



San Francisco Public Library

**MINUTES**  
**Council of Neighborhood Libraries**  
**May 27, 2021, 4:00 p.m.**  
**CALL TO ORDER**

**Meeting Location: Zoom Virtual Meeting**

**Facilitator: Cathy Delneo, Chief of Branches**

**Attendees:** A.J. Cave (ANZ), Lena Yu (CHI), Penni Wisner (EVA), Marcia Parrot (EXC), Judy Blanchard (MER), Ruth Maginnis (NVA), Marcia Ehrlich (PAR), Diane Silver (PAR), Marcia Popper (PRE), Kaitlyn Tran (PRE), Deborah Oppenheim (SUN), Joan Walton (SUN), Genevieve Feldman (NE District Manager), Regan Gong (NW District Manager), Darice Murray-McKay (Central District Manager), Anne Vannucchi (SE District Manager), Denise Sanderson (SW District Manager), Michael Roman (Junior Management Assistant), Florinda Battad (Library Technical Assistant II)

**Excused:** Larry Ware (BAY), Ruth Grabowski (EXC), Nora Dowley (GPA), Gail Seagraves (Main), Mailene Chew (Main), Tyrone (Ty) Robinson (NBE), Edna James (OVI), Kathleen McClay (NBE), Bessie Hahn (ORT), Elaine Cahn (RIC), Rochelle Fort (VVA), Maryam Roberts (WPO), Callen Taylor (WSA), Michael-Vincent D'Anella-Mercanti (Friends), Rebecca Alcala-Veraflor (Assistant Chief of Branches), Anne Vannucchi (SE District Manager)

**Library Administrators:** Michael Lambert (City Librarian), Maureen Singleton (Chief Operating Officer), Margot Shaub (Library Commission Affairs Analyst)

**Guest:** Christy Estrovitz (Youth Services Manager)

**HOUSEKEEPING**

**Upcoming Meetings**

➤ The next **Library Commission Meeting in June** will be on **Thursday, June 17, 2021, 4:30 p.m., SFPL Virtual Library**

➤ The next **CNL Meeting in June** will be on **Thursday, June 24, 2021, 4:00 p.m., SFPL Virtual Library**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- The Main Library and the Chinatown and Mission Bay branches are open for Browse and Bounce in-person limited library service.
- Marica (EXC) – *How many visitors were there for Browse and Bounce?*  
CD – During the first week of service, there were 1,052 patrons at Mission Bay, and 1,841 patrons at Chinatown.

- Lena (CHI) – Chinatown Branch had 473 visitors on the first day. Graffiti and bodily waste were found on the second day of opening, supporting the need for adding security cameras when the branch is renovated.

## **UPDATES**

### **City Librarian’s Report – Michael Lambert**

- The Main Library opened on May 3<sup>rd</sup> for limited in-person service, with only the first floor open to patrons. On May 10<sup>th</sup> the Children’s Center on the second floor will open.
- June service updates
  - Restrictions at the Main will ease:
    - The upper floors will be open to patrons
    - Keeping a physical distance from others will no longer be required
    - Increased capacity up to 50%
    - Restore seating and increase computer access
  - Four branches will have limited in-person service: Excelsior, Ortega, Richmond, and Visitacion Valley.
  - Branches that served as Community Hubs will provide SFPL To Go service: Bernal Heights, Golden Gate Valley, Ingleside, North Beach, Sunset, and Western Addition.
- July service updates
  - Six branches will open for Browse and Bounce limited in-person service: Bayview, Bernal Heights, Eureka Valley, Glen Park, Oceanview, and Western Addition.
- We plan to reopen all branches on August 16<sup>th</sup>, which coincides with the first day of school for San Francisco Unified School District (SFUSD) students. Reopening the branches remains a fluid situation that will depend on staffing.  
<https://sfpl.org/sites/default/files/2021-05/3.1-reopening-plan052021.pdf>
- Q&A
  - Marcia (PRE) – *Can the Library recruit employees?*  
 ML – We are actively filling vacancies first through the reassignment process, where staff move laterally.
  - AJ (ANZ) – *Are there any budget updates? Has the budget been approved?*  
 MS – The Mayor will release the proposed budget to the Board of Supervisors next week. The Board of Supervisors’ Budget and Appropriations Committee will review and recommend changes. In July, the full Board of Supervisors will review and vote to approve the budget.  
 ML - The Library’s major capital projects is primarily funded by the Library’s Preservation Fund. The Library’s Chief Financial Officer, Heather Greene pursued Citywide funding sources and secured \$8 million in certificates of participation for the Chinatown renovation.

### **Library Commission Report – Margot Shaub**

- Highlights include:
  - Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month  
 The Library celebrates the richness of Asian American and Pacific Islander cultures with virtual programs for all ages: author talks, cooking and dance demonstrations, and musical performances.

- Tech Week  
The Bridge At Main hosts a wide variety of virtual programs to help people learn new skills, explore technology and get help from experts.
- Summer Together  
The Library received \$3 million in funding from the Department of Children Youth and Families (DCYF) to give each SFUSD student 10 free books to help build home libraries.
- Summer Stride  
For this year's annual reading and learning event, the Library partnered with the San Francisco Human Rights Commission to amplify the voices of underrepresented populations.
- Library Journal: Movers and Shakers 2021  
Shawna Sherman, manager of SFPL's African American Center, was recognized by the magazine in the Change Agent category.
- Q&A
  - Lena (CHI) – *Is there a timeline for the Chinatown renovation?*  
MS – The timeline will depend on funding availability. Once funding is secured, we will work with Public Works on a schedule.  
CD – According to the results of the [Chinatown Renovation Survey](#), the community does not want to wait for the completion of the Portsmouth Square renovation, and wants to move forward with the branch renovation. We plan to schedule more community engagement meetings in the fall. The Library is also committed to the Ocean View project and hopes to begin work on the design process.

### **Summer Together and Summer Stride – Christy Estrovitz**

- Summer Stride is the Library's largest literacy campaign to keep adults and youth reading and learning during the summer. This year the Library sought the input and guidance from the Racial Equity Committee and worked with the San Francisco Human Rights Commission, SFUSD, and DCYF to better reach San Francisco's most vulnerable children.
- Everybody Reads Summer Guide
  - SFPL Librarians chose books by BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, People of Color) authors and illustrators to inspire children to see themselves in books.
  - Sheryl E. Davis, the Executive Director of the SF Human Rights Commission, created activities to accompany the books featured in the guide.
- Summer Together is a DCYF initiative to keep children reading and learning during the summer and will be a part of Summer Stride.
  - SFPL received \$3 million dollars from DCYF to purchase 500,000 books to be given to all PreK to 12<sup>th</sup> grade SFUSD students
  - Students can pick up their free books at all library locations.
- SFPL has partnered with Youthworks, a paid internship program that places teens in city government departments.
  - Teens who are placed in the Library will participate in YELL (Youth Engaged in Library Leadership) during the summer.
- Artwork for Summer Stride is by Kaylani Jaunita, a rising voice in children's literature, and winner of the Coretta Scot King Illustrator Honor Award.
- Summer Stride programs for all ages are virtual and can be seen on Youtube. Programs include:
  - BIPOC KidLit Series connects children and teens with the diverse authors and illustrators of the books chosen for Summer Stride

- Nature Boost teaches kids about nature and is a collaboration with the National Park Service, Presidio Trust, and the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy.
- STEM Challenge Yo’Self is a weekly program of fun science experiments that can be done at home with household materials. The teen led web series received an honorable mention award in innovation by the Urban Libraries Council.
- Music performances by the Alphabet Rockers
- Q&A
  - Penni (EVA) – *What kind programs will be offered for adults?*  
CE – We have a lot of author readings, film screenings, arts and crafts workshops, and gardening programs.  
CD –The Library’s virtual programs have been well received. Future programs could be an in-person/online hybrid.
  - Penni (EVA) – *Will there be StoryWalks again this year?*  
CE – Yes, there will be StoryWalks at three different locations this year. StoryWalks are pages from children’s books placed on signs along park trails. Families can walk along three different trails and read *Have You Ever Seen a Flower* by Shawn Harris, *The Hike* by Alison Farrell, and *I Wrote You a Note* by Lizi Boyd.

**Adjournment: 5:00 pm**

**Respectfully submitted by Florinda Battad**