



San Francisco Public Library

SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC LIBRARY COMMISSION

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of APRIL 21, 2022

The San Francisco Public Library Commission held a regular meeting on **APRIL 21, 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 **4:30 PM**

Commissioners Present: Wolf, Huang, López, Ono and Bolander.

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

Explanatory Document: [Findings Resolution](#)

Public Comment

Peter Warfield, Director Library Users Association said there was no discussion on current circumstances and he said he is wearing a mask and it looked like everyone on the stage is wearing a mask, he said if all Commissioner Members were unable to attend in person for COVID related reasons the Library Commission would hold a meeting remotely.

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

Action: AYES 5-0 (Wolf, Huang, Ono, Lopez and Bolander)

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2 GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

General Public Comment

Marie Ciepiela, Executive Director Friends of the San Francisco Library said the Friends Board has approved more than \$1 million for Library support for FY22-23. Ciepiela said she was pleased for the upcoming Agenda item with the proposed language for 25-year renewal of the Library Preservation Fund.

Peter Warfield, Libraryusers2004@yahoo.com, said he was unrelated to the Library and he was very concerned about Library services and programs available to Library patrons and it was a pity the meeting is not adjourning in honor of Dr. Raye Richardson.

Edna James said she was glad to be back and represent OMI and notify the Library about what is happening.

Katharine Share said she is on the Council of Neighborhood Libraries and a resident in the Chinatown neighborhood. She said she really appreciates the Library; how much it has changed and how vital it is to continue to see it grow.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3 LIBRARY PRESERVATION FUND RESOLUTION

Maureen Singleton, Chief Operating Officer, presented the background on the Library Preservation Fund (LPF), when it first went before the votes and when the current LPF expires in June 2022. The COO highlighted the differences between the 2022 LPF and the previous LPF approved by voters in 2007, that it is funded through property tax and the General Fund Baseline and process for renewal.

Explanatory Documents: [City Librarian Memo dated April 18, 2022 – Library Preservation Fund Renewal](#); [Library Preservation Fund Presentation](#); draft [Library Preservation Fund Resolution](#); and draft [Library Preservation Fund Charter Amendment](#)

Public Comment

Peter Warfield said he is generally in favor of well-funded libraries but there are some historical inaccuracies on what he is hearing about the history of this proposition and a continual decrease of evening Library hours.

Michael Vincent, with the Friends group said the city has a commitment to public services and public good. He said the LPF is a good way to champion those values and the LPF is a generational piece of Legislation, as the next LPF will be up for renewal in 2048.

Sarah Jones, said she is the Board Chair of the Friends and spoke in support of the Library, the LPF and the work going into making the Library an award-winning institution.

Beth Kelly said she is the former Chair of the Friends of the Library, a devoted user of the Library and mother of two children. She said it is not difficult to overstate the value the amazing Library brings to the City and urged support for the LPF.

Charles Higuera said he served on the Library Commission from 1996-2008 and participated in the renewal of the LPF in 2007, urged support for the LPF renewal.

Rebecca Smith said the Friends fought for years to ensure stable Library finding, including in 1994,

launching the community effort that led to the passage of the original Library Preservation Fund and the results of changing the SF Public Library from a mediocre Library to a world class facility. Smith said she supports the renewal of the LPF for the next 25 years.

Katharine Share said she endorsed the LPF be brought to voters in November. She said the Chinatown and North Beach libraries have undergone very big transformations

Robert Grant said he was on the Board of the Friends of SFPL fighting for ongoing LPF funding and supports the LPF renewal for the next 25 years.

Edna James asked if the District Elections would have anything to do with changing what they're planning now.

Diane Gibson, Member of the Friends Board offered support for the LPF renewal and this moment provides an opportunity to look back and acknowledge what the Library has been able to achieve since 1994, when the LPF was created.

Commission Discussion

Commissioner Bolander asked the COO to go over for the attendees the new verbiage related to LPF baseline funding and provide more details on that aspect.

Commissioner Ono thanked everyone involved since the beginning and said the Library hours have increased from 800 to 1400. Because of this funding SFPL is the number one Library in the country.

Commissioner Lopez said the work that goes into the LPF Resolution has an impact many people don't see and makes libraries a place of learning. Lopez said this is a critical Resolution, which she supports and said provides a legacy for the citizens.

Vice President Huang said the Friends have been there, on the LPF, since before the beginning and thanked them for their support. He said that it was a privilege to be able to vote for the LPF renewal. Turning the funding into something meaningful that changes the Library system in the eyes of the public, has made the Department the highest rated in the City.

President Wolf commented said it was wonderful to hear so much support for the Library. Wolf said the Library has been a leader because the confidence of the support had enabled it to be bold, dynamic and take big risks, it's exciting to imagine where we will be in 25 years.

Motion: By Commissioner ONO, seconded by Commissioner LOPEZ to approve the Library Fund Preservation Resolution urging the Board of Supervisors to place a measure on the November 2022 ballot to reauthorize the Library Preservation Fund (LPF).

Action: AYES 5-0 (Wolf, Huang, Ono, Lopez and Bolander)

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4 TALENT ACQUISITION REPORT

Lori Regler, Human Resources Director, gave a report of Library Talent Acquisition, which included an overview of the SFPL workforce and how SFPL hires and develops talent. Regler spoke about the challenges for talent acquisition during the Pandemic, the partnership with DHR Diversity Recruitment Team and adding Equity and Inclusion Senior Human Resources Analyst to the HR team.

Explanatory Documents: [Talent Acquisition Presentation](#)

Public Comment

Peter Warfield said why he gives his information and said there were a lot of number but the overwhelming number is the enormous number of DSW workers from the Library. He said he considers the Library an essential operation.

Edna James, said she is from the Ocean View Library, and the cost of living in San Francisco is very expensive. She said sometimes lower income people don't have expenses to buy a computer so they come to the Library to stay in touch and do schoolwork.

Commission Discussion

Commissioner Bolander said Human Resources is a vital role to get the Library back to 100% and asked if the Library had had any numbers on how many vacancies have been filled in 2022.

Regler responded that the trajectory for filling vacancies is good and that number will go up as eligibility lists will become available to the Library.

Commissioner Lopez asked about the challenges filling the positions and about any Library internships that could lead to employment. She asked if there are any numbers to indicate how many people are hired from the pipelines.

Regler said the Library has internship programs and Fellows that work through the Library and they hope to expand those opportunities.

City Librarian Lambert said we have some actives for school aged kids, Summer Squad, Youth Led Leadership, Y.E.L.L. The Library has a work order with the Department of Children, Youth and Families to identify young people that are interested in working at the Library.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 5 CITY LIBRARIAN'S REPORT

Michelle Jeffers, Chief of Community Programs and Partnerships, presented the Evergreen San Francisco Programming Partnership, a citywide effort to recognize the importance of Cannabis to our communities. The Library hosted cannabis inspired events, including the history of cannabis from the counterculture and medicinal uses to full statewide legalization of Cannabis.

Kate Patterson, Director of Communications gave a detailed update on recent and upcoming Library exhibitions including More than a Wall, featuring photography by David Bacon; Black Excellence Black Invention, which explores the legacy of black inventors; Cockettes: Acid Drag and Sexual Anarchy; HerStory 2, the Legal History of Chinese American Women; Wild Forest and others.

City Librarian Lambert gave an update on the Library's reopening, which is on track to restore 7-day service in branches and announced the location of the Temporary Mission Branch, 1234 Valencia Street, and the resumption of Story Times at the Main in English, Spanish and Cantonese.

The City Librarian introduced new staff member Naomi Jelks, Racial Equity Manager and COO Singleton introduced Mike Fernandez, the new CFO.

Explanatory Documents: [Evergreen San Francisco 4-20 Celebration Presentation](#); [Exhibitions Highlights Presentation](#); [SFPL Reopening Update Presentation](#); and [Personnel Announcements - Racial Equity Manager & Chief Financial Officer \(CFO\) Presentation](#)

Public Comment

Peter Warfield said the Library is creating deficiencies for those who don't have access to a computer or good access to a home computer. He said more of the materials are either minimally available as books and maximally available as e-books.

Suzanne and Lenore, wife and daughter of Mike Fernandez said they were so proud of Mike and his new role at the Library and thanked the Library for all the work it does in the community.

Commission Discussion

Vice President Huang gave a warm welcome to Mike and Naomi.

President Wolf said Lori Regler gave the Commission a better understanding of obstacles to hiring new staff and promoting from within and enticing other people to come to the Library.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 6 APPROVAL OF MINUTES – MARCH 17, 2022

Public Comment

Peter Warfield said the information about Dr. Raye Richardson was not in the minutes and commented on what his comments were at the last Commission meeting.

Commission Discussion

Motion: By Commissioner **BOLANDER**, seconded by Vice President **HUANG** to approve the [March 17, 2022 Minutes](#).

Action: AYES 5-0 (Wolf, Huang, Ono, Lopez and Bolander)

AGENDA ITEM NO. 7 ADJOURNMENT OF THE APRIL 21, 2022 COMMISSION MEETING

City Librarian Lambert spoke about former SFPL Librarian Joan Jackson and asked to adjourn the meeting in her honor.

Explanatory Documents: [Joan Jackson Obituary](#)

Public Comment

Peter Warfield said he supports closing in honor of the Librarian and she was on the Council of Neighborhood Libraries. He asked to close in honor of Dr. Raye Richardson.

Commission Discussion

Motion: By Commissioner **LOPEZ**, seconded by Vice President **ONO** to approve the March 17, 2022 Minutes.

Action: AYES 5-0 (Wolf, Huang, Ono, Lopez and Bolander)

The meeting adjourned at **7:07 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).