



San Francisco Public Library

MINUTES
Council of Neighborhood Libraries
May 22, 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)	
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)	x
Chloe Rounsley (GGV)		Marcia Erlich (PAR)	x
Leonie van den Berg (GGV)	x	Diane Silver (PAR)	
Sonia Moscardon (ING)		Sherine Ta (PSI)	
Ed Connor (ING)	x	Lily Li (PSI)	x
Deirdre Merrill (MAR)	x	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)	x
Ruth Maginnis (NVA)		Monica Herbert (WSA)	x
Rasa Gustaitis (NVA)	x	Crystal Lê (WSA)	x

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

Library Administrators: Michael Lambert (City Librarian), Dolly Goyal (Chief of Public Services), Margot Shaub

Guests: Jessica Parker (Friends of SFPL), Alejandro Gallegos (Community Programs and Partnerships-Community Engagement Manager), Vince Yuen (Refuse Refuse San Francisco)

Housekeeping

Upcoming Meetings

- There will not be a Library Commission meeting in June. The next **Library Commission meeting** will be on **Thursday, July 17, 2025, 4:30 p.m., Hybrid (In-person and Virtual)**.

- The next **Council of Neighborhood Libraries Meeting in June** will be on **Thursday, June 26, 2025, 4:00 p.m., Virtual**

Announcements

- Nicky (OVI) – Ocean View Branch celebrates its 25th Anniversary on June 7th all day!
- Deirdre (MAR) – A positive shout out to two librarians who lead book clubs for kids: Sally at Marina Branch for younger readers and Liesel at West Portal Branch for parents and sons ages 9-12. Both are amazing and the groups are so rich and wonderful.

Minutes

- The April meeting minutes were approved.

Friends Updates – Jessica Parker

- The Library Laureates Gala on May 3rd was a success, with the Friends exceeding their fundraising goals.
- [Book Sale Block Party](#) on June 7th at the Friends office in Potrero Hill. Proceeds from the sale of over 12,000 books, comics, vinyl and media benefits the Library.

City Librarian’s Report – Michael Lambert

Programming Update

- Robust programming continues to be offered at the Library, with over 14,000 programs this fiscal year.
 - Día de Los Niños, Día de los Libros (April 27th) is an annual celebration to promote literacy. Held at Parque Ninos Unidos in San Francisco’s Mission District, families can enjoy storytelling, dance, music, literacy-based activities, and book giveaways at this event.
 - It was a packed house on the 6th floor of the Main for the sake and shochu tasting workshop hosted by the Consulate-General of Japan (May 8th).
 - A Know Your Rights training and community forum was held at the Main. The presentation was a partnership with the community group, SOMA Pilipinas.

Library Budget update

- Thanks to voter approved dedicated funding, the budget looks good relative to other City departments.
- The budget will go before the Board of Supervisors on June 13th, June 20th (second hearing), and on June 25th (final hearing).

Hiring update

- The Library is looking to fill two key management roles: Main Library Manager and Director of Communications.

Library Commission Report – Margot Shaub

- The agenda and minutes from previous meetings can be found here: <https://sfpl.org/about-us/library-commission/library-commission-agendas-minutes-resolutions>
- The recording for the May 15, 2025 meeting can be found here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Eu4T27NztQQ>
- Chief of Public Services, Dolly Goyal, presented the [Programming Performance Metrics](#).
- July 17th meeting:
 - Pride Events and Hormel Center update

- Strategic Plan update
- Prop. E – Taskforce to streamline commissions.

Q&A

- **Lindy (GPA) – How do people get on the Library Commission?**
Shaub – Commissioners are appointed by the Mayor.
- **John (POR) – Is the Library in a position to uplift other organizations who are struggling with funding?**
Lambert – The Library’s funding must be spent on library services, but we do leverage our resources to create partnerships. The Library actively partners with many community organizations and City agencies so that we can provide a wide variety of exhibits and programs. Recently, we collaborated with the Office of Small Business during Small Business Week (May 5-9) and offered workshops, networking opportunities, and had small business strolls in the Tenderloin and Glen Park neighborhoods. Mayor Lurie sees the revitalization of downtown through art and culture, which is why the Library reports to the Chief of Housing and Economic Development.
- **Leonie (GGV) – How can artists exhibit their work at the Library?**
Alcalá-Veraflor – Folks can go to the [Exhibits and Programs page](#) on the Library’s website and fill out the [presentation proposal form](#).

Summer Stride 2025 – Alejandro Gallegos

- The Library’s annual summer learning, reading and exploration program for all ages runs from June 1st through August 31st.
- This year’s artist is Kenard Pak, and features his illustrations from the picture book [On a Summer Night](#) by Deborah Hopkinson.
- Why Summer Stride:
 - Helps prevent the summer slide – when students’ literacy skills start to slip because they don’t have access to reading for three months during the summer.
 - Connect community members to each other and foster shared experiences
- How to participate in Summer Stride:
 - Complete the Summer Stride Challenge by tracking 20 hours of reading, listening to audiobooks, or participating in any Library activity
 - Enter monthly raffles
 - Attend a wide range of programs for all ages - arts and crafts, outdoor events, musical performances, movement and dance, wellness workshops, and more.
 - Free books, internships, and volunteer opportunities for youth

Q&A

- **Marcia (EXC) – Does San Francisco Unified School District (SFUSD) distribute the free books for students?**
Gallegos (LIB) – The Library, not SFUSD, is giving away the free books. Youths can pick them up when they visit any SFPL location. Building home libraries creates more opportunities to enjoy reading and have it become a part of their lives. The Library worked with SFUSD to create summer reading lists.

Refuse Refuse – Vince Yuen

- [Refuse Refuse](#) is a grassroots volunteer campaign founded by Vince Yuen to keep the City clean by organizing and supporting neighborhood cleanup events.
- Vince’s effort to keep his two daughters busy during the pandemic became a gateway civic opportunity. He hopes to inspire people get involved and start a volunteering habit.

- The Department of Public Works (DPW) and the Civic Joy Fund are the organization's main partners. Besides temporarily storing tools, it is a low lift for the Library and its staff.
- Currently, monthly cleanups occur near the Richmond Branch, with weekly cleanups near the Western Addition Branch.
- Branches interested in having a cleanup can contact Vince at info@refuserefusesf.org

Q&A

- **Ed (ING) – As members of CNL, what is our role and what do you want us to do to help the Library? When will we meet in person?**

Alcalá-Veraflor – We'd like CNL members to be advocates of the Library by spreading the word about the services that the Library provides and attending and promoting its programs. We also want to hear ideas from you and the people in your neighborhoods. We hope to have an in-person meeting in October. We'll send out a survey to find the best date.

Adjournment: 5:00 pm

Respectfully submitted by Florinda Battad