

SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC LIBRARY COMMISSION

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 1, 2012

(As approved at the regular meeting of December 6, 2012)

The San Francisco Public Library Commission held a regular meeting on Thursday, November 1, 2012 at the Ortega Branch Library, 3223 Ortega Street.

The meeting was called to order at 4:53 pm.

Commissioners present: Gomez, Kane, Nguyen and Ono

Commissioners excused: Munson and Randlett

President Gomez said they would be trailing Item No. 2, the 2013 Library Commission meeting schedule to another meeting.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1 PUBLIC COMMENT

An anonymous citizen said maybe what you should do is what they used to do in the old Roman Republic – elect Ms. Gomez for the position of dictator for life and then at least the rest of us would have the hope an assassination might result in a change of leadership. He said a professional librarian could tell you the number of days required under Sunshine Ordinance Sec. 67.6(f). He said a librarian could tell you how many days there are between this notice of October 19 and November 1. To not be able to answer those questions you have to be in management. He said the decent thing is to recognize this is an illegal meeting and immediately adjourn. He said to do that you would have to admit you are listening, which you can never do. He said this continues your complete dishonesty and bad faith at every level. He said your status depends on having a completely closed mind. (See Addendum for a summary of this comment submitted by the speaker.)

Justin Wong said he would like to see more computers for children in the library. He said more computers would help kids do their homework and other things.

Peter Warfield, Library Users Association, said the previous speaker makes a valid point and that is the meeting has not been legally noticed. He said the Sunshine Ordinance Section 67 requires that when you have a special meeting that is located in a different place than usual and in a different building you have to notice that meeting by at least 15 days. He said your notice dated October 19 fails to meet the minimum requirement of city law. What the previous speaker said would be the correct thing to do would be to cancel this meeting. He said if you don't cancel this meeting, you will be in willful violation of the law. He said he is talking after many years of reading and re-reading the Sunshine Ordinance. He said he urges you to follow the law and not go forward with this meeting.

Sue Blackman, Commission Secretary, said she had been out ill for a couple of weeks, and as soon as she returned she noticed the meeting because she thought it was a ten day notice requirement.

The Commission discussed adjourning the meeting but went ahead with public comment.

Ray Hartz said that when a meeting is being illegally held it is common to allow public comment. He said this is an illegal meeting because the requirement for posting is 15 days and this was only 13 days. He said he has seen you violate the Sunshine Ordinance, the Brown Act and the California Public Records Act so it wouldn't surprise him at all to have you continue. He said the City Librarian and the Commissioners are required to take Sunshine training and to go forward would be an egregious violation of the law. He said he has 15 Orders of Determination against public agencies where they have suppressed public comment and denied public records and he has a complaint coming up before the Sunshine Task Force on November 7 against Luis Herrera on documents Mr. Herrera has withheld for over a year. He said these are documents related to the finances of the Friends of the Library.

Sophia De Anza said she is legally disabled and she has been raising issues with Marti Goddard. She said Marti Goddard has told her the library does not have sufficient funding to provide additional accessible equipment at the branches, including computer and software for the disabled. She said she has been denied access for many years. She said she appreciates the comments about following the law and accountability. She said there seems to be a high priority for a teen center but yet the ADA standards have not been met. She said she will be filing a Department of Justice ADA complaint against the San Francisco Public Library. She said she has waited many years. She said she does have a meeting coming up with Luis Herrera and Jill Bourne but she said the way it appears the public is treated she believes she will get the run around too.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 7 ADJOURNMENT

President Gomez said it appears the meeting has been improperly noticed and she would call for an adjournment.

Motion: By Commissioner Kane, seconded by Commissioner Ono, to adjourn the meeting of November 1, 2012, because it had been improperly noticed.

Action: AYES 4-0: (Gomez, Kane, Nguyen, and Ono)

The meeting adjourned at 5:07 pm.

Sue Blackman
Commission Secretary

Explanatory documents: Copies of listed explanatory documents are available as follows: (1) from the commission secretary/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's website <http://sfpl.org>. 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).

ADDENDUM

These summary statements are provided by the speaker: Their contents are neither generated by, nor subject to approval or verification of accuracy by, the San Francisco Public Library Commission.

Item 1: General Public Comment

Anonymous Citizen: Stop the Hate & Ignorance – Don't accept money from the Friends of the Library

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A professional librarian could tell you the number of days required under Sunshine Ordinance §67.6(f). A librarian could tell you how many days there are between this notice of October 19, and November 1. To not be able to answer those questions you have to be in management.

The decent thing is recognize this is an illegal meeting and immediately adjourn.
You would have to admit you are listening, which you can never do.

This continues your complete dishonesty and bad faith at every level. Your status depends on having a completely closed mind.