



San Francisco Public Library

SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC LIBRARY COMMISSION

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 3, 2013

(As amended and approved at the November 7, 2013 regular meeting)

The San Francisco Public Library Commission held a regular meeting on Thursday, October 3, 2013 in the Koret Auditorium Main Library.

The meeting was called to order at 4:32 pm.

Commissioners present: Gomez, Lee, Munson and Ono.

Commissioners Mall, Nguyen and Randlett arrived at 4:36 pm.

President Gomez said that the Commission is expecting a lot of people for a later item in the agenda, so she has asked that public comment be limited to two minutes. She said anyone who would like to speak about the dedication and adjournment of this meeting in honor of Linda Brooks Burton and is unable to stay until the end of the meeting can make their comments under General Public Comment.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1 GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

An anonymous citizen said you have probably figured out that this is an elaborate game of musical chairs to see who would be on the Library Commission when the lies collapsed. He said you lost. He said first of all there is a perfect storm of collapsed lies. He said any number of people over the years have been on board with baiting the young guy, or baiting the poor guy, or baiting the straight guy and those people are no longer on board with baiting the old fart. He said number two your lies have collapsed and without the ability to ridicule the public you are basically defenseless. He said as I am sure you all know Mr. Herrera signed a statement that he was guilty of three years of violations of the Fair Political Practices Act in return for a fine of only \$600. He said in fact this shows multiple levels of perjury. He said not only did he commit perjury on the gift forms, he committed perjury on the ethics and sunshine training certificates. He said he must be sensitive to the fact that his position is involved in multiple levels of conflict of interest.

The following written summary was provided by the speaker, anonymous

citizen. The content is neither generated by, nor subject to approval or verification of accuracy by the Library Commission.

Stop the Hate, Stop the Ignorance – Don't give money to, 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." Part of your general retreat from democracy – you lost the game of musical chairs to see who remains when your lies collapse. The perfect storm is those supporting baiting the young or poor won't support baiting the old fart, and without ridiculing the public, you are defenseless. City Librarian Luis Herrera admitted guilt to three years of violations of the Fair Political Practices Act. The perjury includes the gift form itself, the ethics and sunshine training certifications, despite being sensitive to the potential conflicts of interest.

Peter Warfield, Executive Director, Library Users Association, said he does not think it is appropriate that public comment is only two minutes on the speculation that there might be a lot of people and it is very interesting that the Chair would say it is ok to talk about something on the agenda during public comment. He said the book by Sandy Berman *Not in my Library* was recently published and the back of the book has some praise from many folks and he read some of the comments including one by James Chaffee. He said he noticed that James Chaffee is mentioned five times in the index and Peter Warfield is listed four times include some of their writings. He said no other individual except for Sandy Berman is listed more than three times. He said the Library already has quite a number of books by Sandy Berman and oddly has not yet bought this one.

Ray Hartz, Director San Francisco Open Government, said if he were Commission Secretary Sue Blackman he would probably be talking to Human Resources about a workman's comp claim. He said at yesterday's Sunshine Ordinance Task Force (SOTF) meeting under questions from all members of the Task Force, Ms. Blackman was visibly shaking throughout the entire process and he said she probably blames him for all her problems with open government issues, when the fault lies clearly on the shoulders of Luis Herrera and Jewelle Gomez. He said your fearless leaders have no problem when they can't be held accountable, but, haven't the personal integrity to defend those actions in an open public hearing. He said as you are probably aware, in an unusual dual decision, the SOTF referred case #13013 regarding the use of the audio visual equipment to both the Ethics Commission and to the Board of Supervisors. He said he now has two referrals to the Board of Supervisors regarding Luis Herrera, one for withholding public records. He said the Board of Supervisors and Ethics Commission hearings are televised and broadcast on San

Francisco Governmental TV in open, televised hearings. He said oh what fun we will have moving forward. He said none of you can say that we haven't been telling you this is coming. He said between 2000 and 2012 the Friends of the Library raised \$53 Million in the name of this public library and in the name of the City. He said the last time the Friends were here to give a presentation and they couldn't answer the questions or they gave you disingenuous answers, the Commission looked the other way because the Commission does not want to admit the fact that it was negligent in its duties. He said right now he is telling members Mall and Lee that you are now entering into the window where you are joining in the collusion.

The following written summary was provided by the speaker, Ray Hartz. The content is neither generated by, nor subject to approval or verification of accuracy by the Library Commission.

If I were LC secretary Sue Blackman, I would probably be contacting HR to discuss a workman's comp claim! At yesterday's SOTF meeting, under questions from all members of the Task Force, Ms. Blackman was visibly shaking throughout. Ms. Blackman probably blames me for all of her problems with open government issues, when the fault lies clearly on the shoulders of Luis Herrera and Jewelle Gomez! Your fearless leaders have no problem taking action when they can't be held accountable, but, haven't the personal integrity to defend those actions in an open public hearing. As you are probably aware, in an unusual dual decision, the SOTF referred case #13013 to both the EC and the BOS! I now have two referrals to the Board of Supervisors regarding Luis Herrera. BOS and EC hearings are televised and broadcast on SFGTV. In open, televised hearings "Oh what fun we will have!"

Ruth Maginnis said she knew Linda Brooks Burton from the time she was a Library Technician in the 1980s. She said she was one of the most wonderfully hard working people in the library system. She said she set a standard for those who worked with her. She said she was always kind, fair and firm and a wonderful person. She said we partied hard, but we also worked hard. She said she and others in the library system have died way too young. She said there is not much to be done about this except to even out the stress level of working in the library. She said there are many people who do much more than they have to because their coworkers are not picking up the slack. She said many people spend extra time on tasks because it is easier to do it than to ask someone else. She said Linda would do whatever needed to be done and at 51 her death was a horrible shock to all of us and we hope that nobody else dies of stress within the Library system. She said it is a sad record for this system.

Robert Livingston said he has to acknowledge the public library's public relations because when you check the news you find a lot of interesting

stories. He said Silk Road a drug business was operating in the Glen Park Library to the tune of Billions of Dollars. He said SFGate today has a story about the state of the public bathrooms in the library. He said it is interesting because it had photos of the bathrooms with library patrons using them. He said he wondered if security was aware of that when it happened. He said people who are knowledgeable about the library know that there are some really insidious things afoot here. He said people bring it up again and again and again and why it never comes up in the press except in a perfunctory way comparing gifts to the tune of he doesn't know how much compared to the a library patron who failed to return a book is startling. He said he wishes the library would clean up the elevators and he thanks the library for cleaning up the ledge on the third floor after he brought it up three months ago.

AGENDA ITEM 2. COMMISSION CALENDAR 2013/2014

Sue Blackman, Commission Secretary, said there is a draft schedule for the Commission calendar for 2014 and the last two months of 2013. She said we are proposing going to one meeting a month due to the BLIP program winding down. She said we are proposing two meetings in February to discuss the budget.

Luis Herrera, City Librarian, said in the past there was a lot of activity with the BLIP program that required a second meeting just for conversations on the BLIP. He said now that we are winding down and we only have one project remaining it makes sense to merge that within the one meeting a month.

Public Comment

An anonymous citizen said you have gotten to the bottom of doing nothing and now the only possible response is to do nothing less often. He said this is not only disgusting it is impossibly disgusting. He said the Commission's bylaws require you to meet the first and third Thursdays of the month, but you claim that you are amending bylaws. He said the Commission is doing this in the middle of the year because it doesn't want to face the fact that its lies are collapsing. He said the Commission doesn't want to be flattered for doing good or doing right, it wants to be flattered for doing nothing and getting away with it. He said if the Commission cared about the library and not just yourselves, this is the time when the Library needs you. He said the Commission needs to get to the bottom of what Mr. Herrera's conflict really is and then maybe you should meet every week while you are looking for his successor. He said the Commission's alternative is to run and hide. He asked if the Commission thinks that the prison gangs and the mobsters get together and say to themselves, you think that you're tough, Jewelle Gomez reads while people are talking. He said he does not think so. He said he thinks the Commission has been sold a bill of goods about its need to have a hostile public so that when Mr. Herrera does get in trouble you have already established a policy of making sure that the public will be ignored

and it can laugh at people while they are talking. He said he notices the cop over there doesn't have his gun drawn, he ought to have it cocked.

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Stop the Hate, Stop the Ignorance – Don't give money to, or accept money from the Friends of the Library. Arriving at the bottom of doing nothing, your only response is doing nothing less often. This is impossibly disgusting. You don't amend bylaws requiring meetings the first and third Thursdays. This is to avoid facing your collapsing lies. You don't want flattery for doing right or doing good. You want flattery for doing nothing and getting away with it. If you cared about the Library rather than yourselves, this is when the library needs you. You should get to the bottom of Mr. Herrera's conflict of interest and then meet weekly to name his successor. Do you think the pimps and prison gangs say, Jewelle Gomez is tough because she reads while people are talking? A hostile public establishes the tradition of ignoring the public. The cop should have his gun cocked.

Peter Warfield, Executive Director, Library Users Association, said he thinks that the two minutes is unlawful under the Sunshine Ordinance, which requires three minutes be offered to each member of the public. He said with respect to the greatly reduced schedule of meetings, before the BLIP program there were meetings three times a month, once by the full Commission and twice by subcommittees; one each on different subjects. He said there was plenty to discuss then and there is plenty to discuss now. He said the bond program is coming to an end and it ought to have an evaluation including an evaluation of the teen spaces program, which you have put a lot of effort into and for which he does not recall any evaluation being provided or even attempted. He said the Library has a whole range of issues and problems including what has happened with the catalog, misfiling of books, facilities, security, library hours and library priorities. He said the Commission members are intelligent people with many resources and to bow to the unseen forces becomes obscene. He said do not accept this schedule.

Ray Hartz, Director San Francisco Open Government, said as evident by the public meeting schedule, while unable to make yourselves a smaller target, you've opted to make yourselves a less frequent target. He said after cancelling both meetings in September, he imagined the Commission had some really serious discussions amongst yourselves on what the hell to do. He said especially when you found out that the City Librarian admitted to three years of perjury to a State Commission. He said the City Librarian accepted gifts from the Friends while failing to monitor the \$53 Million that I discussed earlier and then lied on his documents to the State and to the public about the gifts that he received. He said as the Commission is cancelling the second meeting of each month, I would expect that the one meeting each month will be

exceedingly long. He said face it: you can run but you can't hide. He said the issues with which you are confronted, especially regarding the friends, aren't going to go away. He said the only hope you have to lower the level of vitriol is to deal with the issues. He said frankly with Jewelle Gomez and Lee Munson as your leaders, he doesn't see it happening. He said, as Mr. Warfield said, you are intelligent people and you know that it is wrong to turn over raising funds to a group and then just abdicate any responsibility for finding out where that money goes. He said you look the other way and we are talking about breaking the law.

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As evident by the public meeting schedule, while unable to make yourselves a smaller target, you've opted to make yourselves a less frequent target! Not a lot of fun coming to the meetings when you aren't free to just pat yourselves on the back, is it? After canceling both LC meetings in September, I would imagine you had some really serious discussions amongst yourselves on what the hell to do! As you are canceling the second meeting of each month, I would expect that the one meeting each month will be exceedingly long. Face it: you can run but you can't hide. The issues with which you are confronted, especially regarding "The Friends," aren't going away! The only hope you have to lower the level of vitriol is to deal with the issues! Frankly, with Jewelle Gomez and Lee Munson as your leaders, just don't see it happening!

Commission Discussion

Commissioner Ono said a member of the public stated that we need to make a change to the Bylaws. She said the Bylaws specifically state that a change in the date, time, and/or place of Commission meetings will not require an amendment of these Bylaws. She said what we do today does not require an amendment. She said she thinks the Commission can cover everything in one meeting a month.

Commissioner Munson said he would like to support what Commissioner Ono just said. He said the library has a number of things to deal with and this is enough meetings to do what we need.

Luis Herrera, City Librarian, said he read the section about the Commission being able to change the schedule, but he said he would suggest that we clarify that with the City Attorney just to be clear on that.

Sue Blackman, Library Commission Secretary, said she did check with the City Attorney's office and was told it was fine to make these changes. She said the Commission could go ahead and adopt the calendar today and then come back at a later date with a change to the Bylaws.

Luis Herrera, said he appreciates that the Secretary has checked with the City Attorney so it looks like the Commission can go ahead and adopt the calendar at this meeting and we will come back at a later date.

Motion: By Commissioner Munson, seconded by Commissioner Lee, to approve the proposed [Commission calendar for November and December, 2013 and the calendar year 2014.](#)

Action: AYES 7-0: (Gomez, Lee, Mall, Munson, Nguyen, Ono, and Randlett.)

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3 CITY LIBRARIAN'S REPORT

Luis Herrera, City Librarian, said there are several updates and the first one is the Summer Reading Program.

Toni Bernardi, Chief of Children and Youth Services, gave a presentation on the Summer Reading Program and said it was extended one week this year. She said there were 17,697 participants who read for 296,063 hours. She said Ortega had the most number of minutes read. She said the Main Library had the largest participation by adults. She said 540 programs were offered with 15,449 participants by children, 1,640 participants by teens and 1,807 participants by adults. She said there were 586 Kid Power volunteers who worked 5,609 hours. She said there were some new things this year including Supervisor Farrell's Teen Scholarships, free summer lunch program, SFUSD summer reading list, an outreach to special needs adults and Chronicle Books Wrap Party.

Megan Anderson, Acting Manager, Fisher Children's Center, gave a presentation, said today we had an event called Read for the Record, which is an annual event, where the children of San Francisco and across the country work hard to read the same book on the same day. She said the Fisher Children's Center is more than you expected. She said there is story time six days a week including bilingual readings. She said there is the opportunity for children to gather and play and learn together. She said the Center also serves as an exhibition space for the children of San Francisco. She said you have already heard about the Summer Reading Program and the Fisher Children's Center has events celebrating Summer Reading, and Summer Learning. She said we partner with different agencies throughout the City. She said some of the major initiatives we are working on include expanded homework help, new digital learning tools and games and we have added a new full time bilingual librarian to provide outreach to the Tenderloin community.

Lisa Dunseth, Program Manager, Book Arts and San Francisco History Center said the Center is celebrating 50 years and gave a presentation on the Center. She said the Center was dedicated in 1964. She gave the history of the Center and emphasized those who contributed to it. She showed some photos of some of the materials in the collection. She said there is a Departmental Blog entitled "What's on the Sixth Floor?" She said we have various exhibitions and gave examples of the types of

exhibitions. She explained the types of patrons which include, students, teachers, scholars, artists, etc. She said an important way we do outreach is by hosting class visits. She said programming is another way to bring people up to the Sixth Floor and described some of the recent programming. She said the Center's 100 year old Albion printing press has been restored to working order. She said gifts to the Department have always been a great part of our collection development. She said the Friends of the Library recently donated a copy of Dante's Divine Comedy from 1507. She said a couple of challenges are cataloging our rare books and the need for storage space. She said without electronic records we cannot effectively promote our material. She said these materials belong to the people of San Francisco. She said we are running out of space and we want to make sure we have space to expand.

Luis Herrera, City Librarian said he wanted to remind the Commission of the meeting of August 15 when our head of Facilities, Roberto Lombardi gave an update on an issue we were having with the seismic moat. He said there was some air quality issues with some foul odors that were permeating in the first floor. He said some of the short term strategies include seismic moat flushing and cleaning and a contingency plan for staff relocation. He said the air quality improved so the plan was not activated. He said the long term strategies are for DPW engineers to design new seismic joint details. He said we are looking at long term LEED Existing Building process for the Main Library and that is a joint project with the Department of the Environment staff. He said we now have a full time Sergeant from the Police Department who will be overseeing our Security Department. He introduced Sergeant David Hamilton. He said the Sergeant has tremendous experience and we are delighted to have him here.

Explanatory documents: [Summer Reading Program](#) Presentation [Children's Center](#) Presentation; and [Book Arts and Special Collections](#) and the San Francisco History Center. [Main Library Ventilation](#) update.

Public Comment

An anonymous citizen said this is Item 3 already and I have not been shot. He said wouldn't it be nice if citizens had access to the graphics. He said none of your staff members were willing to leave their presentations at the back of the room as the citizens are expected to do. He said the reference to the commissioners as "intelligent people" was conditional and hypothetical – not an observation. He said the special collections are a remarkable treasure of this library. He said there are collections including Robert Frost, Sherlock Holmes, and the Richard Harrison Calligraphy Collections. He said he knew Richard Harrison, who was a union member and built that collection by trade. He said the Valentines collection was also built by someone he knew. He said the bookplate was adapted from Edwin Robinson (misspoke, it was Edward Robeson Taylor) a library trustee. The slogan "Vita Sine Literis Mores Est" is usually translated as, "Life Without Books is Death."

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Stop the Hate, Stop the Ignorance – Don't give money to, or accept money from the Friends of the Library. We are to item 3 without being shot – like the catsup, "anticipation."
Wouldn't it be nice if the citizens had access to the graphics. The staff was not willing to leave their presentations in the back as the citizens are expected to. The reference to the commissioners as "intelligent people" was conditional and hypothetical – not an observation. Special collections are a remarkable treasure of the library. Special collections include, Robert Frost, Sherlock Holmes, Richard Harrison Calligraphy Collection, who I knew was a union member who built that collection by trade. The Valentines collection was also built by someone I knew. The bookplate was adapted from Edwin Robinson (misspoke, it was Edward Robeson Taylor) a library trustee. The slogan "Vita Sine Literis Mores Est" is usually translated as, "Life Without Books is Death."

David Hooper said he thinks the Children's Center does a great job and one of the things he really appreciated doing was coming down with his neighbor's kid to have a San Francisco Giant do a book reading. He said he appreciated when Javier Lopez (who he said he hopes the Giants resign) came down to the Library to read to the kids after an extra inning game the night before. He said this is the kind of program that packs the house. He said with regards to Book Arts and Special Collections he continues to appreciate it. He said he is taking a class at City College and his class is coming next week for a presentation. He said this is a resource for everyone and if you haven't had a chance to go upstairs and peruse the collection you should do so.

Peter Warfield, Library Users Association, said the Sunshine Ordinance says three minutes should be provided to the public for public comment and unfortunately you are not following that law. He said these presentations are always fascinating and educational. He said the Children's Reading Program doesn't say why there are generous sponsors needed in a Library that has triple the budget of all the Libraries that the Public Library Association includes in its survey for libraries that serve a population comparable to ours. He said our Library is the top funded Library so he asked why do we need corporate sponsors. He said he would like to know what they provide and what are they given in return. He said that is problematic and he would like our library to be independent. He said the History room has two parts and with the addition of hours there has been a reduction of service. He said in the past there was always a Librarian in the rear room and now that room is closed. He said it would be nice to find out what is going on with the reduction of service. He said the City Librarian was found in violation by

the Fair Political Practices Commission of signing that he didn't receive any gifts when in fact he received \$66,000.

Robert Livingston said that was a fantastic presentation and there is no question that this is one of the greatest libraries in the world. He said he would like to remind people that today major cities like New York and Detroit are being sold off. He said there are public private partnerships that seem to put their logo on just about everything and sponsor everything. He said when that fails later people will say there is no money and these wonderful things that were created over the years by wise people will disappear and he would like to issue this as a warning. He said we do have something to be very, very proud of here in San Francisco.

Commission Discussion

Commissioner Mall asked about the Summer Reading Program and what constitutes a participant.

Toni Bernardi, Chief of Children and Youth Services said a participant is someone who attends a program. She said participants in the reading program sign up on line or in person at the library and then they record their minutes read.

Commissioner Mall asked how the lunches are provided.

Luis Herrera, City Librarian, said the lunch program was a pilot program in the neighborhood branches.

Toni Bernardi, Chief of Children and Youth Services, said many of the neighborhoods we serve have children that depend on the school lunch program during the year and in the summer that is not available to them. She said it is a program with the government and they provide a boxed lunch and we serve them. She said it includes children and teens.

Commissioner Mall asked about the Special Collections and asked why they are not catalogued.

Lisa Dunseth, Program Manager, Book Arts and San Francisco History Center said she is new to the Center but she is aware that all libraries have backlogs in special collections

Laura Lent, Chief of Collections and Technical Services, said it will take time, because some of the collections require special training and it is very time consuming. She said it can take a day to catalog three or four items. She said we prioritize materials and we are often the first library in the country to catalog materials in Chinese. She said within the Main Library a number of Departments have uncatalogued collections. She said we would love to get a huge grant to get to all the materials catalogued but barring that we are making progress.

Commissioner Mall asked about the digitization of items.

Lisa Dunseth, Program Manager, Book Arts and San Francisco History Center said there is a huge queue for digitizing material. She said Susan Goldstein, the City Archivist has thousands of items that she has managed to have digitized and there are many more waiting in the queue. She said it is not inexpensive and it is not that simple.

Luis Herrera, City Librarian, said he would also add that we are internally looking at prioritizing items for digitalization. He said it raises a lot of questions. He said we will come back and report to the Commission the actual items that we are digitizing and scanning.

Commissioner Mall asked if the Library does outreach to get people to give their collections to the Library.

Lisa Dunseth, Program Manager, Book Arts and San Francisco History Center said relationships with the Friends, the City Librarian and our staff have been important.

Luis Herrera, City Librarian, said our staff does a lot of outreach and we are very fortunate to have the staff that we have.

Commissioner Lee asked about the cataloging and how it relates to Google.

Luis Herrera, City Librarian, said we have a relationship with Internet Archives so it is open and free access. He said we are also involved with some other national initiatives for digitization. He said the cataloging piece is a priority within other priorities and it is a capacity question as well. He said we have to balance all of our needs.

Commissioner Lee said he would like to know about the problem with space that the Library has.

Luis Herrera, City Librarian, said Brooks Hall is where the library materials are stored. He said we need to address that both on a short and long term basis. He said he will be having more conversations with the Commission as we address this issue.

Commissioner Ono said congratulations on the 50 years. She asked about the book that was read for the record.

Megan Anderson, Acting Manager, Fisher Children's Center, said the book that was read was a picture book called Otis. She said it is about a little tractor and its friend a little cow and they get stuck in a little pond.

Luis Herrera, City Librarian, said he wanted to emphasize to the Commission that we would love to have the Commissioners participate and read to the children next year.

Commissioner Ono read something from the Commission Bylaws where it says each person wishing to speak on an item before the Commission shall be permitted to speak once for up to three minutes.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4 HIGHLIGHTS ON PROGRAMS AND EXHIBITS

Michelle Jeffers, Acting Head of Communications, Programs and Partnerships gave a presentation on Program and Exhibit Highlights. She said every fall we celebrate One City One Book and this year's choice is Little Brother by Cory Doctorow. She said last night there was a wonderful program with Cory Doctorow here in the Koret Auditorium. She said we are hosting over 50 events related to One City One Book. She said the fall is also Tricycle Music Fest, our wonderful early literacy program for children. She said the room is decorated a little differently today as part of our celebration Viva, our Latino Hispanic Heritage month events. She said in the Skylight Gallery we are celebrating two related exhibits. She said Breaking the Barriers – The American Tennis Association and Black Tennis Pioneers and They were First – African Americans in Sports. She said on October 4 and 5 there will be Tales From Two Cities part of a Writing from California Literary Conference. She said it will be tomorrow afternoon and all day Saturday. She said it should be a very exciting event. She said later this month we will be celebrating the Filipino American Book Festival. She said it will be three days of talks, discussion and films with Filipino booksellers and Filipino authors from October 18 – 20. She said we have two related exhibits Kodakan – Changing expressions of Filipino cultural identity and Endangered Birds of the Philippines – Painting and Photography.

Explanatory document: [Program and Exhibit Highlights](#) Fall 2013 Presentation

Public Comment

An anonymous citizen said he hopes someone will explain the legal requirements to Commissioner Ono. He said what we see here is an attempt to conceal the fact that you have completely wiped out any meaningful agenda and simply put the City Librarian's Report on twice and buried any of the issues that you should be discussing with this happy talk about the programs that continue despite your efforts. He said this is where he came in. He said the first Library Commissions he attended contained only one item with very little detail. He said the City Librarian would expound loquaciously about anything he wanted and then the meeting was over. He said not only are you removing the opportunity to comment and the frequency of meeting, but you are removing the content that should be discussed. He said democracy and destruction is continuing apace.

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Stop the Hate, Stop the Ignorance – Don't give money to, or accept money from the Friends of the Library. Wouldn't it be nice if

the citizens had access to the graphics. Your staff did not consent to leave her presentation in the back. I hope someone will explain the requirements of the law to Commissioner Ono. You are eliminating a meaningful agenda by putting the City Librarian Report on twice and you are concealing the issues you should be discussing with happy talk. This is where I came in. My first library commission meetings consisted of one item, City Librarian's Report with very little detail. He expounded loquaciously about anything he wanted and then the meeting was over. Not only are you removing the opportunity to comment and the frequency of meeting, but you are removing the content that should be discussed. Destruction of democracy is continuing apace.

Peter Warfield, Library Users Association, said it is interesting to hear about some of the programs. He said Commissioner Ono brought up something about the up to three minute public comment. He said the Sunshine Ordinance says up to three minutes and that would be meaningless if it were up to the bodies for how much time to give. He said up to three minutes means the members of the public may speak at his or her discretion for as long as they like up to three minutes. He said other interpretations made that law meaningless and it is generally understood that laws are created for a purpose and not to be made meaningless. He said he is glad the City Librarian introduced the Police Officer who appears to be sitting on my right. He said we were wondering if this was some sort of Halloween gesture since you are not meeting again until after Halloween. He said we know this is a Library employee and he said some people would consider it cruel and unusual punishment and he hopes he doesn't do this for every meeting.

Robert Livingston said he is grateful for the programs that are put on at the Library. He said he has been coming to the Commission meetings because he is very concerned about the direction of this library. He said this library sets the example for libraries all across the country. He said people look to this library for leadership and ideas and he thinks it is a disservice not only to this library but to other libraries if the truth about this library is hidden by the media. He said the programs are wonderful and he said he does like to hear about them when he is here. He said the talk of reducing the number of meetings of this Commission for the convenience of Commissioners who cannot attend every meeting is a short shrift to the wonderful presentations we have heard today.

Commission Discussion

Commissioner Randlett said thank you to the public for their comments.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 5 LABOR UNION REPORT

There was no Labor Union Report at this meeting.

Commissioner Munson left the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 6 APPROVAL OF MINUTES JULY 18, 2013

Public Comment

An anonymous citizen said the explanatory documents that are available on line on the web version of the Minutes are not available on the printed copies. He said this presents a particular problem here because at the top of page 16 in the online version or the bottom of page 15 in the paper version there are mentioned two explanatory documents but there is only one listed on the agenda. If you rely on the hidden version that explanatory document is hidden from you. He said there was only one alteration to his citizen summaries. He said on page 18 it says "is a serious issue" and it is represented "as a serious issue". He said on page 1 under general public comment it says "bunch a Jewelle Gomez wannabes" instead of "bunch of Jewelle Gomez wannabes". He said he is inspired by Mr. Munson to make some grammatical corrections. He said on page 3 it should be "too frequently" not "to frequently." He said on page 5, is should be "right now" and not "right not."

The following written summary was provided by the speaker, anonymous citizen. The content is neither generated by, nor subject to approval or verification of accuracy by the Library Commission.

Anonymous Citizen: Stop the Hate, Stop the Ignorance – Don't give money to, or accept money from the Friends of the Library. The explanatory documents referenced in the on-line version of the minutes are not available in the printed minutes. This is particularly true here because some explanatory document are not mentioned on the agenda, so they are completely hidden to anyone relying on the paper version of the minutes. In my citizen summaries as I submitted them, the secretary made only one alteration from what I submitted. On page 18, the words "is a serious" is substituted for "as a serious." Page 1, "bunch a Jewelle Gomez" for "bunch of Jewelle Gomez." Perhaps you are making fun of my accent. This is printed English and I am not a character in Huck Finn. I am inspired by Commissioner Munson to make grammatical corrections. Page 3, "too frequently" not "to frequently." Page 5, "right now" not "right not."

Peter Warfield, Library Users Association, said he is glad that the Minutes are long and apparently extensive. He said on page 14 of the July 18 Minutes his comment regarding the freeze in the budget for collections is misrepresented and it should read something like "That is unconscionable in a budget that is increasing over \$8 Million and one of your **claimed** budget drivers is collections." With the word claimed added to clarify his remarks.

Commission Discussion

Commissioner Randlett said Mr. Warfield's remarks should be clarified in the Minutes.

Motion: By Commissioner Mall, seconded by Commissioner Lee to approve the [Minutes of July 18, 2013](#) with a correction to page 14 to clarify the remarks of Peter Warfield at the bottom of the page to insert the work “claimed” to the statement: “That is unconscionable in a budget that is increasing over \$8 Million and one of your **claimed** budget drivers is collections.”

Action: AYES 6-0: (Lee, Gomez, Mall, Nguyen, Ono and Randlett).

AGENDA ITEM NO. 6 APPROVAL OF MINUTES AUGUST 15, 2013

Public Comment

An anonymous citizen said the City Librarian’s Report had two explanatory documents, neither of which were on the agenda or printed minutes, but are referenced on the on-line minutes. He said with respect to the Bond Manager’s Report there were two explanatory documents, one was on the agenda and neither are referenced in the printed minutes. He said both are on the on-line version of the Minutes. He said that means that someone relying on the paper minutes is being disenfranchised from knowing what is going on. He said in his citizen summaries as he submitted them, the secretary changed “Powerpoint” to “PowerPoint.” He said Microsoft likes that version but he does not so he wishes it would be as he submitted. He said at the top of page 8 we have Mr. Herrera said “permutation” not “permeation.” He said permeation means penetrated by gas and Mr. Herrera mean permutations. He said on page 14 it says “others ways” and of course it should read “other ways.”

The following written summary was provided by the speaker, anonymous citizen. The content is neither generated by, nor subject to approval or verification of accuracy by the Library Commission.

Stop the Hate, Stop the Ignorance – Don’t give money to, or accept money from the Friends of the Library. I hope the Friends are collecting lots of money (for the public comment fund). The City Librarian’s Report had two explanatory documents, neither of which were on the agenda or printed minutes, but are referenced on the on-line minutes. The Bond Manager’s Report had two explanatory documents, one was on the agenda and neither are referenced in the printed minutes. This means that someone relying on the paper minutes is being disenfranchised from knowing what is going on. In my citizen summaries as I submitted them, the secretary changed “Powerpoint” to “PowerPoint.” Microsoft likes it your way, but I didn’t submit Microsoft’s version. On page 8, Mr. Herrera said “permutation” not “permeation.” Permeation means penetrated by gas. He meant permutations. On page 14, “other ways” not “others ways.”

Peter Warfield, Executive Director, Library Users Association, said he wasn't as able to review these Minutes with as much care as he would like. He said he was busy with the Sunshine Ordinance Task Force (SOTF) meeting yesterday at which the SOTF voted to send the Library to the Board of Supervisors and Ethics Commission following the Commission's motion to refuse to follow the SOTF's Order of Determination with respect to equal access to the graphics. He said on page 11 there are some comments that he made regarding a new form that Mr. Lombardi was having employees fill out. He said he did not say there was nothing on the new form, he said the issue was that, the form doesn't state what the employee did. He said in places where he has been previously where there are these forms for maintenance there is a list of tasks for instance wipe the sink, check the towels, provided soap, or mop the floors. He said that information was not on the form.

Commission Discussion

Motion: By Commissioner Mall, seconded by Commissioner Lee to approve the [Minutes of August 15](#)

Action: AYES 6-0: (Lee, Gomez, Mall, Nguyen, Ono and Randlett).

AGENDA ITEM NO. 8 ADJOURNMENT

President Gomez said we will be adjourning in honor of Linda Brook-Burton our Southeast District Manager.

Public Comment

An anonymous citizen said it is very important to adjourn in honor of those who have made major contributions to the Library. He said we are all equal before the grim reaper, if not in other places. He said he would also suggest that the Commission adjourn in memory of Martin Magid. He said Mr. Magid was usually associated with the Center for the Blind, where he was the librarian for many, many years. He said he served in many other capacities in the system. He said he left for a little while and served as a librarian in Oregon. He said in the Peace Corp in Tehran. He said he passed away on August 29 at the age of 69. He read a portion of the obituary from the Chronicle. He said it looks like he got to the end of the meeting without getting shot and he hopes that will be a tradition going forward.

The following written summary was provided by the speaker, anonymous citizen. The content is neither generated by, nor subject to approval or verification of accuracy by the Library Commission.

It's important to honor those who make major contributions to the library. We are all equal before the grim reaper, if not in other places. I suggest we adjourn in memory of Martin Magid. He is usually associated with the Center for the Blind, where he was librarian for many years, but he served in many other capacities.

He was, also, a librarian in Oregon. He served in the Peace Corp in Tehran. He passed away August 29, at the age of 69. Let me quote just a few words from the obituary in the Chronicle. "Martin was a man of perpetual curiosity, who thrived on exacting detail, who loved generously and wholly. Conversation was always lively, trivia was always flowing, and laughter was always free and easy." I seemed to have gotten to the end of the meeting without getting shot. I hope that will become a tradition going forward.

Ellen Egbert said many of us went to a very, very moving Memorial Service for Linda Brooks Burton last Tuesday. She said the Commission was very well represented by President Jewelle Gomez. She said one of the things that was circulating was a petition to rename the Bayview Library the Linda Brooks Burton Library. She said she thinks that will be coming back to the Commission and she hopes that you will consider it very positively because her contributions to the Library as well as to the community have been enormous.

Peter Warfield, Library Users Association, said Linda Brooks Burton was a very long time library employee and she was most certainly, in his mind, mostly associated with the Bayview Anna Waden Branch. He said she was the Branch Manager for quite some time. He said she was a solidly well-known person in the community and much known and very much appreciated as the Branch Manager. He said her Southeast Manager position was a promotion but that was relatively recently. He said he would second the suggestion of the previous speaker of adjourning in honor of another librarian who died.

President Gomez said the library was very well represented by many staff members at the Memorial for Linda Brooks Burton. She said this was a stunning loss of someone so young. She said there was an appreciation there of all she had done to make the Bayview Branch in its old incarnation work and help create the new library. She said it is a beautiful branch and Linda's hand touched every part of it.

Luis Herrera said he would agree with the anonymous citizen that it would be appropriate to adjourn in honor of Martin Magid. He said Mr. Magid retired several years ago and he did a wonderful job as head of the Library for the Blind. He said the passing of Linda Brooks Burton leaves a significant void and he said he did have the honor of representing the Library in offering some comments at the wonderfully attended Memorial Service. He said it made us very proud that a librarian had made such a significant impact in community building in the Bayview. He said we will see a groundswell for naming the branch in her honor. He said Linda was someone on a personal level that he would rely on for counsel for wonderful support, so it is a personal loss. He said the staff that reported to her did not see her as a supervisor but as someone who would inspire them to do great things.

Motion: By Commissioner Ono, seconded by Commissioner Randlett, to adjourn the regular meeting of October 3, 2013 in honor of Linda Brooks Burton and Martin Magid.

Action: AYES 6-0: (Lee, Gomez, Mall, Nguyen, Ono, and Randlett)

The meeting adjourned at 6:24 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).