



San Francisco Public Library

MINUTES
Council of Neighborhood Libraries
May 28, 2015
4:00 p.m.
Meeting Notes
CALL TO ORDER

Meeting Location: Latino Hispanic Room, Main Library, Lower Level

CHAIR: Michael Lambert

HOUSEKEEPING

- The CNL meeting in June is cancelled.
- The next regular CNL Meeting will be on **Thursday, July 30, 2015**
4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m., Latino Hispanic Room, Main Library- Lower level.
- The next Steering Committee Meeting will be on **Tuesday, July 21, 2015,**
4:30 p.m., Room 601 – Main Library
The Steering Committee is looking for two members to join them.
Elaine Cahn (Richmond Branch) volunteered to join the committee.
ACTION→ Invite Elaine Cahn to July’s Steering Committee Meeting.
- The Library Commission Meeting is scheduled on **Thursday, June 18, 2015**
4:30 p.m. Koret Auditorium.
- The following CNL members volunteered to attend the Commission Meeting:
Larry Ware – June 18

Members are still needed to attend future Commission Meetings.

Announcements:

- **Retirement celebration for Martha Neves & Terry Gwiazdowski**– Friday, June 5 – 11am, Main Library, Latino Hispanic Room, lower level. All CNL members are invited to attend. It is also Terry’s final day at SFPL.
- **Cathy Delneo** – will be the new Chief of Branches, effective July 1, 2015.
- **ALA Update** – Toni Bernardi, Special Projects Manager from the Chief of Main shared her update on ALA’s annual conference scheduled for June 25 – 30. There will be over 23,000 librarians and exhibitions crowding around the city. Some meetings will be held at the Main Library. Tours will be

scheduled for the “Library for the Blind & Print Disabled” and bus tours of five branch libraries will be provided. CNL volunteers are welcome to help stuff ALA goodie bags on Wednesday, June 24th in exchange for a pass to the ALA exhibits.

- ***The Mix at SFPL*** – Ribbon cutting and the grand opening is scheduled for Thursday, June 18, 11am. Mayor Ed Lee will be there. We hope you can join us.

UPDATES

City Librarian’s Report – Luis Herrera

- Luis announced the new Chief of Branches – ***Ms. Cathy Delneo***.
- Currently, Cathy is serving as the Assistant Chief of Main and has served many years as the branch manager for Park Branch. Recruitment for the new COB went nationwide and Cathy is a great example of growth and leadership. SFPL is so lucky to have her and Cathy responded that she is so lucky to be here. She is looking forwards to working with all the CNL representatives.
- Luis also paid tribute to ***Martha Neves*** who is doing a wonderful job as Acting Chief of Branches. She has stepped up as Acting Chief multiple times when the COB position became vacant. Martha started working with the library forty years ago as a Page and has developed fantastic leadership skills over the years. Martha will be missed.
- Luis attended the Budget and Finance Meeting where the Library’s Chief of Finance Officer, Maureen Singleton presented the Library’s two year budget. The SFPL has a healthy budget for FY15-16. Library hours including the Library for the Blind and Print Disabled and the San Francisco History Center have expanded to 60 hours/week at the Main Library. The hours of many Branch Libraries also increased. Attendance has increased by 5% in programs and summer reading programs. The Bridge @ the Main Library opened in January 2015.

Addition of Main Library to Council of Neighborhood Libraries – Michael Lambert

- Feedback on adding CNL representatives from Civic Center to the Main Library location included:
 1. ***Ellen Egbert*** (BHE) said the Main Library’s representatives would be for patrons living in this area
 2. ***Luis Herrera*** fully supports the idea to add the Main Library to unify the entire system
 2. ***Nina Youkelson*** (NVA) mentioned that it might be feasible to recruit a person who is experiencing homelessness who uses the library as a very important part of their day. Michael said this is an excellent idea which would also enrich the dialogue between SFPL and the Coalition on Homelessness.**ACTION→ Cathy Delneo will discuss with Karen Strauss (COM) the potential to invite a patron who’s lost his housing, and visits the Main Library on a daily basis to join the CNL.**

CNL Pamphlet Review – All

Benjamin Ibarra, Public Relations Officer at SFPL, distributed an updated draft pamphlet of the CNL.

The group reviewed, discussed and suggested some changes to the pamphlet. Some of the discussions and suggestions are included here:

Benjamin said the pamphlet gives an historical overview of CNL's history and what CNL has done in the past years.

Ellen recommended the pamphlet reflect the CNL's ongoing work, not just the group's history.

Diane Silver agreed the pamphlet should give the impression that CNL continues to be an active group anymore. It could include 3-4 sentences about CNL's current functions.

Ellen encouraged adding the "Mission Statement" and that the pamphlet should be a recruiting tool.

Marcia Popper suggested adding the "Mission Statement" to the box on the front cover (eliminating "Historical Overview")

Nina Youkelson suggested that the pamphlet have a powerful visual statement like a picture of a citizen's face making use of the library.

Ellen said any library should be able to print this pamphlet to give to anyone at their library so it should be easy to fold.

Michael suggested changing "Contact Us" to "Contact your local Branch Manager".

ACTION→ **Benjamin will mock up another version of the pamphlet to be shared at the next meeting.**

Friends Report – Deborah Doyle

- Deborah Doyle is again stepping into the role of Acting Director at the Friends. Former Executive Director, Scott Staub has accepted a fabulous position working with important health care issues. Former Friend's Membership & Volunteer Services Manager, Donalda Watson-Wilkinshaw has also accepted a position as a Director and will be leaving the Friends.
- Deborah will help the organization re-construct by moving forwards into the future looking into different long term perspectives.
- The spring book sale was really exciting and pulled in lots of money.
- The 20th anniversary of the Main Library will be next year.
- The Friends may bring back the Laureate's dinner in April, 2016.

Library Commission Report – Ellen Egbert / Sue Blackman

- Ellen and Sue reported on the events of the most recent Commission Meeting.
- Glen Raminsky attended the celebration for Linda Brooks Burton. He reported that people he met in riding along the Third Street Line thought that Linda Brooks Burton made a wonderful contribution to the neighborhood.
- Maureen Singleton presented a good summary of capital improvement projects taking place at the Main, including the Mix and the Bridge.

A reminder for those attending Martha and Terry's retirement party on Friday, June 5 -
Please enter the Main Library at the Grove Street entrance and let the security guard know that you're a
CNL member.

Michael thanked everyone for attending this wonderful meeting today.

Adjournment in honor to Cathy Delneo, future Chief of Branches: 5:15 pm
Respectfully submitted by Josephine Lee