



San Francisco Public Library

SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC LIBRARY COMMISSION

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of MAY 16, 2024

The San Francisco Public Library Commission held a regular meeting MAY 16, 2024, at the Koret Auditorium, Main Library and able to view virtually on Zoom.

The SFPL Commission meeting was called to order at 4:30 PM.

Commissioners Present: Wolf, Huang, Ono, Bolander, Lopez and Lomax Ghirarduzzi.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1 GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

HT said he filled out a form and didn't hear back and emailed Michael Lambert directly and did not hear back. He said the Library is not working for him and the way he uses it is changing. When he is on his phone doing work or a Zoom call, he has been asked by staff to leave the Library, but in the Library, he has seen patrons who are on computers watching TV, sleeping, and being loud, they are not asked to leave.

Peter Warfield, Executive Director of Library Users Association Libraryusers2004@yahoo.com, PO Box 170544, San Francisco California 94117-0544, said the library is unresponsive in general, the Commission is allowed to comment briefly, and it never takes any notice of what someone says, social media is toxic, and the Library constantly touts it, with "Get social!".

Emily Garvie, the new Executive Director of Friends of the San Francisco Public Library, said she started in this role on Monday. She said she is a San Francisco resident and avid library user, the Ortega branch, and The Main in particular. She said The Friends are coming off the success of the Library Preservation Fund and the re-entry into library gala after the pandemic closure has excitement in the community higher than ever. The book sale block party is on June 1st, at sixteenth Street in Potrero Hill and they will have over a thousand books for sale.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2 APPROVAL OF MINUTES – APRIL 18, 2024

Public Comment

Peter Warfield said the minutes are problematic in terms of reflecting what was actually said and what the Library is responsible for doing. Under the sunshine ordinance you are required to prepare minutes that include summaries of Public Comment not take what someone who made a Public

comment sent.

Commission Discussion

Motion: By Vice President **Huang** seconded by Commissioner **Lomax Ghirarduzzi** to approve the **APRIL 2024** Commission Minutes.

Action: AYES 6-0 (Wolf, Huang, Ono, Lomax Ghirarduzzi, Lopez and Bolander)

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3 WEAVING STORIES: AANHPI HERITAGE MONTH REPORT

Hai-Quin Chen, Chinese Center Program Manager; Anissa Malady, Adult Engagement Coordinator; and Jen Woo, Family Engagement Coordinator presented an overview of events and programs the Library is hosting to celebrate Asian American, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander heritage, including One City One Book author Kathryn Ma in Conversation June 1 at the Ortega Branch, Coloring Outside the Line with Real Soul, and Reading, Cooking and Crafting on May 25 at the Bernal Heights Branches.

Public Comment

Peter Warfield said it's always a pleasure to hear what the Library is doing in general and what the Library is doing with respect to cultural things and books, it is possible that some of the events offered are remote, which leaves out the most vulnerable people and populations in the publicity of where and when these events are.

Commission Discussion

Commissioner Lomax Ghirarduzzi congratulated the presenters on the breadth and depth of the programming, which was representative of the Asian diaspora, intergenerational, and where the transformation happens when people engage the library.

President Wolf thanked the presenters and their colleagues; and said the Commission was thankful for the depth and breadth of what they do for this month.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4 CITY LIBRARIAN'S REPORT

Ruben Balderas, Early Childhood Learning coordinator gave an overview of the 25th Annual Dia de los Ninos Dia de los Libros, which took place in the Mission on April 28. He thanked the many organizations that partnered with the Library including KQED, Department of Early Childhood, Good Samaritan Family Resource Center, and JumpStart.

Jonathan Steimnitz, Personal Finance Librarian at the Business Science and Technology Center presented on Financial Capability Month programming and events, which is held every April to promote financial literacy and connect people to resources they may need to improve their financial lives, which included one-on-one financial coaching.

Melissa Reyes, Tenderloin Outreach Librarian gave a Tenderloin Outreach report, which

included the I Love the Tenderloin Week (April 21-27), a weeklong of celebrations and events welcoming residents and visitors to the neighborhood, including a small business Boogie and Tenderloin Branch Open House.

Frances Matthew, The Bridge Learning & Literacy Center presented Volunteer Appreciation Month, which included a celebration for Fog Readers, Project Read, ESL and Tech Help tutors, and the Youth Volunteers will have a celebration in August.

Allison Wyckoff, Exhibitions Director gave an overview of the newly installed Ralph Chesse Exhibit and offered the Commission a tour following the meeting in the Jewett Gallery.

Public Comment

Peter Warfield said it's always nice to see very interesting programming and when he makes critical comments, that does not mean he thinks everything is bad. Thirteen of the fifteen Financial Capability Month events were virtual programs, which seems to exclude the interest of anyone who is in the lower income groups, and vulnerable populations.

Commission Discussion

President Wolf thanked the presenters and the extraordinary partnerships and collaboration SFPL creates at every level, signals the leadership role the Library plays in San Francisco.

Commissioner Ono said this part of the Agenda shows how much everyone is doing and how much they enjoy it. Ono asked about the financial planning piece and if, in the future, they could include a demographic breakdown of people that attended the events.

Commissioner Lopez said the partnerships the Library develops with the community and neighborhoods is impressive and the volunteer appreciation event was great in every detail and thanked The Friends for their support at these events.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 5 ADJOURNMENT OF THE MAY 16, 2024 COMMISSION MEETING

Public Comment

Peter Warfield said he thinks they should not adjourn until they insist that future agendas have an item, which they used to have, on items you want to see on future agendas.

Commission Discussion

Motion: By Commissioner **Lomax Ghirarduzzi** seconded by Commissioner **Lopez** to adjourn the meeting

Action: AYES 6-0 (Wolf, Huang, Ono, Lomax Ghirarduzzi, Lopez and Bolander)

The meeting adjourned at 5:57 PM
Margot Shaub, Commission Affairs Analyst

To access **Commission Meeting recordings** please visit: [Library Commission Meeting Recording](#)

Please note: These are draft minutes subject to revision by the San Francisco Public Library Commission. Copies of the minutes and handouts are available in the office of the Library Commission Affairs Analyst, 6th floor, Main Library, 100 Larkin Street, San Francisco, CA 94102-4733.

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-notice/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).