



San Francisco Public Library

MINUTES
Council of Neighborhood Libraries
January 25, 2018
4:00 p.m.
Meeting Notes
CALL TO ORDER

Meeting Location: Latino Hispanic Room

CHAIR: Rebecca Alcalá-Veraflor, Assistant Chief of Branches

Attendees: AJ Cave (ANZ), Larry Ware (BAY) Excused, Nina Youkelson (BHE), Lena Yu (CHI) Excused, Penni Wisner (EVA) Excused, Marcia Parrott (EXC), Ruth Grabowski (EXC) Excused, Nora Dowley (GPA) Excused, Jules Older (GGV), Laura Bernabei (ING), Susan Leurey (MER), Mailine Chew (MBA) Excused, Ruth Maginnis (NVA), Kathleen McClay (NBE) Excused, Tyrone (Ty) Robinson (NBE), Pinkie Bolden (OVI), Edna James (OVI), Bessie Hahn (ORT), Marcia Ehrlich (PAR), Diane Silver (PAR), Michael Leahy (PSI) Excused, Don Thielges (POR) Excused, Marcia Popper (PRE) Excused, Kaitlyn Tran (PRE), Elaine Cahn (RIC) Excused, Joan Walton (SUN), Deborah Oppenheim (SUN) Excused, Rochelle Fort (VVA), Anne Jones (WPO) Excused, Maryam Roberts (WPO) Excused, Callen Taylor (WSA) Excused

Library Administrators: Luis Herrera (City Librarian), Michael Lambert (Deputy City Librarian); Maureen Singleton (Chief Financial Officer), Sue Blackman (Library Commission Secretary)

Guests: Marie Ciepiela (Friends of the SFPL), Mario Lemos (Friends of the SFPL), Michael-Vincet D'Anella-Mercanti (Friends of the SFPL)

HOUSEKEEPING

- The next regular **CNL Meeting** will be on **Thursday, February 22nd, 2018, 4:00 p.m. in the *Latino Hispanic Room B, Main Library, Lower Level***
- The next **Library Commission Meeting** will be on **Thursday, February 1st and February 15th, 2018, 4:30 p.m. at the *Koret Auditorium, Main Library***. It is particularly important for CNL members representing Ocean View, Mission and Chinatown Branches to attend the

meeting on February 1st. Please contact the Chief of Branches Office for more information about the meetings, and if you would like to volunteer.

CNL Members to attend the upcoming Library Commission Meeting:

- Thursday, February 1st: Bessie Hahn
- Thursday, February 15th:

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- There will not be a **CNL Steering Committee Meeting** in February.
- Upcoming Branch Open Houses:

2/3/2018	West Portal	11:00 - 5:00pm
2/10/2018	Noe Valley	2:00 - 5:00pm
2/24/2018	Bayview Branch	1:00 - 5:00pm

- CNL representative, Larry Ware is recovering at the Pacific Heights Transitional Care Center, 2797 Pine Street, San Francisco. Visiting hours are Monday – Sunday, 10 am – 8 pm. Cards can be sent to his home – contact the COB office for the address. Larry wants to thank his colleagues on the CNL for their support and encouragement.

UPDATES

City Librarian’s Report – Luis Herrera

Budget Update

- There will be two opportunities for the FY2019 and FY2020 budget to be approved by the Library Commission before it is submitted to the Mayor’s office, then to the Board of Supervisors.
- The Library’s budget is healthy due in part to its baselines and set-asides, with the Library Preservation Fund’s balance at \$31.9M.
- The budget includes one-time investments in facilities maintenance and infrastructure, and a capital investment to renovate the Mission, Chinatown and Ocean View Branch Libraries.

Proposed Branch Renovations

- The estimated costs for the renovations are: Mission - \$19M, Chinatown Branch - \$29M, and Ocean View - \$8.5M.
- Feasibility studies recommend that the Mission Branch should be the first branch to be renovated, with the time line for the other two branches to be explored further.
- Edna (OVI) expressed concern that the Ocean View Branch will be left behind if the renovations aren’t done at the same time.
 - Luis responded that there is not enough money for the renovations of all three branches to occur at the same time. Mission Branch was identified as being woefully inadequate and in most need compared to Chinatown and Ocean View. He did however say that identifying need is a parallel process and that the order could change.

- Jules (GGV) would like to see more funds allocated for programs at the branches. Programs are paid with funding from the Friends of SFPL.
 - Michael informed the group that the Library's budget would be inappropriate to pay performers since the process for performers to be City approved would be onerous and cost prohibitive.
 - Luis responded that the Library is working with the Friends of SFPL to look at increasing the FY2019 grant requests.

Library Commission Report – Sue Blackman

- The Library Commission still has two vacant positions.
- The proposed budget for FY2019 and FY2020 was discussed.
- The Open Hours Assessment will be discussed at the next Commission meeting on February 1st. The Controller's Office and the consultants from CC&G will be there to give their presentations.
- City Librarian, Luis Herrera announced his retirement. Deputy City Librarian, Michael Lambert will be Acting City Librarian, and Chief Financial Officer, Maureen Singleton will be second in charge as Chief Operating Officer. The Library Commission will vet candidates and forward suggested names to the Mayor for appointment.

Friends of the Library Report: Marie Ciepiela, Mario Lemos and Michael-Vincet D'Anella-Mercanti

- Board of Supervisors Aaron Peskin and Katy Tang have proposed making changes to the City's 19 set-asides. One of the changes would allow unspent funds to go back into the General Fund. Another change would freeze set-aside increases when the City's budget has a \$200M deficit.
- The SF Arts and Families Fund Ordinance (Prop. S)
 - This initiative on the November 2016 election allocated the hotel tax revenue to go to specific services rather than the general fund.
 - The fiscal impact on the Library would be a loss of \$1.5M in FY19, \$1.7M in FY20, and \$2M in FY21.
 - Prop. S fell short of passing in the last election with 64% of the vote. However, the State Supreme Court ruled that citizen proposed tax initiatives could pass with a simple majority, and will again appear on the June 2018 ballot.
 - The issue is difficult and the Friends have not taken a position. Support for social services is important, but many social services are provided by the Library.
 - **ACTIONS** – Let the Friends know what you think, and get on the Friends mailing list to receive updates.

District Round Table Schedule

- During the October CNL meeting, members had fruitful discussions about their branches; the successes and areas of concern.
- Members felt that roundtable sharing should be done again, possibly twice a year.

Future Agenda Items

- There will not be a CNL Steering Committee meeting in February. Instead, a call for agenda items will be a regular part of future CNL meetings. Paper and pens were passed out for CNL members to write down ideas for agenda items.
- **Marcia (EXC) - What is the purpose of CNL post BLIP?**
Previously, CNL meetings had been for sharing information on creating new libraries. The renovations are complete, there are new CNL members and new Friends staff who weren't a part of BLIP – need to reassess goals.
- **Rebecca (COB) - Engaging with community members – advocating, engagement, knowing what programs are needed.**
- **Rochelle (VVA) - The role of a CNL representative - best practices for working with the branch manager, setting expectations.**
- **Marie (Friends) - Advocate the fund raising efforts of the Friends in their community.**
- **Marcia (EXC) - The roles and responsibilities of a CNL representative as it relates to the Library's strategic priorities.**
- **Rebecca (COB) - Hiring process at the branches.**
- **Ruth (NVA) - Updates on security issues – invite Omar Castillo, the Library's Security Manager to a meeting.**

Adjournment: 5:30 pm

Respectfully Submitted by Florinda Battad