



San Francisco Public Library

MINUTES
Council of Neighborhood Libraries
August 22, 2024, 4:00 p.m.
CALL TO ORDER

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

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

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

Library Administrators: Michael Lambert (City Librarian)
Dolly Goyal (Chief of Public Services),
Margot Shaub (Library Commission Affairs Analyst)
Guest: Shellie Cocking (Chief of Collections and Technical Services)

Housekeeping

Upcoming Meetings

➤ The next **Library Commission Meeting** will be on **Thursday, September 19, 2024**
at 4:30 p.m., *Hybrid – virtual and in-person*

- The next **Council of Neighborhood Libraries Meeting** will be on **Thursday, September 26, 2024** at 4:00 p.m., *SFPL Virtual Library*

Announcements

- New CNL members
 - Helen Land, representing North Beach
 - Sherine Ta, representing Parkside
- Upcoming Open Houses
 - North Beach - Saturday, September 21 (10am – 4pm)
 - Ortega – Saturday, September 28 (12-3 pm)

Minutes

- The July 25, 2024 minutes were approved.

City Librarian's Report – Michael Lambert

- All-Staff Meeting – Service Pin Ceremony and Reception
 - Every year, staff who have worked at SFPL for 5, 10, 20, 30 and 40 years are recognized and receive a service pin.
 - Flo Battad in the Chief of Branches office will receive her 30-year pin, while Aileen Kuo, Chinatown Children's Services Manager will receive her 40-year pin!
- Dr. Maya Angelou Monument Unveiling
 - A City ordinance was passed in 2018 to increase the representation of women in the public sphere by 30%.
 - "Portrait of a Phenomenal Woman" by artist Lava Thomas, honoring Dr. Maya Angelou will be the first monument commemorating a Black woman in San Francisco. It will stand outside at the Main Library's Larkin Street entrance.
 - A celebration and unveiling will be held on Thursday, September 19, 2024, from 10am to 2pm.
- Q&A
 - **Penni (EVA) – A new library branch in New York is co-locating with a housing development. Has SFPL considered building affordable housing above its libraries?**
Lambert – The Mission Bay Branch is in a mixed-use development that includes affordable senior housing. This is the dream for the Ocean View Branch, however the Bay Area Affordable Housing Bond was recently pulled from the November 2024 ballot and co-locating with affordable housing requires a massive infusion of money. We are back to the drawing board, but the bond could come back again in 2026. Building the new Ocean View Branch remains our top priority.

Library Commission Report – Margot Shaub

- The agenda and minutes from the August 15th 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=dO8rVW0DVtA&list=PLQH-ihCu17QLV0fvFUcY8CnNO_5nyK5-&index=64
- Presentations included:
 - Collection Trends and Circulation
 - Information Technology
 - FY25-26 Budget Update
 - Junior Giants
 - Freedom to Read Rally

- September meeting:
 - Strategic Planning
 - Maya Angelou Monument
- Q&A
 - **Lindy (GPA) – Would it have been possible to publicize the Junior Giants event in the newspaper?**
Lambert – There wasn't an announcement about it in the newspaper because it was a private event. Thank you for the suggestion – we'll consider having future events publicized in the paper. We are expecting to give away 500 books at the Dr. Maya Angelou unveiling.

Collections Utilization Trends – Shellie Cocking

- Shellie Cocking, Chief of Collections and Technical Services, presented an [abbreviated version of her presentation](#) from the August Library Commission meeting.
- Physical Collections
 - Increased 12% in FY2024
 - Circulation of physical materials almost equaled that of digital materials
 - Readers are returning to print format for leisure reading
 - Changes in streaming services helped to increase Blu-ray checkouts
 - Renewed popularity of vinyl saw an increase in vinyl checkouts
 - Difficulty in getting books in other languages increased Spanish and Chinese Language circs.
- eCollections
 - eBook and eAudiobook service, Axis 360, upgraded and became [Boundless](#)
 - Library launched a streaming service for local music called [Bay Beats](#)
 - Changes to streaming and online platforms makes it inexpensive for SFPL to provide access to [movies, music](#) and [eBooks](#).
 - New York Times has been added to [PressReader](#)
 - Many new digital magazine archives added to [SFPL articles and databases](#)
- Resources outside SFPL walls
 - SFPL Bookstop - Book vending machines currently in Hunters View and coming to Dogpatch and Sunnydale
 - Boundless Popup Pilot – Posters with QR codes giving access to Boundless for 3 weeks are on ferries and in jury waiting rooms.
 - Hoopla is available in the jails.
 - 250,000 books for starter libraries were given away at various events!
- Q&A
 - **Deirdre (MAR) – How do we access the PressReader tool for the New York Times?**
Cocking – You can download the app and login with a library card. You can also access it from the [PressReader link](#) on the SFPL website under Research & Learn > eMagazines & eNews. You'll need to enter your library card number and PIN.
 - **Helen (NBE) – SFPL's scope and diversity of outreach is impressive. Are you able to ascertain if your efforts are drawing in more younger readers?**
Cocking – We partner with the San Francisco Unified School District and private schools for our book giveaway initiatives like Scholars @ Home (mini-library kits given to at-risk children). This ensures that we are reaching younger readers and giving them access to books and encouraging their caregivers to build home libraries.

- **Lena (CHI) – Would you be able to share where the Library sources Chinese books from, particularly Chinese children’s books? It has been challenging locating these resources.**
Cocking – We get our Chinese language books from Kingstone Bookstore in Richmond California and Actrace. Actrace is a vendor specializing in providing Chinese language materials to public libraries.
- **Leonie (GGV) – Why are there fewer international DVDs available?**
Cocking – The distributors of international DVDs changed the regions for access, so we are no longer able to get a lot of titles on DVD. Blu-ray is the newest format, and many movies are now only available in Blu-ray. The ongoing trend towards streaming has also affected the availability of DVDs.
- **Nora (GPA) – Does the Library have access to items donated to the Friends?**
Cocking – The Library’s collections budget is large enough that we don’t need to take donations away from the Friends. It’s also time consuming to process donations in house.
Alcalá-Veraflor – The materials that are donated to the Friends are sold at their book sales, and the money is used to support Library programs.
- **Nora (GPA) – What is the difference between Boundless and Libby?**
Cocking – Publishers sell equally to both digital services, so the availability is the same. The wait times for holds is generally shorter on Boundless.
- **Nora (GPA) – Do staff analyze the number of holds on materials?**
Cocking – Yes, staff will pull lists of titles with high holds and order more copies.
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- **Diane (PAR) – Park Branch participated in National Night Out on August 6th and gave away a lot of books. The event was well-attended and a lot of fun.**
Alcalá-Veraflor – Giveaway books aren’t just for children at children’s events. We have them at the all the Open Houses for all ages. CNL members are more than welcome to help out at their branch Open Houses to give away books!

Adjournment: 5:00 pm

Respectfully submitted by Florinda Battad