC COMMENT

An anonymous citizen said “Maybe what you should do is what they used to do in the old Roman Republic – elect Ms. Gomez for the position of dictator for life and then at least the rest of us would have the hope an assassination might result in a change of leadership.” He said let’s take this opportunity to review the Library Commission for the past year. He said you have a President who is guilty of official misconduct with no defense or justification. He said the Friends of the Library are crooks and your continuing defense is self serving willful blindness. He said your City Librarian has been found guilty of violating the Sunshine Ordinance and referred to the Board of Supervisors. He said your meeting attendance is so low that several of you should have been removed under the Mayor’s attendance policy. He said you have only held 6 meetings in the last 6 months when the schedule called for 9. He said the only politically connected member of your group resigned a full 6 months ago and the Mayor has not been able to find a seventh to join you since then. (See Addendum for a summary of this comment submitted by the speaker.)

Ray Hartz, Director, San Francisco Open Government, said he agrees with what the previous speaker has said. He said last night the Sunshine Task Force found three additional violations against the Library for failing

to put his 150 word summaries within the body of the Minutes. He read the following statement: "William Shakespeare had it right when he wrote 'Uneasy lies the head that wears the crown.' Reading from a San Francisco Police Department incident report filed on February 2, 2012, 'In the three minute public comment before the vote for my re-election of the San Francisco Public Library Commission, Ray Hartz, Jr. ranted about my bullying the other Commissioners so they felt they had to vote for me. His agitation has often been unnerving at the meetings and often focused on me.' He said at a previous meeting he said that Ms. Gomez does not understand what it means to be a leader and both she and Luis Herrera should stop sending Sue Blackman to defend them, unsuccessfully, I might point out, before the Sunshine Ordinance Task Force and the Ethics Commission. Exhibit at least some level of personal integrity and take responsibility for your own actions instead of sending a low-level subordinate to try to explain away leadership failings." He said that goes for this entire body. He said you send Ms. Blackman to defend your policies because you haven't got the moral courage or integrity to have an open discussion in front of the public. He said that is cowardly and it is really unfair to take a subordinate and send them constantly and repeatedly before other public bodies to defend your actions when you haven't got the courage to do it yourself.

Peter Warfield, Executive Director, Library Users Association said welcome to the cultural cleansing and cultural destruction commission and the library privatization commission as well. He said two sides of the Bernal Heights library mural were painted out on October 4, and the front is now cleaned with beige paint. He said there is no scaffolding and no explanation of what that means. He said there is no evidence of any ongoing work to replace the mural. He said the mission statement for the library is "the San Francisco Public Library System is dedicated to free and equal access to information, knowledge, independent learning and the joys of reading for our diverse community." He said what is the first thing you see when you enter the library from the Market Street side but the Friends' SFPL bookstore announcing a December sale where members will get a 25% discount. He said if you are not a member, you pay the full price. He said tomorrow the library is turning over one of the branches to the Friends for a private party open only to the members. He said if it were during library hours it would be a violation of the library's meeting room policy, but it is not. He said all of these are problematic and disturbing.

Vice-President Munson explained that we are limiting the speaker's time to two minutes and he would like the speakers to respect that.

Peter Warfield, Executive Director, Library Users Association, said he does not agree with the decision for speakers to only have two minutes and he does not think a 7:00 end time justifies that.

Ojocion Ingram said she is a member of the San Francisco Library for the Blind Advisory Committee and she said she wanted to thank you for having Mr. Roberto Lombardi get in touch with the Committee regarding

the over accessibility of the library for the blind. She said the three issues are software, hardware and the city budget. She said she will be moving this along with the Commission's help. She said she appreciates the Commission's quick action.

Nancy Thompson said she does not have a computer in her apartment but she likes having access in the library. She said she would like to see a continual availability of electric typewriters and the ability to play CDs in the library. She said many young people are addicted to computers and they need alternatives. She said she depends on the library to allow her to use electric typewriters. She said some people don't know the difference between computer space and real space.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2 FRIENDS OF THE SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC LIBRARY REPORT

Scott Staub, Executive Director, Friends of the San Francisco Public Library, said the public private partnership between the Library and the Friends has been and continues to be a resounding success by any measure. He gave a presentation on the financial and programmatic support by the Friends. He said the Friends have equipped and provided furniture and fixtures for 22 branch libraries. He said they are preparing to open the Bayview Branch and are beginning planning for the North Beach campaign. He gave the results of the BLIP program and said visits have increased by 113%, new card registration has increased by 170% and circulation has increased by 86%. He gave the details of Friends expenditure from FY 2005-06 through 11/30/12 totaling \$14,317,889. He said the Friends have provided a level of detail for total gifts by branch. He said the Friends have a 4 star rating for accountability and transparency from Charity Navigator. He said IRS Form 990 is posted on the website and the latest audited financial statement will be posted on the website.

Explanatory documents: [financial](#) statement; [Friends of the San Francisco Public Library](#) report.

Public Comment

An anonymous citizen said if you were decent people who cared about the truth not only would the citizens have access to the graphics but groups like the Library Users Association, San Francisco Open Government and the Original Library Movement would be given equal time and access to the graphics to present a balanced view in order to reveal the truth. He said with no fairness in the investigation how can there be accountability. He said three minutes would have been too little time to point out the outrageous dishonesty of this presentation. He said the Sunshine Ordinance requires the posting of both direct and indirect payments. He said are you now admitting that those postings have been defective up until now. He said contemporaneous disclosure is the holy grail of accountability. He said this means that with respect to both the Friends and the BLIP program, the contemporaneous disclosures were meaningless. He said Mr. Kane could tell you that if a lawyer did this he

wouldn't get paid because it would be a violation of ethics rules. (See Addendum for a summary of this comment submitted by the speaker.)

Ray Hartz, Director, San Francisco Open Government, said posting the 990s and the financial statement on the Friends website is an improvement over what you did have which is absolutely nothing. He read the following statement "It is truly amazing what can be manufactured in the way of documents when someone's feet are put to the fire. When the City Librarian, Luis Herrera was found by a vote of 9-1 by the Sunshine Ordinance Task Force to have withheld public records, these documents apparently didn't exist. Now years of financial figures relating to contributions made by the Friends to the Branch Library Improvement Program, suddenly appear as if by magic. If I have this clear it went from \$1.1 Million in January to \$8.8 Million in February and now it has jumped to \$14.3 Million. Since members of the public only received this data dump in the last few days time will be needed for analysis. Still missing, however, are requirements of the framework, which I have mentioned multiple times, that includes quarterly reports of cash pledges and other sources of funding by the Friends to the public library." He said he would assume that other documents are going to show up slowly but surely and as the previous speaker said going back after the fact and manufacturing documents is something that in most instances would be considered illegal.

Peter Warfield, Library Users Association, said it is hard to know whether to laugh or something sadder. He said there are a great many questions that need to be answered. He said the likelihood of the Commissioners asking the questions is very low. He said the BLIP bond measure passed in 2000 and until earlier this year we had reports that the total that had been expended or encumbered for the entire project by the Friends was \$1.1 Million. He said there has been an extraordinary ballooning of the claimed expenses because of very intense public pressure to question what has been going on. He said the questions are directed to you and the Library Administration and we would like to know what the Library has been receiving all along.

Commission Discussion

Commissioner Kane said he appreciates the Friends coming in and making the report, which was at the request of the Library Commission. He said the number that has been reported in the Bond Report has been \$5.3 Million from their direct expenditures. He said we have always provided that information from our records. He said this is the first we have had the full detailed report.

Luis Herrera, City Librarian, said we have always had a lot of detail on the direct costs that we have received from the Friends. He said what were not defined and delineated were the direct costs and that is what has been presented today.

Commissioner Kane said in the future we should get the full report from the Friends. He said the details of what was purchased for each branch would be helpful. He said he appreciates the hard work of the volunteers of the Friends and we couldn't have these fabulous new branches without all of their hard work.

Luis Herrera, City Librarian, said we are working with the Controller's office to insure that the way City agencies report indirect costs are in conformance and that the information that the Friends have provided do meet those requirements. He said thank you to Scott and his team because as an independent nonprofit they are usually not required to provide that level of detail and they have done so pursuant to the Commission's request.

Commissioner Ono asked for additional information about the 990s.

Scott Staub, Executive Director Friends of the Library, said that as a nonprofit the tax form they file is the 990. He said to be completely transparent they have posted the 990 and have shown the fundraising costs separately.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3 LIBRARY OPEN HOURS PRELIMINARY REPORT

Luis Herrera, City Librarian, said there have been hearings in each of the eleven supervisorial districts to get input on the revision of library open hours. He said the firm Corey, Canapery and Galanis is a San Francisco based research firm that has been working on this report and they have provided the preliminary results from all the data collected.

John Canapery said he will be presenting some preliminary results on the surveys that have been done on library open hours. He explained the purpose and methodology of the four surveys conducted. He said the four types of surveys were library users, staff, stakeholders and non-users. He explained the survey details and said the respondent's level of interest was very high. He said it exceeded the target quota of 1,000 since they received 2,486 surveys. He said a detailed report is currently being prepared and will be made available to Commission members in January. He said getting feedback now will provide us with a better means to refine the report. He said we asked a number of questions regarding usage, average time spent at the library, reasons for using, other libraries visited, and reasons for using the library. He said the key questions on the survey had to do with hours. He said they asked if the hours are meeting current needs, what the impact would be if there were fewer hours, what the impact would be if there were more hours and what hours people thought they would use. He said statistics were broken out by Supervisorial Districts. He said another question asked was if the library offered fewer hours would it have an impact and if so what the impact would be. He went over comparisons of the user survey with the results of the staff survey and the stakeholder survey. He gave an overview of the non-users survey. He said the next steps are to finalize

cross tabulated tables and data review and complete the draft report with high level findings and detailed results.

Explanatory document: [Open Hours Preliminary Report](#).

Public Comment

A woman from the audience said she utilizes almost every corner of the Main library.

An anonymous citizen said this was a nice long report and perhaps you could have invited someone like the Library Users Association to present as well and giving them access to the graphics and equal time. He said Jill Bourne stole one of his comments, but he is gratified someone is paying attention. He said this is the kind of survey that under the original Library Preservation Fund had to be ready to be presented to the neighborhood meetings. He said the reason was to allow the neighborhood to be informed and express their political will. He said this administration changed the law, and then took advantage of the change. He said you are told this will be incorporated into the upcoming budget process, however, there is no budget process this year because it is a biennial budget process. He said this will be in the mind of Mr. Herrera and he wishes Mr. Herrera would tell us what that is. He said of course, we have the stakeholders again, and some groups were encouraged with special access. (See Addendum for a summary of this comment submitted by the speaker.)

Ray Hartz, Director, San Francisco Open Government, said he spent a number of years in the United States Navy and attended many post graduate courses at the Naval Post Graduate School in Monterey, California on the design, implementation and feedback of survey instruments and then spent four years doing that for the military and civil service employees of the Department of Defense. He said he will be very interested in looking at the methodology and feedback of the surveys. He said the idea of stakeholders is one way of loading a survey to get results that you want. He said you have certain groups like the Friends of the Library and give them special access to the survey. He said the results you get can be manipulated. He said the variation between what the staff said and what the public said is very interesting.

Peter Warfield, Executive Director, Library Users Association, said it is very unfair that you have an extremely important item and are only allowing two minutes for public comment. He said the term stakeholders is very, very troubling because it hasn't been defined as to who has been invited and so forth and the idea that there are library related groups that were encouraged to participate. He said he can tell you that the Library Users Association did not get invited or encouraged to participate. He said that is a big problem. He said there are basic questions that this did not ask. He said it doesn't appear if folks were asked if they wanted more hours and if so what hours they would be. He said this is a very critical question. He said when you load the answers with people who are using the library you are more likely to get an approval of what exists than if you

ask more of the people who are not using the library because of the hours.

Melissa Riley, Librarian at West Portal and a member of the Stewards of the Library Workers' Union, said she wants to respond to a couple of comments. She said it may seem that consistency of hours would be desirable; she said she finds herself directing people to other libraries where a book is available later in the evening or the next morning. She said the variation actually provides a lot more flexibility for people to use the branches. She said it is easy to get a copy of the hours for the branches. She said there are a lot of benefits to having the variations of the hours for the branches. She said there was a very short time period for staff to respond to the survey. She said the same might have been true for the online website.

Commission Discussion

Commissioner Nguyen said there are four primary surveys and wanted to clarify that those were the only surveys. He asked how the people were found for the non-users survey.

John Canapery said there were only four surveys. He said the non-users were found by random digit dial and then one of the first questions was whether the person had used the library any time in the last two years. He said if they had, they were not part of the non-user survey.

Commissioner Nguyen said he would like to know more about the reasons people had not used the library and whether mobility was an issue.

John Canapery said they did ask why people had not used the library and they are still compiling that information.

Commissioner Ono asked if there was a way to look at the results of the survey by branch.

John Canapery said they do have the results by branch as well as Supervisorial district. He said the survey results will be kept separately and not intermingled amongst the different surveys.

Commissioner Ono asked about whether the results will be broken down by demographics. She also asked for a list of the stakeholder groups.

John Canapery said they did ask age and ethnicity so they will be providing information with that breakdown. He said one of the questions on the survey was how the participant found out about the survey, so they will have a breakdown on that as well.

Commissioner Ono asked about the staff survey and how long it was available.

John Canapery said the staff survey was available for one week.

Commissioner Nguyen asked about how stakeholders are defined and how the public differs from the other components of the surveys.

John Canapery said the intercept surveys were done by going to the branches and actually talking to individuals who are users of the library. He said the idea of stakeholders was to have other interested parties participate. He said he will do the breakdown in the report. He said that data will be looked at separately.

Commissioner Kane asked about the number of people who completed each survey.

John Canapery said the user survey was filled out by 2,486 people. He said the stakeholder survey was filled out by 598, and the staff survey was filled out by 508.

Jill Bourne, Deputy City Librarian said the staff survey was completed by about 60% of staff.

John Canapery said the non-users survey was done by 300 people.

Commissioner Kane said 64% of the users indicated they would use the library if there were more hours. He said to him that is a huge number going forward. He said he thinks there should be core hours open every day and each branch open seven days a week. He said he is curious about seasonality when schools are not in session.

John Canapery said they did not ask a question about seasonality.

Commissioner Kane said 80% of library users use the computers and only 10% come for exhibits and programs so when we do the budget he would like to look at how much we are spending in these categories.

Vice-President Munson said this was an excellent presentation.

Commissioner Nguyen asked about why visiting other libraries is useful to the users.

John Canapery said that question was asked to see if patrons were locked in to a certain library. He said they also asked a follow up question about which other library was used by the patrons.

Commissioner Nguyen said he is very curious to find out how far people are willing to travel to go to the library.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4 BOND PROGRAM MANAGER'S REPORT

Lena Chen, Bond Program Manager, said there are two branches under construction: the Bayview Branch and the North Beach Branch. She said

the Bayview Branch is scheduled to open in February, 2013. She showed photographs of the Bayview Branch construction. She said the North Beach Branch groundbreaking was held on November 3. She showed photographs from the groundbreaking ceremony. She also showed renderings of the completed project.

Luis Herrera, City Librarian, said the presentation shows the updated information on the Friends contributions for the furniture, fixtures and equipment.

Explanatory document: Current [Budget Report](#); [Manager's Report](#).

Public Comment

An anonymous citizen said we have a disabled library user's kit and maybe we should have a library commission attendee kit. He said he brought his magnifying glass, but the report is not that clear even with the magnifying glass. He said one of the things that is noticeable right away is the reference to the \$5.3 Million figure which is the same as in the Friends' report. He said it turns out that what was given through the Friends to the library is all computers and self check machines. He said that is a very strange definition of furniture, fixtures and equipment, but the question is did the public know that is what their donations were going to. He said it is very difficult to sort out. He said one of the things that jumps out at you is that the Friends claim direct payments to 3M, but 3M payments are on the Controller's list. He said the two minute thing has thrown him off, but you weren't listening anyway. (See Addendum for a summary of this comment submitted by the speaker.)

Ray Hartz, Director San Francisco Open Government, said he was curious about why we have gone back to the more illegible sheets for the financial statement. He said he is sure Lena Chen and the Chief Financial Officer are competent in what they do and most of the figures do not give him a problem, but what bothers him is unsubstantiated numbers from the Friends in a document that is presented to the public as a document that is somehow audited or checked. He said all of the numbers from the Friends today are all self-reported numbers, none of which are subject to any verification. He said the Friends can say they gave anything they want to say, there is no way to actually verify that they actually gave it.

Peter Warfield, Executive Director, Library Users Association, said there was a comment made by the City Librarian about something being changed in the presentation and he said he did not catch it.

Luis Herrera, City Librarian, said the financial statement shows the updated figures from the Friends of the Library.

Peter Warfield said it is notable that the \$14,317,889 that the Friends claim to have provided appears to include fundraising of \$5 Million and he doesn't consider fundraising to be a donation to the library. He said he does not consider fundraising to be part of the budgeting when \$16 Million was committed to in the current budget report all along. He said in

tiny print on the back of the financial report dated 2/20/03 and it says the Friends commitment increased to \$16 Million. He said Library Users Association made an Immediate Disclosure Request about where the backup document was for the Deputy City Librarian's claim that it was meant to be up to \$16 Million and we got a couple of pages of documents that was sent to the Supervisors.

Commission Discussion

Commissioner Kane asked if the Bayview opening is confirmed for February. He also wanted to know if the project is on budget.

Luis Herrera, City Librarian, said the Bayview opening is scheduled for February and the project is on budget.

Commissioner Kane said the \$5.3 Million reported by the Friends does not include the fundraising amount.

Vice-President Munson said we need to go back to the larger type for the financial report.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 5 CITY LIBRARIAN'S REPORT

Luis Herrera, City Librarian, said we would like to get some feedback from the Commission on budget priorities.

Maureen Singleton, Chief Financial Officer, gave a presentation on the FY 14 and FY 15 budget. She said this is the first time the library has done a rolling two year budget cycle. She said you build a budget for two fiscal years and in the subsequent cycle you re-visit one of those years. She said the current budget was for FY 13 and 14 and this upcoming cycle we will revisit the FY 14 budget as well as building the FY 15 budget. She said the City will be looking at an update of the City's Five Year Financial Plan. She said the Labor Memoranda of Understanding will be open in FY 15. She gave some background on the budget climate. She went over the budget priorities.

Luis Herrera, City Librarian, said the five strategic areas served us very well last year and we want to continue with those. He said Literacy and Learning begins with very strong collections in multiple formats. He said online instruction resources are very important and we would like to add resources for that. He said we would like to coordinate literacy services citywide and provide search tools to expedite patron's access to books and materials.

Jill Bourne, Deputy City Librarian, said there are five areas under Digital Strategy including public access computers, mobile reference, network and bandwidth upgrades, library catalog system improvement and enterprise efficiencies. She said the next area is Youth Engagement. She said that includes early literacy initiative, summer reading program and expanding teen services.

Luis Herrera, City Librarian, said the next area is Strategic Partnerships. He said we have partnerships with the Department of the Environment; Writers Corps and Youth Works; Recreation and Parks; Public Safety; Literacy Network with the San Francisco Unified School District and others; and the Digital Learning Lab. He said the final strategic priority is Diversity in Programming and he said this piece is complimentary to all other elements of our services. He said these include One City One Book, the Affinity Centers, Civic Engagement and Cultural Programs.

Maureen Singleton, Chief Financial Officer, said the budget will be back before the Commission on January 17 for discussion and on February 7 for discussion and approval. She said the library budget is due to the Controller on February 21. She said March through May there are budget negotiations with the Controller and the Mayor. She said Board of Supervisors discussion is in June and full Board approval in July.

Luis Herrera, City Librarian, said the next item in the City Librarian's report is the Broadband and Wi-Fi update.

Michael Liang, Chief Information Officer, said the broadband and Wi-Fi update is to increase the WAN links between the Main Library to 27 branch libraries, increase the bandwidth to the Internet and to replace end of life network equipment in the system. He explained the project justification, the project deliverables and timeline, the project budget summary and gave a cost/benefit analysis.

Luis Herrera, City Librarian, said in the interest of time we would like to defer the item on Highlight on Exhibits and Programming to another meeting.

Explanatory documents: [FY 13/14 – 14/15 budget priorities](#) presentation and [Broadband and WiFi update](#) presentation.

Public Comment

An anonymous citizen said he does not know if the budget report he has is the most current version. He said there is no indication of a version number or time. He said he admits that he doesn't know any more than you whether this is correct or not. He said when the City changed to a biennial budget cycle the selling point was the savings in data generation, preparation time, administrative time and Supervisors' time. He said if this is a rolling two year cycle that is a transfer of power because you are always two years away from the real data to make a budget. (See Addendum for a summary of this comment submitted by the speaker.)

Ray Hartz, Director, San Francisco Open Government, said he lives near Nob Hill so this is the branch he uses all the time. He said he appreciates that you can make requests for books and other materials on line. He said he has started to notice relating to Mr. Warfield's usual point of the de-emphasis of books, that he went looking for a couple of titles the other day and found them only available as eBooks and there was no hard copy available. He said that concerned him. He said we are in the

second year of the 10 year commitment to the Civic Center Community Benefit District and coming to this library on a regular basis he has seen nothing that tells him that the library has gained in any way from the \$23,000 a year the library is paying to the District. He said he does not see any ambassadors around, or that the area is any cleaner. He said the \$250,000 commitment does not seem to have paid off so far. He said the entrance outside is akin to a homeless shelter.

Peter Warfield, Executive Director, Library Users Association, said thank you for the questions that the Commission asked about the library hours survey. He said from the survey it looked as though the collections are by far what people come to the library for. He said it is troubling to see the budget priorities list collections second after public hours. He said people come for the collections and it should be number one in the list of priorities. He said he is glad that there is attention being paid to the catalog.

Jennifer Franks said she is a library patron. She said she is interested in Information Technology especially the one hour computer use that patrons have. She said one hour is not very much per day. She said the nature of the restrictions that are placed on the Windows 7 machines makes it very crippling for a user experience. She said when the headphone jack and the flash drive connectors are at the machine, we are presuming that they work. She said this is not the case about 50% of the time. She said she is told as a patron she is not allowed to speak to IT. She said recently she was told that IT is a third party vendor.

Commission Discussion

Commissioner Kane said the budget is very important. He said the idea is to make a budget for two years but you would make adjustments when you get to the second year. He asked if there was any information from the Controller's Office on the impact of Prop E, the business tax, on the City's budget.

Maureen Singleton, Chief Financial Officer, said she does not have any information on Prop E's effect on the budget but she will inquire on that.

Commissioner Kane said we are lucky that the Library Preservation Fund is so healthy. He said the Wi-Fi bandwidth upgrade is critical, we need to add more laptops, and that there is money to address broken earphones. He said he is happy we will be investing in the user interface. He said you cannot find items easily on the library's website. He said we need to be thinking mobile and he doesn't know whether we will be providing a library app but going in that direction is critical. He said he assumes eBooks are supplemental and that we are not replacing books with eBooks.

Jill Bourne, Deputy City Librarian, said publishers are giving us some indication that some titles will only be published as eBooks, so that is a concern.

Commissioner Ono said she hopes we have the open hours report in January in time for the budget discussion.

Luis Herrera, City Librarian, said we do have access to IT staff so the woman who spoke can have a direct conversation with Michael Liang before she leaves. He said folding the open hours report into the budget will be a challenge but we will have recommendations in January and hope that the Commission will approve the budget in February. He said the budget will have some recommendations for priorities for hours.

Commissioner Nguyen asked about the institution for network providers. He said he recently discovered a company called Webpass that specializes in high rise and businesses. He said he does not know if that could be a vendor.

Luis Herrera, City Librarian, said there is a process for vendors and we have to go through competitive bids with the City's Department of Technology.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 6 LABOR UNION REPORT

There was no labor union report at this meeting.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 7 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF AUGUST 16, 2012

Public Comment

An anonymous citizen said these minutes are not so bad, not so good. He said there are some corrections. He said on page 3 the woman from the audience was, of course Deetje Boler. He said on the bottom of page 4 we have a comment from the anonymous citizen that a nine-year old boy told him they were destroying the mural. He said the point was that he claimed it had been there since he was two. He said in fact it had been there for literally thirty years. He said that is the point I was making and when you leave out that point it turns it into nonsense. He said two minutes is too little time. He said the Minutes don't include the comments "Stop the Hate, Stop the Ignorance – don't give money to Friends, don't accept money from Friends." (See Addendum for a summary of this comment submitted by the speaker.)

Peter Warfield, Library Users Association, said he understood there was a fixed deadline of 7:00 but it is getting toward 7:10. He said these minutes in general are good. He said some things have been left out. He said on page 1 when he talked about the mural it is important to note that the paint out of the mural happened the same day. He said on the top of page 2 it should say the library has withheld information from its own files. He said with regard to his public comment on page 5 in the middle, it should say you have reserve "systems" not "rooms".

Commission Discussion

Motion: By Commissioner Kane, seconded by Commissioner Ono to approve the [Minutes of October 4, 2012](#).

Action: AYES 4-0: (Kane, Munson, Nguyen and Ono).

AGENDA ITEM NO. 8 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 1, 2012

Public Comment

An anonymous citizen said this was a short meeting. He said he is grateful for these minutes. He said it is terrific we have minutes. He said he submitted his usual summaries following his usual schedule. He said he got a response from your secretary that there were not going to be minutes because the meeting was cancelled. He said he was a little alarmed at this but he did not respond. He said apparently this Library Commission has decided that irrespective of the technical requirements, this institution is concerned with preserving history and have supplied these minutes. He said he would have appreciated a communication from your secretary that the previous information was no longer valid. He said nevertheless, you did something right without being forced to, which you never do, so kudos to you. He said there are corrections, but two minutes is too short. (See Addendum for a summary of this comment submitted by the speaker.)

Peter Warfield, Library Users Association, said thank you for the minutes and it was a short meeting. He said thank you for taking the public comment at the meeting. He said it is important to note that he wanted the Commission to understand that he was not talking just from an opinion and at the very end of his comments on page 2 he would like it to make clear that he has brought many complaints to the Sunshine Ordinance Task Force and had won many complaints.

Ray Hartz, Director, San Francisco Open Government, said you do deserve credit for having the minutes. He said he would ask you to consider that in the few years that he has been coming here he has never asked you to do anything that wasn't actually required in the law. He said he is not making unreasonable requests or asking you to do something off the wall. He said all of his sunshine requests and complaints are all things that are completely stated in the law. He said all he has asked you to do is follow the law. He said you have gone back and manufactured a lot of documents from the Friends that he has not had a chance to look at yet, but those are all documents that should have been produced through the process of the BLIP program. He said there is the Framework in place with the Friends that lists certain things that are required by the Friends. He said all he is asking you is to follow your own agreement.

Commission Discussion

Motion: By Commissioner Kane, seconded by Commissioner Nguyen to approve the [Minutes of November 1, 2012](#).

Action: AYES 4-0: (Kane, Munson, Nguyen and Ono).

AGENDA ITEM NO. 9 ADJOURNMENT

An anonymous citizen said he can't help it he needs to make a clarification. He said the point is that we would rather have continued items than truncated discussions since the issues are so important. He said if you didn't really need to leave at 7:00, it feels like a stab in the back. (See Addendum for a summary of this comment submitted by the speaker.)

Motion: By Commissioner Munson, seconded by Commissioner Kane, to adjourn the regular meeting of December 6, 2012.

Action: AYES 4-0: (Kane, Munson, Nguyen and Ono)

The meeting adjourned at 7:20 pm.

Sue Blackman
Commission Secretary

Explanatory documents: Copies of listed explanatory documents are available as follows: (1) from the commission secretary/custodian of records, 6th floor, Main Library; (2) in the rear of Koret Auditorium immediately prior to, and during, the meeting; and (3), to the extent possible, on the Public Library's website <http://sfpl.org>. Additional materials not listed as explanatory documents on this agenda, if any, that are distributed to library commissioners prior to or during the meeting in connection with any agenda item will be available to the public for inspection and copying in accordance with Government Code Section 54954.1 and Sunshine Ordinance Sections 67.9, 67.28(b), and 67.28(d).

ADDENDUM

These summary statements are provided by the speaker: Their contents are neither generated by, nor subject to approval or verification of accuracy by, the San Francisco Public Library Commission.

Item 1: General Public Comment

Anonymous Citizen: No, I don't understand.

Stop the Hate & Ignorance – Don't give or accept money from the Friends of the Library.

“Maybe what you should do is what they used to do in the old Roman Republic – elect Ms. Gomez for the position of dictator for life and then at least the rest of us would have the hope an assassination might result in a change of leadership.”

An end-of-year review: The Library Commission president is guilty of official misconduct. No defense or justification is offered.

The Friends of the Library are crooks and your continuing defense is self-serving willful blindness.

Your City Librarian is guilty of violating the Sunshine Ordinance.

Your meeting attendance is so low that several of you should have been removed.

Having held 6 meetings in 6 months, the whole schedule is below the Mayor's announced attendance policy.

After 6 months the Mayor has been unable to find a seventh Library Commissioner.

Item 2: Friends of the San Francisco Public Library Report

Anonymous Citizen: Stop the Hate & Ignorance – Don't give money to, or accept money from the Friends of the Library.

If you were decent people you would give an opposing organization, i.e., Library Users Association, San Francisco Open Government, Original Library Movement, equal time and access to graphics to present a balanced view in order to reveal the truth. Without fair investigation, how can there be accountability?

Three minutes would have been too little time to point out the outrageous dishonesty of this presentation.

Are you now admitting that the postings required by the Sunshine Ordinance of both direct and indirect payments for the library's benefit have been defective up until now?

Contemporaneous disclosure is the holy grail of accountability. This means that with respect to both the Friends and the BLIP program, the contemporaneous disclosures were meaningless.

Under an attorney's ethical code an attorney would not get paid because subsequently created records are inherently suspicious.

Item 3: Library Open Hours Preliminary Report

Anonymous Citizen: Stop the Hate & Ignorance – Don't give money to, or accept money from the Friends of the Library.

This was a long report. Perhaps you could invite someone like the Library Users Association to present with graphics and equal time.

Jill Bourne stole one of my comments, but I am gratified someone is paying attention.

This is the kind of survey that under the original Library Preservation Fund had to be ready to be presented to the neighborhood meetings. The reason was to allow the neighborhood to be informed and express their political will. Your administration changed the law, then took advantage of the change.

You are told this will be incorporated into the upcoming budget process, but in fact this is the off year in the biennial budget process.

Of course, we have the stakeholders again, special groups who were encouraged with special access.

Item 4: Bond Program Manager's Report

Anonymous Citizen: Stop the Hate & Ignorance – Don't give money to, or accept money from the Friends of the Library.

We have a disabled kit. Perhaps we should have a library commission attendee kit. I brought my magnifying glass, but the report is not that clear even with the magnifying glass.

What is noticeable right away, is that the \$5.3 Million figure is the same as the Friends' Report. It turns out that what was given through the library is all computers and self-check machines. Not only is that a strange definition of furniture, fixtures and equipment, but the question is, was the public told that was where their donations would go?

What jumps out is the Friends claim direct payments to 3M, but 3M payments are on the Controller's list.

I am thrown by the two minute limit, but you weren't listening anyway.

Item 5: City Librarian's Report

Anonymous Citizen: Stop the Hate & Ignorance – Don't give money to, or accept money from the Friends of the Library.

How would I know if I have the most recent budget presentation? There is no indication of a version number or time. So who would know?

I admit that I don't know any more than you whether this is true or not. When the City changed to a biennial budget cycle the selling point was the savings in data generation, preparation time, administrative time and supervisor's time. If it is true that it is a rolling two year cycle, then none of the advertized savings are realized.

Then it is really a transfer of power, because you are always two years away from the real data to make a budget.

Item 7: Approval of the Minutes (October 4, 2012)

Anonymous Citizen: Stop the Hate & Ignorance – Don't give money to, or accept money from the Friends of the Library.

I assumed that you had some sort of deadline, but perhaps not.

These minutes are not so bad, not so good. There are some corrections.

On page 3, the woman from the audience, was, of course, Deetje Boler.

On page 4, when the anonymous citizen states that a nine-year old boy told him they were destroying the mural. The point was that he claimed it had been there since he was two. In fact it had been there thirty years. Without that, the point being made that he was only aware of his own experience is lost.

The two-minute limit is too short to address the issues.

The minutes do not include what they should include which is, “Stop the Hate, Stop the Ignorance – Don't give money to Friends. Don't accept money from the Friends.”

Item 8: Approval of the Minutes (November 1, 2012)

Anonymous Citizen: Stop the Hate & Ignorance – Don't give money to, or accept money from the Friends of the Library.

This was a short meeting.

I don't often get a chance to compliment you, but I am grateful for these minutes.

I submitted my usual summaries following my usual schedule. I got a response from your secretary that there were not going to be minutes because the meeting was cancelled.

I was a bit alarmed at this but I didn't respond. Apparently this Library Commission has decided that irrespective of the technical requirements, this institution is concerned with preserving history and have supplied these minutes.

I would have appreciated a communication from your secretary that the previous information was no longer valid.

Nevertheless, you did something right without being forced to, which you never do, so kudos to you.

There are corrections, but two minutes is too short.

Item 9: Adjournment

Anonymous Citizen:

I can't help it. I need to make a clarification. The point was that we would rather have continued items than truncated discussions since the issues are so important. And if you didn't really need to leave at 7 o'clock, it feels like a stab in the back.