



San Francisco Public Library

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

Meeting Location: Latino Hispanic Room
Facilitator: Cathy Delneo, Chief of Branches

Attendees: AJ Cave (ANZ), Katherine Hsieh (CHI), Penni Wisner (EVA), Marcia Parrot (EXC), Jules Older (GGV), Gail Seagraves (Main), Judy Blanchard (MER), Susan Leury (MER), Ruth Maginnis (NVA), Kathleen McClay (NBE), Edna James (OVI), Bessie Hahn (ORT), Marcia Ehrlich (PAR), Diane Silver (PAR), Marcia Popper (PRE), Kaitlyn Tran (PRE), Deborah Oppenheim (SUN)

Excused: Larry Ware (BAY), Lena Yu (CHI), Ruth Grabowski (EXC), Nora Dowley (GPA), Mailine Chew (Main), Tyrone (Ty) Robinson (NBE), Philip Gray (OVI), Elaine Cahn (RIC), Joan Walton (SUN), Rochelle Fort (VVA), Maryam Roberts (WPO), Callen Taylor (WSA)

Library Administrators: Maureen Singleton (Chief Operating Officer), Sue Blackman (Library Commission Secretary),

Guests: Anissa Malady (Community Engagement, Adult Engagement Coordinator)

HOUSEKEEPING

- The next **Library Commission Meetings** will be at 4:30 p.m. in the Koret Auditorium, Main Library on
 - **Thursday, November 21, 2019**
 - **Thursday, December 19, 2019**
 - **Thursday, January 16, 2019**

Please let the Chief of Branches Office know if you would like to attend any of the meetings

- The next **CNL Meeting** will be on **Thursday, January 23, 4:00 p.m. in the Latino Hispanic Meeting Room, Main Library**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The CNL Holiday Party will be on Thursday, December 5th from 4-6 pm in the City Librarians Office.

- The [2020 CNL Meeting Schedule](https://sfpl.org/index.php?pg=2000006201) is posted on CNL page on the Library's website: <https://sfpl.org/index.php?pg=2000006201>
- There will be several [Branch Open Houses](#) in November and December.
- At last month's CNL Meeting, Susanne Sakai, Book Arts and Special Collections librarian, gave a presentation about the Living Library Program. Please let the Chief of Branches Office know if you would like to have the Living Library Program at your branch, so that we can have Susanne reach out to the branch managers.
- The Friends of San Francisco Public Library will have some great events coming up:
 - At the Friends Bookstore in Fort Mason Center
 - Fall Art Book Sale on November 8-15
 - Thanksgiving Member Book Sale on November 23 – December 1
 - At Anchor Public Taps
 - Holiday Books and Brews on December 15
- The Friends are preparing to launch a fundraising campaign for the Chinatown, Ocean View and Mission Branch renovation projects. Names are being gathered for a leadership committee of nine people; 3 representatives from each branch.
ACTION – Get in touch with the Chief of Branches Office if you would like to recommend someone for the committee. Donor advocates, community representatives and CNL members are all welcome to be on the committee.

UPDATES

City Librarian's Report – Maureen Singleton

California Library Association – Library Hall of Fame

- The California Library Hall of Fame honors individuals who have made a significant contribution to the improvement of California libraries.
- Two former San Francisco Public Library Directors were inducted in the 2019 Hall of Fame: Luis Herrera and Susan Hildreth.

Library Commission Report – Sue Blackman

Ocean View Library Site Feasibility Report

- An Ocean View Library Site Feasibility Study was presented to the Library Commission. The original scope of the report was focused on exploring the possibility of building a new library at the Brotherhood and Head Mini-Park, and later expanded to include adjacent sites on Brotherhood Way.
- The study found the following issues with the current branch:
 - The size of the building is too small and unable to meet the needs of the community
 - The program room is too small
 - The building is not recognizable as a library
 - No space for Teens
 - Difficult to oversee the public spaces on the second floor
 - No room for expansion
- A number of community members attended the Commission meeting and expressed support for building a larger Ocean View Branch Library - including CNL members Edna (OVI), Marcia (EXC), and Ruth (NVA).

- Community members expressed support for a new building to better serve the underserved Ocean View neighborhood and Ocean View/Merced/Ingleside (OMI) community.
- A number of community members who spoke at the meeting indicated that they had concerns about building a new library on Brotherhood Way due to vehicular traffic and pedestrian safety.
- Some community members shared that they wanted to see improved access to Muni buses for the site as well as ADA accessible parking as well as parking for community members in general.
- The Ocean View Site Feasibility Study is scheduled to be shared with the community at three meetings at the IT Bookman Center on November 2, 6 and 23. The meeting on the 6th will be in the evening, and the meeting on the 23rd will be hosted in Chinese.
- The [presentation](#) and [report](#) can be found on the [Library Improvements for Tomorrow](#) page on the Library's website.
- Edna (OVI) – *Brotherhood Way is too busy and inaccessible.*
 - We strive to develop the best library we can for the community and will work with other City Departments to mitigate concerns around access and safety. The Library's thinking is aspirational when considering building on Brotherhood Way. Rather than being stopped by an existing condition as we dream big, we are thinking of the branch we want to see for the neighborhood and will work to address important issues like pedestrian safety and access with the San Francisco Municipal Transit Agency (SFMTA).
- Marcia (EXC) – *Does the new branch need to be the largest in the City?*
 - The size of a new Ocean View Branch has not been determined. We'll be working further with Public Works to more fully develop plans for a branch that can address the programmatic needs of the community on the site that's available to us. That said, the Ocean View community has historically been underserved. The Ocean View, Merced, and Ingleside (OMI) branches are three of the four smallest branch libraries within SFPL. So there are clear needs in this community for a larger facility. Building on the open space on Brotherhood Way will allow us to build a branch that will meet the needs of the community now and as it grows.

Neighborhood Sharing - All

- North Beach will have a First People exhibition in November. Artifacts for the display are on loan from CNL members, Tyron "Ty" Robinson.
- North Beach is also celebrating Italian Heritage Month with a number of in events co-sponsored by the Italian Cultural Institute of San Francisco – including an Italian Literary Foosball Tournament! Patrons can enter by bringing in a book in Italian or by an Italian author.

One City One Book Discussion – Anissa Malady

- One City One Book is the annual citywide reading event where everyone reads the same book at the same time and then discuss it at events throughout the City. *There There* by Tommy Orange is the 15th Annual One City One Book selection, which tells the story of urban Native Americans in Oakland.

- Over 600 people attended an event that featured Tommy Orange in conversation with San Francisco Poet Laureate Kim Shuck. The program prompted much reflection and conversation on the issues of racial inequity.
- Some CNL members commented that they were most affected by the book's moving prologue, an essay on the historical and ongoing violence and dehumanization endured by Native Americans.
- The CNL discussion of the book and the featured event led to discussion focused on implicit bias and the importance of creating space for native voices in our community.
- The book appealed to some because it is a story from a community that is underrepresented and shares the perspective of that community on a local and national level.

Adjournment: 5:30 pm

Respectfully submitted by Florinda Battad