



San Francisco Public Library

MINUTES
Council of Neighborhood Libraries
April 24, 2025 4:00 p.m.
CALL TO ORDER

Meeting Location: Zoom Virtual Meeting

Facilitator: Rebecca Alcalá-Veraflor

CNL Members			
Toni Hines (BAY)	x	Helen Land (NBE)	x
Katherine Hsieh (CHI)	x	Nicky Trasvina (OVI)	x
Marcia Parrot (EXC)	x	Johanna Lopez Miyaki (OVI)	
Nora Dowley (GPA)		Edna James (OVI)	
Lindy Chris (GPA)	x	Chuck Moody (ORT)	
Chloe Rounsley (GGV)	x	Marcia Erlich (PAR)	
Leonie van den Berg (GGV)		Diane Silver (PAR)	x
Sonia Moscardon (ING)	x	Sherine Ta (PSI)	
Ed Connor (ING)	x	Lily Li (PSI)	x
Deirdre Merrill (MAR)		Jon Logan (POR)	x
Phil Lesure (MAR)	x	Peter Linenthal (POT)	
Judy Blanchard (MER)	x	Jessica Hyman (POT)	x
Kathy Mallegni (MER)	x	Julia Anaya (RIC)	
Sharon Chien (MBA)		Tara Cahn (RIC)	x
Janie Alcindor (MBA)		Deborah Oppenheim (SUN)	
Ruth Maginnis (NVA)	x	Monica Herbert (WSA)	
Rasa Gustaitis (NVA)	x	Crystal Lê (WSA)	x

COB Office			
Christy Estrovitz		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: Michael Lambert (City Librarian), Dolly Goyal (Chief of Public Services)

Guests: Jessica Parker (Friends of SFPL)

Housekeeping

Upcoming Meetings

- The next **Library Commission meeting in May** will be on **Thursday, May 15, 2025, 4:30 p.m., Hybrid (In-person and Virtual)**.
- The next **Council of Neighborhood Libraries Meeting in May** will be on **Thursday, May 22 2025, 4:00 p.m., Virtual**

Announcements

- We welcomed new CNL member, Rasa Gustaitis who represents Noe Vally Branch.
- The Visitation Valley and West Portal branches will have their open houses on April 26th.

Minutes

- The February and March meeting minutes were approved.

Friends Updates – Jessica Parker

- The Library Laureates Gala on May 3rd will bring together Bay Area authors and artists to celebrate the Library, and its mission to connect the City's diverse communities to learning, opportunities and each other.
- CNL members can contact Jessica to receive complimentary tickets.

City Librarian's Report – Michael Lambert

Public Services Performance Measures

- The Library's FY25 Strategic Plan Projects are meeting monthly expectations.
- The results from a survey given to patrons to rate Library services showed that patrons are largely satisfied, with the Library receiving an average rating of 8.95 across all categories, and staff assistance receiving a 9.44.
- Circulation, the number of cardholders, visitors, and computer sessions has seen a year over year increase.
- The number of programs has also increased. We will have had 14,000 events, classes, and workshops this fiscal year!

Programming Update

- The San Francisco Giants hosted Library Night on April 7th. The Giants lost, but 21 library municipalities won, as a portion of the ticket sales benefits library programs.
- On April 15, over 12,000 people attended Night of Ideas, the annual marathon event of art and culture. Discussions, performances, workshops took place at the Main Library, the Asian Art Museum, and in Fulton Plaza, where a new light installation was unveiled.
- The Library will have SWANA programming in May and June to honor the cultures, traditions, and histories of Southwest Asian and North African heritage.
- The Library is the City's lead celebration partner during Asian American, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander (AANHPI) heritage month in May. Programs run the gamut, from Know Your Rights workshops to sake tasting.
- May is also Jewish American Heritage month. Highlighted events include author talks, klezmer performances, and a shadow puppet and Jewish folklore workshop.

Q&A

- **Lindy (Glen Park) – Who are getting library cards?**
Lambert (LIB) – The patrons span all demographics. More detailed information can be shared at the next meeting.
Alcalá-Veraflor (LIB) – The Library also has a partnership with San Francisco Unified School District (SFUSD) to give every student a Scholar Card, which is a full access public library account. Each semester the Library emails each student their library card number. The program is also available to some San Francisco charter, independent, and parochial schools.
- **Helen (North Beach) – What kind of outreach is being done to make schools and local organizations aware of programs at the library?**

Lambert (LIB) – The branch managers have access to community profile data and asset mapping to help identify their community partners. They proactively connect with partners and do a good job of building relationships in their neighborhood.

- **Nicky (Ocean View) – Does the Library collect data on resources given to folks who are unhoused? Maybe this data can be given to the mayor.**

Lambert (LIB) – We don't monitor the housing status of patrons, but we can check with the Library's Social Services Team for data points on what resources are being used.

- **Helen (North Beach) – It's probably not within the Library's purview to discern who is and isn't homeless.**

Alcalá-Veraflor (LIB) – We don't collect this information because of patron privacy. The Library's Health and Safety Associate (HASA) workers are not proactively searching for folks who are unhoused. Their engagement with patrons uses a slow, relationship-building approach.

District Manager Updates – Ana Elisa De Campos Salles

Central District Manager, Ana Elisa, provided some highlights from her branches.

Eureka Valley

- Comfy purple chairs
- A space for expression
 - Patrons are encouraged to draw on butcher paper covering the tables
 - Castro Cardboarders – family craft program using recycled cardboard
- Puppy Dog Tales – kids reading to a therapy dog

Mission

- Bilingual programming
- Head Start Program
- Participates in the Dia de los Niños/Dia de los Libros (Children's Day/Book Day) event and Sunday Streets

Noe Valley

- Gratitude Wall
- Storytime in the Noe Valley town square

Park

- Dungeons and Dragons program in the meeting room
- Music programs
 - San Francisco Symphony
 - The Navy Band Southwest Woodwind Quintet
 - Big Brother and the Holding Company presentation

Potrero

- Author, Allison Pebworth's map installation of the *Third Street Phantom Coast*, showing the neighborhood's lost populations and early years of industrialization.
- Hosts the Potrero Hill Artists' Exhibition, the oldest annual art show in San Francisco

Western Addition

- Among the branches, Western Addition has the largest collection of books in Japanese
- Partners with local radio station, KPOO to help schedule SFPL staff interviews on DJ Marilyn Fowler's show. Once a month SFPL is given airtime to share what's going on at the library.

Adjournment: 5:00 pm

Respectfully submitted by Florinda Battad