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MEETING MINUTES

February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023

**I. Call to Order & Orders of the Day**

**Roll Call**

**PRESENT:** Chair Wendi Mahaney-Gurahoo, Vice Chair Jose Magaña, Commissioners Aaron Zisser, Deniz Westphal, Hilary Thorsen, Janice Allen, Anarita Reyes, Kristen Brown, Patricia Mendoza, Ken Kelly, Elena Jolly and Angelica Ramos

**ABSENT:** None

**STAFF:** Library Director Jill Bourne; Deputy Library Director of Operations Jenny Choi; Deputy Library Director of Public Services Michelle Ornat; Library Foundation Executive Director Dr. Dawn Coppin; Division Managers Jean Herriges, Vidya Kilambi and Ann Grabowski; Public Information Manager Elizabeth Castañeda; Program Managers Anh Tran; Administrative Officer Andrea Maestre; Administrative Analyst Cassie Hunter; Community Programs Administrator Karla Alvarez; Senior Office Specialists Ronnie Kammerdiener-Clapp; Senior Office Specialist Julia Santos

**Others:** City of San José District 3 Community Relations Coordinator Diego Martinez; City of San José District 1 Youth Commission Chair Gorden Chen

**I. Call to Order & Orders of the Day**

The Library and Education Commission convened at 7:02 P.M. via Zoom webinar. A quorum was achieved with 10 Commissioners present.

**II. Consent Calendar**

A. Approve the February 15, 2023, Agenda.

B. Approve the Minutes for the Regular Meeting of [January 18, 2023](#).

On the motion of Commissioner Kelly, seconded by Commissioner Allen, Commissioners voted unanimously to approve the February 15, 2023, Agenda and January 18, 2023, Meeting Minutes.

**III. Public Record:** There was no correspondence for the Commissioner to review.

**IV. Open Forum:** Sabrina Rivas, from Southside San José, addressed the Commissioners. She wants to bring attention to the issues non-English speakers face, when navigating online services. As an advocate for ESL speakers, Sabrina provided three recommendations: Create interactive workshops that go over troubleshooting issues when using online

platforms such as Zoom; Increase attendance in ESL classes through an incentive system; and Increase computer literacy in older adults by exposing them to the resources they have.

**V. Discussion/Action Items**

**A. INFORMATION: Youth Commission Announcements & Updates (Youth Chair G. Chen)**

City of San José District 1 Youth Commission Chair Gorden Chen shared: The District 5 Policy Conference will be taking place at Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Library on Saturday, February 25, 2023, at 9:00 A.M. The Youth Commission Budget Summit will be taking place on Sunday, February 26, 2023, from 1:00 P.M. – 3:00 P.M. The last virtual Youth Commission meeting will be Monday, February 27, 2023, at 6:30 P.M. March 1, 2023, the Youth Commission will be launching the annual San José Teen Survey. District 3 Policy workshop is scheduled for April 3, 2023.

**B. ACTION ITEM: Adopt Annual Commission Budget Position Message to Council (A. Maestre/Sub-Committee)**

The Commission reviewed the Annual Budget Position Message. Discussion followed. On the motion of Commissioner Jolly and seconded by Commissioner Kelly, commissioners voted unanimously to accept the message.

**C. INFORMATION: Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Services Report (K. Alvarez)**

The Commission received a report on the Library's Equity, Diversity and Inclusion services. Discussion followed.

**D. INFORMATION: Children and Youth Services Master Plan Status Update (L. Buzo)**

The Commission received an update from the City Manager's Office, on the status of the Children and Youth Services Master Plan. Discussion followed.

**VI. Council Liaison's Announcements**

City of San José District 3 Community Relations Coordinator Diego Martinez provided an update from Councilmember Torres' Office. Councilmember Torres will be participating in the 10-year celebration at Bascom Library.

**VII. Chair's Announcements**

Chair Mahaney-Gurahoo shared that: She attended the Councilmember Pam Foley's Council District 9's Community Leader's Networking Breakfast. She also attended the Swearing-In Ceremony for Supervisor Sylvia Arenas.

**VIII. Library Director's Announcements**

San José Public Library Director Jill Bourne shared that the San José Public Library will be celebrating Bascom Library turning ten, on Saturday, February 25, 2023, from 11:00 A.M. – 2:00 P.M. For more event details, please visit [www.sjpl.org](http://www.sjpl.org). San José Public Library is partnering with multiple local organizations to build connections and develop foundations of learning and growth with special story times. For a complete list of story times, visit: [sjpl.org/storytimes](http://sjpl.org/storytimes). This year is the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of "Silicon Valley Reads", an annual

community reading program presented by San José Public Library, the Santa Clara County Library District, and the Santa Clara County Office of Education. San Jose Public Library is also providing interactive parent led read-aloud programs with SCCOE Parent Engagement Program as part of Silicon Valley Reads. More information is available at: [sjpl.org/SVreads](http://sjpl.org/SVreads)

**IX. Comments and Announcements:**

- A. Friend's Groups Comments, Announcements and Updates: Commissioner Kelly shared that the celebration for the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Bascom Library will be on Saturday, February 25, 2023, from 11:00 A.M. – 2:00 P.M. The Friends of the Library will be having a book sale from 10:30 A.M. – 2:00 P.M. in the multipurpose room, during the event. The first All Friends meeting of the year will take place at Cambrian Library on Saturday, January 28, 2023.
- B. Meetings Attended by Commissioners as Commissioners: Commissioner Kelley attended the All Friends meeting at Cambrian Library on January 28, 2023. He also attended Council District 9's Community Leader's Networking Breakfast on February 3, 2023. Commissioner Kelly also met with a representative from the City of Santa Clara's Library Department, to discuss ways to reinvigorate their Friend's of the Library Group.
- C. San José Public Library Foundation (SJPLF) Board: Commissioner Thorsen provided an update on behalf of the Library Foundation. The Foundation, Dawn Coppin and Commissioner Thorsen, will be presenting to the Library and Education Commission at the April meeting. The San José Public Library Foundation reached their revenue goal for 2022. They are on track to reach their 5-year goal of \$35,000,000 by 2027. The launch of the Empower, Educate and Engage Series will begin on Monday, February 27, 2023, at the Santa Teresa Library Branch. For more information or to register, visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/sjplfs-empower-educate-engage-learn-more-series-1-tickets-523068139887>. The Advocacy Committee, which consists of San José Public Library Foundation members, Library and Education Commission members and the Friends of the Library members, has resumed meeting bi-weekly. San José Public Library Foundation Board meetings have returned to in-person.

**X. Information and Upcoming Opportunities for Commission Participation**

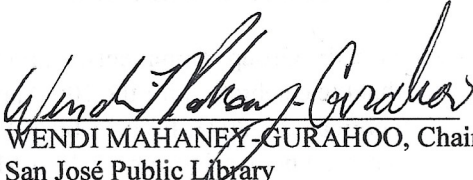
See SJPL Program Calendar at <https://www.sjpl.org/>

- XI. Items for Future Commission Meeting Agendas:** Commissioner Kelly would like to better understand and streamline how people can offer things for the collections in the library. He would like to receive a report on security at the various branches. He would also like to know the status of the MLK Friend's and the bookstore.

**XII. Meeting Schedule and Agenda Items**

The next regular meeting will be held on **March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023, at 7:00 P.M. at Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Library, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, SJPL Works.**

**XIII. Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:19 P.M.

  
WENDI MAHANEX-GURAHOO, Chair  
San José Public Library  
and Education Commission

ATTEST:

LIBRARY AND EDUCATION COMMISSION SECRETARY

  
CASSIE HUNTER