



San Francisco Public Library

MINUTES
Council of Neighborhood Libraries
October 28, 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), Nora Dowley (GPA), Judy Blanchard (MER), Ruth Maginnis (NVA), Marcia Ehrlich (PAR), Diane Silver (PAR), Kaitlyn Tran (PRE), Deborah Oppenheim (SUN), Marysa Torres (Friends), Vicky Lam (Friends), Rebecca Alcala-Veraflor (Assistant Chief of Branches), Genevieve Feldman (NE District Manager), Anne Vannucchi (SE District Manager), Regan Gong (NW District Manager), Denise Sanderson (SW District Manager), Florinda Battad (Library Technical Assistant II)

Excused: Larry Ware (BAY), Katherine Hsieh (CHI), Penni Wisner (EVA), Marcia Parrot (EXC), Ruth Grabowski (EXC), Mailene Chew (Main), Tyrone (Ty) Robinson (NBE), Edna James (OVI), Bessie Hahn (ORT), Kathleen McClay (NBE), Marcia Popper (PRE), Elaine Cahn (RIC), Joan Walton (SUN), Rochelle Fort (VVA), Maryam Roberts (WPO), Callen Taylor (WSA)

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

Guest: Michelle Jeffers (Chief of Community Programs and Partnerships)

HOUSEKEEPING

Upcoming Meetings

- The next **Library Commission Meeting in November** will be on **Thursday, November 18, 2021, 4:30 p.m., SFPL Virtual Library**
- There will be no CNL Meetings in November and December. The next **Council of Neighborhood Libraries Meeting** will be on **Thursday, January 27, 2022, 4:30 p.m., SFPL Virtual Library**
- The Chief of Branches office will send out a survey to the CNL members to see if they are interested in having an in-person holiday party. Because food will be served, proof of vaccination will be required.

UPDATES

City Librarian's Report – Michael Lambert

- We hope to convene CNL in-person early next year.
- On November 13th, the next group of branches will open for 7-day service: Anza, Bayview, Marina, North Beach, Ortega, Park, Parkside, Richmond, West Portal, and Western Addition.
 - The Marina construction project will finish on schedule on November 12th.

- The Bayview Branch could possibly reopen for 7-day service on a different date.
- Library program highlights in November include:
 - First Person is SFPL's month long celebration of Native American Heritage Month.
 - The TotalSF Book Club is a quarterly author event is hosted by Heather Knight and Peter Hartlaub from the SF Chronicle, and features books that celebrate San Francisco culture. The second TotalSF Book Club pick is *Why We Swim* by Bonnie Tsui. The hybrid event meets on Wednesday, Nov. 17 (6-7 pm) at the Koret Auditorium and on Zoom.
 - The 10th Annual Veterans Film Festival features films about the veteran experience and a director's panel. The program takes place on November 13 and 14 online and in-person at the Main.
- Facilities Director recruitment
 - Retired Facilities Director, Roberto Lombardi, oversaw the third largest division, headed the capital projects, and was the Library's liaison to Public Works.
 - Interviews will begin in the coming weeks, and the position should be filled by early 2022.
- Racial Equity Manager recruitment
 - This is a new position that will be part of the Management and the Public Services Teams.
 - The Racial Equity Manger will apply a racial equity lense to the development and implementation of public facing programs and services.
- Friends of SFPL Book Sale Block Party
 - The free, outdoor event took place on October 27th, at the Friends Donation Center in the Potrero neighborhood.
 - The over 500 people who attended, enjoyed author readings, a drag queen story time, and were very excited to buy books to support the Library.
- The Mission Branch is open for SFPL To Go Front Door Pick-up Service
 - Patrons can return materials and pick-up their holds Tuesdays through Saturdays from 10am to 5:30pm.
 - A Mobile Outreach Services bookmobile is parked in front of the branch on Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays from 12pm to 5:30pm. to provide browsing access to Mission's Spanish and English materials.
 - Some of the collection will move to a temporary site during the renovation.

Library Commission Report – Margot Shaub

- Suspension of the Brown Act (public meetings are required to be accessible to all) has been extended. At the earliest, the Library Commission could possibly meet in-person in January 2022.
- A Branch Library Reopening update was given by Cathy.
 - Four branches (Bernal Heights, Eureka Valley, Merced, Ocean View) opened for 7-day service on October 2nd.
 - Mission Branch launched SFPL To Go and Browsing Bookmobile Service
 - Ten additional branches will open for 7-day service on November 13th.
 - By early 2022, all neighborhood branches will be open 7 days a week, with full-service hours.
- Summer Stride 2021 Outcomes Report was given by Christy Estrovitz.
 - 2702 children, 375 teens, and 2370 adults participated in Summer Stride
 - 44% of the participants finished, with 11,500 finisher prizes claimed
- The [2022 Library Commission Meeting Schedule](#) is available online.

Programming – Michelle Jeffers

- [Virtual Programming PPT.pptx](#)
- The Library's virtual programs have been very successful in bringing communities together and attracting attendees from around the world.
- Recorded virtual programs had an average of 100 viewers.
- Hybrid programs, where the events were in-person and streamed, were very successful.
- During the summer, there were 38 youth programs with 4,279 participants and 68 adult programs with 8,923 participants. The Library hosted 28 author events, promoting over 30 writers.
- Swing into Stories
 - Partnering with San Francisco Recreation and Parks, the Library's YouthMobile can be found at Garfield Playground and Hilltop Park providing story times and other library services. <https://sfpl.org/locations/bookmobiles-mobile-outreach/swing-stories>
 - Parks in equity zones were chosen in order to serve communities in need.
- The Main has already started to have in-person programs:
 - The turnout was limited for the first movie of the Thursday at Noon Film Series in the Koret Auditorium. https://sfpl.org/events/#!/filters?field_event_topic_target_id=388
 - The Career Coaching Program is a half hour, one-on-one session with a career coach providing help with job searches and changing careers. Sessions meet on Wednesdays between 3-5 pm at the Main. <https://sfpl.org/events/2021/12/01/workshop-career-coaching>
- Q&A
 - Diane (PAR) *Are all programs outdoors?*
(MJ) Some programs have been outdoors, but most have been in the Koret, the Latino Meeting Rooms, and the Skylight Gallery.
(CD) We have air purifiers in the branch meeting rooms and in other branch spaces. When we have programs again at the branches, we will require that masks be worn inside the branch and check vaccination status if food or drinks are being served.
 - Ruth (NVA) *Will there be in-person children's programs?*
(CD) Before we have programs inside, we will have an occupational hygienist from the Department of Public Health tour our spaces to help determine whether they will be suitable for indoor programs.
 - Nora (GPA) *Is the Library seeing an opportunity to continue using the remote option for programs?*
(MJ) Yes, remote programs need to be a part of our programming model because streaming allows us to reach a wider audience. The One City One Book programs were attended by over 3,000 people.
 - Lena (CHI) *How has overall in-person attendance been?*
(CD) Attendance is not as robust as it was pre-pandemic. Visitors also spend less time in the library. We hope attendance improves as COVID cases decrease.
(TF) Attendance at the Main was trending upwards and reached about half of what it normally was before the pandemic – about 1800 people a day. However, the numbers have leveled off and dropped, probably since the branches are now open.
- Meeting attendees shared what programs they looked forward to having again: music programs in the atrium, baby rhyme times, branch open houses, attending a program at night, more programs with Peter Hartlaub and Heather Knight, to just be in the community again.

Adjournment: 4:45 pm

Respectfully submitted by Florinda Battad