



San Francisco Public Library

MINUTES
Council of Neighborhood Libraries
October 24, 2024 4:00 p.m.
CALL TO ORDER

Meeting Location: Zoom Virtual Meeting
Facilitator: Rebecca Alcalá-Veraflor

CNL Members			
A.J. Cave (ANZ)	x	Edna James (OVI)	
Toni Hines (BAY)	x	Nicky Trasvina (OVI)	x
Katherine Hsieh (CHI)		Johanna Lopez Miyaki (OVI)	x
Lena Yu (CHI)	x	Chuck Moody (ORT)	x
Penni Wisner (EVA)	x	Marcia Erlich (PAR)	x
Marcia Parrot (EXC)	x	Diane Silver (PAR)	x
Nora Dowley (GPA)	x	Sherine Ta (PSI)	
Lindy Chris (GPA)	x	Lily Li (PSI)	x
Chloe Rounsley (GGV)	x	Peter Linenthal (POT)	
Leonie van den Berg (GGV)	x	Jessica Hyman (POT)	
Sonia Moscardon (ING)		Elaine Cahn (RIC)	x
Deirdre Merrill (MAR)	x	Julia Anaya (RIC)	x
Phil Lesure (MAR)	x	Jen Fingal (RIC)	x
Judy Blanchard (MER)	x	Joan Walton (SUN)	
Kathy Mallegni (MER)	x	Deborah Oppenheim (SUN)	
Sharon Chien (MBA)	x	Ryan Johnson (WPO)	
Janie Alcindor (MBA)	x	Monica Herbert (WSA)	x
Ruth Maginnis (NVA)	x	Crystal Lê (WSA)	x
Helen Land (NBE)			

COB Office			
Christy Estrovitz	x	Anne Vannucchi	
Ana Elisa de Campos Salles	x	Denise Sanderson	x
Genevieve Feldman	x	Florinda Battad	x
Regan Gong	x	Michael Roman	x

Library Administrators: Maureen Singleton (Chief Operating Officer)
Margot Shaub (Library Commission Affairs Analyst)

Guest: Adrienne Storey (City Archivist)

Housekeeping

Upcoming Meetings

- The next **Library Commission Meeting** will be on **Thursday, November 21, 2024** at 4:30 p.m., *Hybrid – virtual and in-person*
- There will be no CNL meetings in November and December. The next **Council of Neighborhood Libraries Meeting** will be on **Thursday, January 23, 2025** at 4:00 p.m., *SFPL Virtual Library*
- The **CNL Holiday Party** will be on **Thursday, December 5, 2024** from 3:00-6:00 p.m. at the Main Library. More details coming soon.

Announcements

- The Marina and Park Branches had their Open Houses last Saturday. Both were fabulous events full of music, activities, food and fun for all!
- Upcoming Open Houses:
 - Parkside and Anza on October 26
 - Ocean View on November 16
 - Bernal Heights on December 7
 - Mission on December 14

Minutes

- The September 26, 2024 minutes were approved.

City Librarian's Report – Rebecca Alcalá-Veraflor

- Michael and Dolly are attending the Urban Libraries Council (ULC) Annual Leadership Forum in Philadelphia.
 - SFPL's received the [ULC's Innovations Initiative Award for Advocacy and Awareness for Bay Beats](#), the Library's local music streaming platform.
- SFPL also won two [PRExcellence Awards](#) from the California Library Association:
 - The Best Things in Life are Free campaign won in the More than \$30 Million Budget – Print category
 - The outreach and marketing strategy for Bay Beats won in the More than \$30 Million Budget – Event or Campaign
- Proposition D was passed by voters in the March 2024 election to strengthen City ethics laws. Enacted on October 12, 2024, the Library is working to understand the new rules and changes and how they will affect how programming is done.
- Rebecca introduced Adrienne Storey, the new City Archivist at SFPL.
 - The City Archivist works with all City departments, community groups, and educational institutions to preserve and ensure inclusive representation of the City's history.
 - Adrienne can be found in the Main Library's San Francisco History Center, which is the official depository for the City. It not only exists as a collection resource, but as a resource to document and support the community.
- Q&A
 - **Monica (WSA) – I'm interested in doing research on the Western Addition neighborhood for the community. How can we get in touch with Adrienne?**
Storey – Here is my contact information:

San Francisco History Center / Book Arts and Special Collections
San Francisco Public Library
desk: 415-557-4563 / cell: 415-743-0092
Adrienne.Storey@sfpl.org

Alcalá-Veraflor – I encourage you all to visit the [San Francisco History Center](#) at the Main Library. You can also access digitized images from the [Historical Photograph Collection](#) on our website.

Library Commission Report – Margot Shaub

- The agenda and minutes from the October 17, 2024 meeting can be found here: <https://sfpl.org/about-us/library-commission/library-commission-agendas-minutes-resolutions>
- The meeting recording can be found here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zTanq-C2J2s>
- Presentations included:
 - VIVA! LATINX Heritage Month
 - Summer Stride
 - Filipino American International Book Festival
 - SFPL Book Stop Kiosks
 - Adjournment in honor of Martin Paley
- November meeting:
 - Annual Report
 - Awards from the Urban Libraries Council and the California Library Association
- Q&A
 - **Lindy (GPA) – Will there be information about the awards that SPFL won in the newspapers?**
Alcalá-Veraflor – I’m not sure if this item will be in the newspapers. Our Public Affairs Department puts out press releases with Library news and announcements. We can have them come to a meeting to talk about how they engage with the media.
 - **Nicky (OVI) – How will San Francisco Propositions D and E affect the Library Commission?**
Shaub – Proposition D reduces the number of commissions, and the Library Commission could be scratched from the City Charter. Proposition E is a competing measure that creates a task force that will review the City’s commissions and recommend changes.
 - **Lindy (GPA) – Is there an update on the possibility of the Library being included in the Visitacion Valley/Schlage Lock redevelopment project?**
Alcalá-Veraflor – We are focusing on the renovation of the Mission and Chinatown Branches, and the Ocean View project. Instead of building new buildings, we are trying to connect with patrons in non-traditional ways through the bookmobiles and the Book Stop Kiosks.
Ruth (NVA) – The [Visitacion Valley Branch](#) is already in the area. It’s a beautiful building with a wonderful staff and programs. Folks should try to visit if they can.
 - **Deirdre (MAR) – Will the t-shirts and sweatshirts with the Summer Stride artwork be available to the public?**
Alcalá-Veraflor – The Friends take the lead on the Summer Stride t-shirts. We’ll pass along your question to them.

CNL Meeting Structure and Topics – Rebecca Alcalá-Veraflor

- Rebecca’s projects:
 - Update the CNL page on the SFPL website
 - Create a pamphlet with information about CNL for new branch managers and staff. Crystal and Diane volunteered to help create and edit it.
- Open discussion with questions, feedback and suggested topics for future meetings:
 - **Nicky (OVI) – Increase visibility of CNL; find ways to grow relationship with branch staff; create CNL business cards to help with outreach.**

- Alcalá-Veraflor – We'll work on creating CNL collateral with the Library's PR Team.
- **Toni (BAY) – What is the role of CNL members?**
Alcalá-Veraflor – The pamphlet will include what CNL is and how its members support the work that the Branch Managers are doing.
- **Ruth (NVA) – How are the dates for the open houses chosen? It would be helpful if branch managers reached out to CNL members for feedback.**
Estrovitz – At the start of the new fiscal year in June, branch managers work with their district managers to find a date for their open house. The open houses usually align with an anniversary or a holiday, and we try to space them out so that they can be supported by other departments like Custodial. We'll add working with their CNL member as a best practice when planning open houses.
- **Diane (PAR) – Bring programs at the Main to the branches, such as Lawyers in the Library, a citizenship program.**
Alcalá-Veraflor – Yes, and we can also bring the financial advising programs to the branches as well.
- **Marcia (EXC) – CNL was involved during the Branch Library Improvement Program (BLIP). Can we have a schedule of sites that will need to be renovated again and how CNL will be involved?**
- **Leonie (GGV) – Have a patron survey to let the Library know how they feel about the collections and programs. Are staff able to provide input?**
Alcalá-Veraflor – Staff do communicate their concerns. We can talk about what staff feedback looks like and how it is tied to the Strategic Plan.
- **Monica (WSA) – What is the process for putting topics on the agenda, especially branch specific issues?**
Alcalá-Veraflor – You can email me or Michael Lambert with any branch issues. We can make a guide for CNL representatives and include that in it, as well as how to work with the community in support of your branch.
- **Crystal (WSA) – How the Library responds to emergencies and provides resources in times of crisis.**
- **Nora (GPA) – (by email) – Not all BLIP branches are cooling centers. Can we discuss the branches' role as cooling centers?**
Alcalá-Veraflor – Yes, we can look at the Library staff's role as disaster service workers; what that means and what it looks like when staff and the library are activated in an emergency.
- **Marcia (EXC) – The creation of the Main Library's Teen Center was very innovative. Is it possible to get updates on the Teen Center?**
- **Chuck (ORT) – Will we continue to meet on Zoom?**
Alcalá-Veraflor – The convenience of Zoom meetings allows for more participation, but there is a value in meeting in person. For our Branch Managers meeting, we meet in person twice a year. We can think about the possibility of having a hybrid meeting.
Deirdre (MAR) – How about meeting in-person quarterly or maybe at a branch.
- **Lena (CHI) – Are there any updates for the renovations?**
Alcalá-Veraflor – The address of the temporary site is 950 Grant Avenue, and we will be signing the lease soon. The groundbreaking for the renovation is scheduled for Spring 2025. The Mission renovation is 35% completed and we are solidifying the furniture. We will present the renovation updates at the November Library Commission meeting.

Adjournment: 5:00 pm

Respectfully submitted by Florinda Battad