



San Francisco Public Library

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

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

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

**Guests:** Chelsea Morrissey (Friends of SFPL)

**Housekeeping**  
**Upcoming Meetings**

- The next **Library Commission meeting in August** will be on **Thursday, August 21, 2025, 4:30 p.m., Hybrid (In-person and Virtual)**.
- The next **Council of Neighborhood Libraries Meeting in August** will be on **Thursday, August 28, 2025, 4:00 p.m., Virtual**

### Announcements

- Tom Gorrebeek has joined the CNL as the representative for Anza Branch.
  - Park Branch will have their Open House on Saturday, August 9 (11am – 4pm).
  - The dates for the branch open houses in 2026 are being confirmed.
- Here is the schedule of branch open houses from July – December 2025:



- Diane (PAR) - Park Branch will have table at National Night Out on August 5 (4-7:30pm). The event is organized by the San Francisco Police Department to connect neighbors with each other and local law enforcement in order to build a stronger community.
- Monica (WSA) - The SFPL Bookmobile was at an exhibit at Fort Point called Black Gold: Stories Untold. The exhibition, on view through November 2, 2025, highlights the life of African Americans who lived in California from the Gold Rush to the Reconstruction period following the Civil War.

### Minutes

- The May meeting minutes were approved. There was no meeting in June.

## **City Librarian's Report – Michael Lambert**

- Personnel Update
  - Jaime Wong has been promoted to the position of Communications Director. She had previously been the Library's Public Relations Officer, and the interim director for the past year.
  - Naomi Jelks has been promoted to the position of Main Manager (formerly called the Chief of Main). The new title aligns with the view of the Main as the Tenderloin neighborhood branch. During Naomi's ten years at SFPL, she has worked as the African American Center's Program Manager and as the Racial Equity Manager for Public Service.
- FY25 Performance Measures Update
  - 6.6% year over year increase in patron visits
  - 3.2% year over year increase in circulation.
  - Just short of the 14.5 million projected total circulation for FY25
- Summer Stride at the Conservatory of Flowers
  - A free and intergenerational event to celebrate summer took place on Saturday, July 26 (11am – 1pm) on the front lawn of the Conservatory of Flowers in Golden Gate Park.
  - The program included, a story hour with Summer Stride artist, Kenard Pak and children's book author, Monica Wesolowska, a South Asian and West African drumming performance, art and nature activities with local organizations throughout the day, and book giveaways.
- Ocean View Branch Update
  - District 11 Supervisor, Cheyenne Chen is working to advance the Ocean View Branch project.
  - Key stakeholders will meet at the IT Bookman Center on July 31<sup>st</sup>.

## **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 July 17th meeting can be found here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RRQC8xgvdmo>
- Chief of Public Services, Dolly Goyal gave a [Strategic Planning Presentation](#).
- August 21st meeting:
  - FY26-27 Budget Update
  - Junior Giants Festival
  - Collection Trends Update

## **Friends Updates – Chelsea Morrissey**

- CNL members are welcome to attend the unveiling of a memorial bench at the Presidio Branch that honors Marcia Popper. The ceremony will take place on Sunday, August 3<sup>rd</sup> at 5:00pm.
- The 2025-2026 cohort of the [Lisa Brown and Daniel Handler Residency](#) was announced. In addition to giving San Francisco-based writers studio space at the Friends of SFPL offices, the program provides a supportive community and engagement with the library.

## **District Manager Updates – Denise Sanderson**

- The Southwest District branches are Ingleside, Merced, Ocean View, Ortega, Parkside, and West Portal.
  
- Their District Manager, Denise, shared a presentation with photos and talked about what makes each of the branches special.
  - Ingleside – Garden from the front door, in the stacks, to the courtyard
  - Merced – The only SW branch with a working fireplace.
  - Ocean View – Community Ambassador and Bayview CNL representative, Toni Hines hosts the “Bead and Breathe” program.
  - Ortega – Reading garden with an ocean view.
  - Parkside – More popular every year, with patron visits up 185 from last year.
  - West Portal – In a prime location near a busy transit hub and a thriving business district.
  
- Q&A
  - **Marcia (EXC) - How do the District Managers (DMs) meet with their branch managers?**

Sanderson – We have weekly check-ins on Teams, regular in-person meetings at the branch, and an in-person district meeting annually.

Alcalá-Veraflor – I meet with each of the branch managers in-person once a year to have coffee. Twice a year, the DMS, Christy and I have an in-person branch managers meeting. The DMs also go out to the branches when needed to do coverage or provide support in emergencies.
  
  - **Katherine (CHI) - Do you know when the Chinatown Branch will begin moving into the temporary location?**

Alcalá-Veraflor – The bidding process will start in August, so it could be another six months. We don’t have a firm date yet, but we will have signage at the temporary location to help keep the public informed.
  
  - **Ruth (NVA) - Does SFPL have a delivery service for the homebound?**

Alcalá-Veraflor - Yes, the service is called Library by Mail. We can have the folks from the Accessibility Services Department present at a future CNL meeting. In the meantime, here is the link to the information on our website: <https://sfpl.org/services/accessibility-services/library-mail>
  
  - **Katherine (CHI) - How did the *Caregiving for Caregivers* radio program go?**

Alcalá-Veraflor – The radio program is part of a larger event that provides support and resources for caregivers. Here is a link to the radio program: <https://www.kalw.org/2025-06-30/rose-aguilar-on-caring-for-caregivers>. We’ll ask Johanna for an update.

**Adjournment: 5:00 pm**

**Respectfully submitted by Florinda Battad**