



San Francisco Public Library

MINUTES
Council of Neighborhood Libraries
April 27, 2017
4:00 p.m.
Meeting Notes
CALL TO ORDER

Meeting Location: Latino Hispanic Room

CHAIR: Cathy Delneo, Chief of Branches

Attendees: Miriam Pavis (BAY) Excused, Larry Ware (BAY), Nina Youkelson (BHE), Penni Wisner (EVA), Marcia Parrott (EXC) Excused, Ruth Grabowski (EXC) Excused, Nora Dowley (GPA) Excused, Laura Bernabei (ING), Judy Strebel (MIS), Rosa M. Quinones (MIS) Excused, Kenneth Fax (MBA) Excused, Mailine Chew (MBA), Ruth Maginnis (NVA), Kathleen McClay (NBE) Excused, Anh Lê (NBE) Excused, Pinkie Bolden (OVI), Edna James (OVI), Vanessa Wallace (OVI) Excused, Bessie Hahn (ORT), Marcia Ehrlich (PAR), Diane Silver (PAR) Excused, Michael Leahy (PSI) Excused, Don Thielges (POR) Excused, Chet Roaman (POT) Excused, Marcia Popper (PRE), Kaitlyn Tran (PRE), Elaine Cahn (RIC), Joan Walton (SUN), Deborah Oppenheim (SUN), Rochelle Fort (VVA) Excused, Anne Jones (WPO) Excused, Maryam Roberts (WPO) Excused, Callen Taylor (WSA) Excused

Administrators: Michael Lambert (Deputy City Librarian), Christy Estrovitz (Youth Services Manager), Kate Eppler (Bridge Program Manager), Naomi Jelks (Adult Engagement Coordinator)

HOUSEKEEPING

- The next regular **CNL Meeting** will be on **Thursday, May 25, 2017, 4:00 p.m. at the Chinatown / Him Mark Lai Branch Library.**
- The next **CNL Steering Committee Meeting** will be on **Tuesday, May 16, 2017, 4:30 p.m. in Room 601 – Main Library.**
ACTION - Member participation is highly encouraged and needed at the Steering Committee meetings. Your virtual attendance is also welcome – email your ideas for agenda topics to [Cathy](#) or [Flo](#).
- The next **Library Commission Meeting** will be on **Thursday, May 18, 2017, 4:30 p.m. in the Koret Auditorium, Main Library.**
- *CNL Members to attend upcoming Library Commission Meeting:*

Thursday, May 18: Judy Strebel & Bessie Hahn

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Upcoming Branch Open Houses:
 - Park Branch – Saturday, May 6th from 10:00 am – 6:00 pm
The Open House will include a Big Playdate for children 5 years old and under, an ice-cream social, a meet and greet with neighborhood organizations, the Med-Project Take-Back (dispose of expired or unwanted medicines), and a talk on the Summer of Love.
 - Sunset Branch – Saturday, May 13th from 1:00 – 5:00 pm
The event will include a cooking demo, a Chinese painting demo, belly dancing, and a storytime.
 - Merced Branch – Wednesday, 6 – 8:30 pm
The Open House will feature a jazz band and a talk about the history of Lake Merced.
- Larry Ware (BAY) was named poet laureate of the Third Annual International Jazz Day Celebration at The Village Community Center in Visitation Valley. The celebration takes place on Saturday, April 29th (1:00 – 4:00 pm) and includes poetry/spoken word readings, and jazz performances.

UPDATES

City Librarian's Report – Michael Lambert

- The Library Laureates Benefit Gala, sponsored by the Friends of SFPL took place on April 7th and raised roughly \$150,000. Guests of the event had the unique opportunity to mix and mingle with 30 authors over dinner and cocktails. The theme this year was “Library Love Stories”, a celebration coinciding with the 50th anniversary of the Summer of Love. The guest of honor was author, publisher, and champion of innovation at SFPL, Peter Booth Wiley.
 - Marcia (PAR) asked if any library staff were able to attend the Laureates event. Marie Ciepiela, the Executive Director of the Friends, indicated that this year, five library staff members received the generous “Love a Librarian” contest and received a ticket to the gala paid for by donors. Marie also said that this year the Friends will be hosting other events that will enable a wider audience the opportunity to interact with some of the Laureates who were honored at the gala.
- As written about in The Chronicle, some Library staff are engaged in an Immigration Services Taskforce, working to provide new immigrants with informational programs and resources. Some of these programs will be presented by the San Francisco Immigrant Legal and Education Network. The first session's will focus on knowing your rights, and will take place on May 10th at the Bayview Branch. Future programs include finding legal assistance, citizenship classes, and conversational English.
 - Penni (EVA) asked if the workshops will be at other branches. Luis responded that a number of branches and the Main will be hosting programs. Luis also shared that the All Are Welcome flyers are on display at all library locations, welcoming everyone to use their library.
 - Bessie (ORT) mentioned her involvement with the San Francisco Pathways to Citizenship, which assists immigrants in filling out citizenship applications, and suggested that group might also be a good partner for SFPL.
 - Larry (BAY) suggested that churches and schools could be a good resource to spread the word about these programs, and offered his help in reaching out to the churches in his neighborhood.
- The panel discussion Talking With Kids About Race was held at the Koret Auditorium on April 22nd. The event was presented by SFPL in partnership with San Francisco Unified School District, San Francisco Families Union, Showing up for Racial Justice, Our Family Coalition, Main Street Mamas, and First 5 San Francisco. West Portal Branch Children's Librarian Meredith Steiner, who hosted the

event worked hard to make it a success. Event began with a welcome from Librarian of Congress, Dr. Carla Hayden. The discussion centered around keeping kids safe, as well as advice on raising them to be proud of their identities, and empowered to stand up for themselves and stand up for racial justice.

Library Commission Report – Sue Blackman

- The Facilities Division reported on the landscape improvements at the Presidio and Eureka Valley branches at the most recent Library Commission meeting.
 - Eureka Valley - Penni's (EVA) leadership and efforts with the Castro Neighborhood Association to enhance the exterior of the branch to make it safe and welcoming were acknowledged at the CNL meeting. Pennie indicated that she was pleased that the Library responded to community concerns, and how hard everyone worked to address safety issues. Final drawings for Phase 1 of the landscaping plan (Prosper and 16th Streets) will be completed in May, with a ground breaking sometime in June or July. A neighborhood cleanup event will take place on May 13th.
 - Presidio – Marcia (PRE) has been fielding questions from folks in the neighborhood wanting to know more about the landscaping project. She suggests that materials outlining the work being done be made available to the public. An information piece will be coming out, and questions can be directed to the Presidio Branch Manager or the Chief of Branches Office.
- The upcoming Summer Stride 2017 reading initiative was presented in the most recent Commission meeting by Christy Estrovitz. Christy also shared that the 2016 Summer Stride program had won the John Cotton Dana award, a very prestigious national award for public relations, which includes a \$10,000 award to be presented in June at the American Library Association conference in Chicago.
- The Commission Meeting adjourned in honor of Elizabeth Hope Hayes. Among her notable accomplishments were her positions at SFPL as the Chief of Branches and Chief of Main. After she retired from SFPL, she became the first director of the newly established African American Museum and Library at Oakland. Beverly, the Branch Manager of the Bayview Branch, attended the Commission Meeting at which her mom was honored along with her sister.

Scholar Card – Christy Estrovitz

- Recognizing the important role the library plays in student learning and academic achievement, SFPL has taken up former President Obama's challenge to provide every student in San Francisco's public schools with a library card. Scholar Cards will be given to over 57,000 San Francisco Unified School District students, allowing them access to millions of free resources. This initiative is a cooperative effort between SFPL and SFUSD and Library staff have worked hard to launch this program. There will be a big push to get cards to the students before the last bell of the semester rings!
- If CNL members know of a school or class in their neighborhood who would like to visit the branch to get their Scholar Cards, please let your Branch Manager know!

Digital Inclusion Week – Kate Eppler

- Designed to bridge the digital divide and help people become comfortable with technology, the Library is hosting a week-long program of free events from May 8-13, 2017, which include hands-on tech trainings, panel discussions, film screenings, and a Tech Expo to learn about resources, services and the latest products. The program is headed by Wenwen Shi, the Library's Digital Inclusion Fellow.

One City One Book – Naomi Jelks

- One City One Book is the annual city wide book group event that encourages everyone to read and discuss the same book at the same time. The book selected for 2017 is *Black Against Empire: A History and Politics of the Black Panther Party* by Joshua Bloom. This year's book was chosen for its local

connection and timely subject matter (last year was the 50th Anniversary of the founding of the Black Panther Party). The Community Programs and Partnerships Department is in the process of planning programs, which start in October.

- Naomi is available to help CNL members who would like to work with their library's Branch Manager to host a book club at the library or other community locations. naomi.jelks@sfpl.org

Adjournment: 5:30 pm

Respectfully Submitted by Florinda Battad