



San Francisco Public Library

SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC LIBRARY COMMISSION

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of MARCH 17, 2022

The San Francisco Public Library Commission held a regular meeting on **MARCH 17, 2022** virtually and at the Koret Auditorium, Main Library pursuant to Government Code Section 54953 (e) and Mayor Breed's 45th Supplement to her February 25, 2020 emergency proclamation

The regular meeting of the San Francisco Library Commission was called to order at **4:32 PM**

Commissioners Present: Wolf, Huang, López, Mall, Wardell-Ghirarduzzi and Bolander.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1 FINDINGS TO ALLOW TELECONFERENCE MEETINGS UNDER CALIFORNIA GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54953(e)

Explanatory document: [Findings Resolution](#)

Public Comment

Public Commenter said he was shocked to see the irrelevant and misleading resolution on the agenda. He said the Mayor's resolution supersedes any state requirements.

Peter Warfield, Executive Director, Library Users Association, Libraryusers2004@yahoo.com, said it was his understanding that the Mayor's Statement basically requires your commissions to meet in person unless there are specific reasons.

Motion: By Commissioner **Wardell Ghirarduzzi**, seconded by Vice President **Huang** to Adopt the Resolution of Findings to Allow Teleconferenced Meetings Under California Government Code Section 54953 (e).

Action: AYES 6-0 (Wolf, Huang, Mall, Wardell Ghirarduzzi, Lopez and Bolander)

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2 GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

General Public Comment

Public Commenter said in the old days the Library Commission meeting was adjourned in honor of members and people who stood out in the Library Community. He said the Library should adjourn in honor of Dr. Raye Richardson, who was a Library Commissioner for twelve years. The commenter said she was Chair of the Black

Studies Department at SF State University and gave additional background accomplishments of Dr Richardson.

Peter Warfield said he would certainly agree with the person who just spoke before him and closing in honor. He said there has been a lot of policy going on at the Library the Commission has had no say.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3 LIBRARY SERVICES MIDYEAR PROGRESS UPDATE

City Librarian Michael Lambert presented an update on Library Service Progress saying it has been two years since SFPL closed its doors on March 13, 2020. He outlined the SPFL services made available during that time. and gave updates on when additional branches would open, service hours, patron visits, monthly physical items, available programming and exhibits.

Explanatory document: [Public Services Midyear Progress presentation](#)

Public Comment

Public commenter said the presentation was informative and instructive, we have a Library Commission so people can feel valued and their voices heard and the Library Commission should and in fact do that.

Peter Warfield said he was independent of the Library and any Library sales; he's not selling anything to the Library. He also said that he was glad to have this report but there is a failure to acknowledge shortcomings that represents Library Service at this time.

Commission Discussion

President Wolf thanked Michael Lambert for the Presentation and thorough report.

Commissioner Bolander thanked the City Librarian for the presentation with the data included and asked about daily utilization and, asked if the Commission could get an average number. Commissioner Bolander thanked the Library and staff for bringing people back and people have different levels of comfort trying to go to public spaces, and although we all would like to be back to 100% that will happen over time. He also thanked staff for serving as Disaster Service Workers.

Commissioner Mall said she echoed Commissioner Bolander's comments that it is a good idea to adjourn Commission meetings not only in memory of Raye Richardson but in memory of other people because it is the people that make the Library so special.

President Wolf thanked the member of the public for informing the Commission about Dr. Raye Richardson.

Commissioner Lopez thanked the Library for the report and asked for short, summarized narratives on the slides. Lopez said she was excited for the upcoming programming.

Commissioner Wardell Ghirarduzzi said the Library has historically closed meetings in honor of individuals.

Vice President Huang said the presentation chart shows that the Library is struggling a bit with getting the Physical Only Patrons and asked how we get those folks back in person and if is cause for what is driving the

change in their behavior.

The City Librarian responded the Library has not restored Story Times and that is the most popular program citywide, people would come to the Library on a regular basis for Story Time. Mask mandates are about to be lifted, school children will no longer be required to wear masks and the Library is poised to resume programming, which will have an impact on foot traffic.

Commissioner Mall asked if the Sleeping Safely Village has impacted the Library in any way.

City Librarian Lambert said the most impact is that one of the Library's three entrances to the building and one of the corridors of the Civic Center has been closed. He said some positive aspects is that they have had access to services, restroom, meals and it is staffed 24-7. He said he expects that Village will be gone in a few weeks because people were being placed into housing.

Commissioner Mall asked if the timing was short as in days?

City Librarian Lambert responded Yes.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4 CITY LIBRARIAN REPORT

Commissioner Wolf said today is the 8th Anniversary of Michael Lambert coming to the San Francisco Library.

City Librarian Lambert said it is truly an honor to serve at SFPL and introduced Chief of Community Programs and Partnerships.

Michelle Jeffers gave an overview of programming and events for Women's History Month and she said this was a major collaboration between the librarians to create all the robust programming and book lists for celebrating Women's History Month.

Michelle Jeffers discussed the 2022 One City One Book selection, [This is Ear Hustle, Unflinching Stories of Everyday Prison Life.](#)

Explanatory Documents: [HERstory: Women's History Month Presentation;](#) and [One City One Book: San Francisco Reads Presentation](#)

Public Comment

Peter Warfield said it is always a pleasure to hear details from Michelle Jeffers and about programs that feature word books. He said he is concerned that many of the Effie Lee Morris Presentations did not have phone access to the program or to the Zoom meeting and the Library emphasizes electronic programming.

Commission Discussion

President Wolf thanked Michael Lambert, Michelle Jeffers and all the people who made Women's History Month so vibrant. President Wolf said the One City One Book selection was a personal favorite.

Commissioner Mall echoed Commissioner Wolf's comments and congratulated Michael for his eight years. Mall said she was on the first One City One Book panel eighteen years ago. Commissioner Mall asked for the Library to have a list of Ukrainian poets, authors books, that there is a real need in the community to learn more.

City Librarian Lambert said there was such a list on the website, which will be promoted with the Public Affairs Team.

Commissioner Lopez asked what groups we will collaborate with to promote the One City One Book selection.

Michelle Jeffers said we always partner with SFUSD and give classroom sets of the books to the schools for the students to read, have the authors visit High School visits and there will be events with City College.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 5 APPROVAL OF MINUTES – FEBRUARY 3, 2022

Public Comment

Peter Warfield said there are quite a few improvements that he thought were necessary.

Commission Discussion

Motion: By Commissioner **Mall** seconded by Commissioner **Lopez** to approve the [Minutes of the FEBRUARY 3, 2022 Commission Meeting](#) as amended.

Action: AYES 6-0 (Wolf, Huang, Mall, Wardell Ghirarduzzi, Lopez and Bolander)

AGENDA ITEM NO. 6 ADJOURNMENT OF THE MARCH 17, 2022 COMMISSION MEETING

Public Comment

Peter Warfield said he the Library used to have an Item called New Business and the Commission should not adjourn until every Agenda in the future includes an item that provides an opportunity for Commission Members to recommend subjects, they want on future agendas.

President Wolf requested we honor Dr. Richardson at our next Commission Meeting.

Commissioner Bolander thanked the IT staff for the Hybrid meeting, noting it is not an easy task to pull this off.

Motion: By Commissioner **Wardell Ghirarduzzi** seconded by Commissioner **Huang** to adjourn the Commission Meeting of **MARCH 17, 2022.**

Action: AYES 6-0 (Wolf, Huang, Mall, Wardell Ghirarduzzi, Lopez and Bolander)

The meeting adjourned at **6:14 PM**

Margot Shaub - Commission Affairs Analyst

Explanatory documents: Copies of listed explanatory documents are available as follows: (1) from the Commission Liaison Affairs Analyst/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 Commission webpage: sfpl.org/library-commission/public-notices/agendas. 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).