



San Francisco Public Library

SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC LIBRARY COMMISSION

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of JULY 17, 2025

The San Francisco Public Library Commission held a regular meeting July 17, 2025, at the Koret Auditorium, Main Library and virtually on Zoom.

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

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

President Wolf presented the ancestral homeland acknowledgement of the Ramaytush Ohlone.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1 GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Public Comment

Peter Warfield, Executive Director of Library Users Association Libraryusers2004@yahoo.com, PO Box 170544, San Francisco California 94117-0544, said the Library continues to tout social media, which is a problematic technology.

Emily Garvie, Executive Director, Friends of the Library, said they had selected their Brown and Handler writers in residence, which supports local literary talent.

Kate Lazarus, Friends of the Library Board Member and Chair of the Advocacy Committee, said the Board of Supervisors recently approved the annual Friends grant to the Library.

Ruben Juarez introduced Arcelia Montoya, who is the SEIU 1021 Field Representative

Jason Gibbs said the Library offers LibChat, which enables patrons to speak to librarians when the Library is open, and they are frequently asked about renewing Library cards.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2 APPROVAL OF MINUTES – MAY 15, 2025

Peter Warfield said the minutes do not accurately reflect his comments.

Commission Discussion

Motion: Motion by Commissioner **LOPEZ** to approve the minutes seconded by Commissioner **CALHOUN** to approve the **MAY 15, 2025**, Commission Minutes.

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

AGENDA ITEM NO.3 STRATEGIC PLAN INITIATIVE IMPLEMENTATION

Dolly Goyal, Chief of Public Services and Alice Kassinger, City Performance Unit, presented on the Library's strategic plan: Vision 2030, including progress made to date on Read to Recovery Expansion, Resources for Immigrants, enhancing Fog Readers and employee engagement. Kassinger said they developed and facilitated a replicable process for identifying and prioritizing work needed to implement Vision 2030, including a concise list of measurable goals and project prioritization model.

Public Comment

Ruben Juarez said work force culture was mentioned and asked what that means.

Peter Warfield said the old Library slogan was to provide free and equal access, including the joys of reading, and the Library has completely gotten rid of the old slogan, the Mission Statement basically says connecting communities with other communities.

Jason Gibbs, said he wanted to acknowledge accomplishments, to open and close a Library every day is an accomplishment and feels like day-to-day work is not acknowledged.

Commission Discussion

Commissioner Lomax Ghirarduzzi asked to know more about the 27 projects that were identified and is that the number they should be looking at.

City Librarian Michael Lambert said the Leadership team worked on it identifying the projects, RSA served as project manager for Vision 2030 and Maureen Singleton, Dolly Goyal and he helped set the priorities for 2025.

Vice President Huang asked about the breakdown of projects into long term and short term and time needed to accomplish them.

Lambert said the goal of this work is to identify projects that can be accomplished within the year or make extensive headway in implementing.

Huang asked the Library to keep three things in mind moving forward: the effort being allocated to protect the core of the things the Library is already doing well; make sure the Library is not using the strategic plan framework to get credit for things already being done and he will continue to ask about sunset criteria implementation and how the organization is changing from the work.

Commissioner Lopez asked about new patron acquisition analysis and patron feedback system modernization.

Goyal said the Library currently has email touchpoints with its community but does not have a system to collect all patron feedback.

Maureen Singleton, COO, said this is about how the Library gathers information that eventually can inform how it deploys resources and working together, the trends in patron feedback and how that impacts things like the program offered.

Commissioner Bolander asked what City Performance's role was in this effort.

Kassinger said City Performance is an in-house management consultant group created by voter mandate in 2003 and their mandate is to help departments across the city with efficiency and effectiveness.

Bolander said they need to monitor while scaling Fog Readers because when scaling too quickly things can get broken.

Commissioner Calhoun asked if the Strategic Plan aligns with the budget.

Singleton said the Library, in building its annual budget, traditionally focuses on the incremental investments and ties them to the strategic priority.

Commissioner Calhoun asked if there was a blind spot through the SPI process.

Lambert said they had an incredible group of staff ambassadors that helped develop the SPI core values, and they did not continue to engage them through the process.

Singleton said this year the Library has been learning by doing, and Vision 2030 helped it understand both the direction it needs to head in and what it is doing right.

Wolf asked for clarity on the SPI 13 goals, which were referred to in the presentation but not listed out in the Explanatory Document.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4 CITY LIBRARIAN'S REPORT

Naomi Jelks, Interim Main Library Manager, reported on the Main Comic Arts Fest, which coincided with the second Annual Main Open House and offers compelling programs for Tenderloin and SOMA families.

Cristina Mitra, Hormel Center Manager, gave an update on Pride Month programming and events, including a large Library contingent at the annual Pride Parade.

John Cunha, Director of Facilities and Adriene Storey, Archives and Special Collections Manager gave an overview of the move from Brooks Hall to the High-Density Storage and Support Services Facility, which houses Library archives and the Jail and Reentry program.

Public Comment

Peter Warfield said he sometimes misses programs when at a location because there is no sign.

THE MEETING ADJOURNED at 6:58 PM

Margot Shaub, Commission Affairs Analyst
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To access **Commission Meeting recordings** please visit: [SFPL Commission Meeting JULY 17, 2025](#)

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).