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MEETING MINUTES

March 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 Hilary Thorsen, Janice Allen, Anarita Reyes, Kristen Brown, Patricia Mendoza, Ken Kelly, Elena Jolly and Angelica Ramos

ABSENT: Commissioners Aaron Zisser, Deniz Westphal,

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; Librarian Megan Maloy; Volunteer Analyst Jason Pell; Administrative Analyst Cassie Hunter; Senior Office Specialist Ronnie Kammerdiener-Clapp

Others: City of San José District 3 Community Relations Coordinator Diego Martinez

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

The Library and Education Commission convened at 7:01 P.M. via Zoom webinar. A quorum was achieved with 9 Commissioners present.

**II. Consent Calendar**

A. Approve the March 15, 2023, Agenda.

B. Approve the Minutes for the Regular Meeting of [February 15, 2023](#).

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

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

**IV. Open Forum:** No individuals addressed Commission

**V. Discussion/Action Items**

A. INFORMATION: Youth Commission Announcements & Updates (M. Maloy)  
Librarian Megan Maloy shared: The Youth Commission has launched its annual San José Teen Survey in conjunction with Teen HQ. Once survey has closed, results will be shared with the Commission. The Youth Commission will be holding their first in

person meeting on Monday, March 27, 2023, at 6:30 P.M. in the Council Chambers. Youth Commission will be having a Policy-a-thon hosted by Council District 3's Commissioner Wang on Monday, April 10, 2023.

**B. INFORMATION: Volunteer Services Update (J. Pell)**

The Commission received a report on the Library's Volunteer Services. Discussion followed.

**C. INFORMATION: Library Bond Review (A. Tran & J. Choi)**

The Commission received an informational update on the Library Bond Review. 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 attended the 10-year celebration at Bascom Library and was excited to join. Councilmember Torres has met with Library staff and San José Public Library Foundation staff and is happy to be a partner and provide support. Thursday, March 16, 2023, Councilmember Torres will be having a swear in ceremony at the San José Museum of Art at 6:00 P.M.

**VII. Chair's Announcements**

Chair Mahaney-Gurahoo shared that: Santa Clara County Supervisor Susan Ellenberg is working on an initiative called "Build the Future" which deals with childcare. Chair Mahaney-Gurahoo and Commissioner Ramos will be taking part in the initiative, which will be kicking off at the Kid's Table event being hosted by Supervisor Ellenberg. More information to come.

**VIII. Library Director's Announcements**

San José Public Library Director Jill Bourne shared that the San José Public Library is proud to bring you its new blog series titled "Leaders and Libraries" in collaboration with our City of San José leaders. This exclusive blog series features our Mayor and City Council and shares fun-library related facts, including their favorite books, the role libraries played in their life, and what they love most about libraries. The Library's Marketing and Communications Team will release new profiles leading up to National Library Week, celebrated April 23<sup>rd</sup> through the 29<sup>th</sup>. Keep up with our Leaders and Libraries blog by signing up for San José Public Library's newsletter and following @sanjoselibrary on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter. In honor of Women's History Month, library staff have compiled reading lists for people of all ages to enjoy, plus a series of special events, including an art series and a "Women's History Month Quiz" about famous women. During the month, stop by any participating San José Public Library location to take the quiz for a chance to win a \$25 gift card. March 21 - 22 is Nowruz, the Persian New Year. Several San José Public Library locations will share Thrity Umrigar's "Sugar in Milk" story and a craft to make a Hyacinth flower, typically used in celebration of Nowruz. In remembrance of local activist and United Farm Worker (UFW) leader, Cesar Chavez, Cambrian Branch is


offering a grab and go craft all day on Wednesday, March 29. Because this holiday is observed by the City of San José, most City departments, including the Library, will be closed on Friday, March 31. For more details about these holiday celebrations, visit: [sjpl.org](http://sjpl.org). Thanks to a special partnership with the San Jose Animal Care Center, San José Public Library's, Berryessa Branch is hosting three special events where you'll get the opportunity to meet adorable bunnies and watch them bounce and play all while learning about pet rabbit care. Each program will include a story time about bunnies led by a volunteer from the animal care center. If you're interested in adopting a rabbit for your family, make sure you bring your questions and curiosity to one of the following Bunnies N' Books program: March 21, April 4, April 18 – all scheduled for 11:30 A.M.. More information available at: [sjpl.org](http://sjpl.org). Prepare your 2022 taxes at the San José Public Library with tax assistance from a Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) volunteer available for families whose income is less than \$60,000. Tax help is available at the Hillview Branch every Saturday through April 15 from 2–5 P.M., Pearl Avenue Branch every Wednesday through May 10 from 4–7 P.M., and at the King Library Saturday, March 18 from 9 A.M. – 1 P.M. For more information, including what documentation you need to take with you, please visit: [sjpl.org/TaxHelp](http://sjpl.org/TaxHelp).

**IX. Comments and Announcements:**

- A. Friend's Groups Comments, Announcements and Updates: Commissioner Kelly shared that the next All Friend's Group Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 29, 2023, at Almaden Library. The Bascom Volunteer of the Year for 2022 is Brian Finerty. The Bascom Friends Group has donated books to the newly renovated Library at Del Mar High School.
- B. Meetings Attended by Commissioners as Commissioners: Commissioner Kelley, Brown and Ramos attended the Bascom Library 10-year anniversary celebration. Chair Mahaney-Gurahoo and Vice Chair Magaña attended the March 15, 2023, Joint Meeting for the Rules and Open Government Committee and Committee of the Whole, to speak to the Library & Education Commission Budget Message to the Mayor and City Council. The meeting ended early due to technical issues. Commissioner Kelly attended Supervisor Ellenberg's Reading to the Children event held at Cambrian Library.
- C. San José Public Library Foundation (SJPLF) Board: Commissioner Thorsen provided an update on behalf of the Library Foundation. Two new staff will be joining the Foundation. Noelle Boesenberg is the Individual Major Gifts Officer, starting on March 14<sup>th</sup> and Marly Young will be the Advocacy & Media Relations Manager, starting on March 27<sup>th</sup>. Dawn and Foundation staff have been meeting with the newly appointed Councilmembers to discuss the Foundation and the budget process. The Foundation has added a new section to their website titled "Tell Us Your Story", where people can describe the role that libraries have in their life, visit [www.sjplf.org](http://www.sjplf.org) for more information. At the end of February, the first Builder Cultivation event was held. There are two more to come. More information will be provided as the dates approach. April

4, 2023, is Library Giving Day, visit <https://www.sjplf.org/donate/> for more information. The Foundation is partnering with the Children's Discovery Museum and Kristi Yamaguchi's Always Dream Foundation for the Kristi Yamaguchi's Family Literacy Festival, which will be taking place on Saturday, June 10, 2023, at the Children's Discovery Museum. Sponsors are still needed for the event. The next Board meeting for the Foundation will be on April 6, 2023. Dawn and Commissioner Thorsen will be giving an annual update on the Foundation at the April Library and Commission meeting.

- X. **Information and Upcoming Opportunities for Commission Participation**  
See SJPL Program Calendar at <https://www.sjpl.org/>
- XI. **Items for Future Commission Meeting Agendas:** None suggested.
- XII. **Meeting Schedule and Agenda Items**  
The next regular meeting will be held on **April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023, at 7:00 P.M. at Willow Glen Library Branch.**
- XIII. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:39 P.M.

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

ATTEST:

LIBRARY AND EDUCATION COMMISSION SECRETARY

  
CASSIE HUNTER