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MEETING MINUTES

May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023

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

**Roll Call**

**PRESENT:** Vice Chair Jose Magaña, Commissioners Hilary Thorsen, Janice Allen, Deniz Westphal, Kristen Brown, Ken Kelly, Anarita Reyes, Patricia Mendoza (virtually), and Angelica Ramos, (virtually)

**ABSENT:** Chair Wendi Mahaney-Gurahoo, Commissioners Aaron Zisser, Elena Jolly

**STAFF:** Library Director Jill Bourne; Deputy Library Director of Public Services Michelle Ornat; Library Foundation Executive Director Dr. Dawn Coppin; Division Managers Michelle Amores, Vidya Kilambi and Ann Grabowski; Public Information Manager Elizabeth Castañeda; Librarian Megan Maloy; Community Programs Admins. Adrian McBride and Karla Alvarez, 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 7:07 P.M. via Zoom webinar. A quorum was not achieved with 7 Commissioners present in person and 2 Commissioners present virtually.

**II. Consent Calendar**

A. Approve the April 19, 2023, and May 17, 2023, Agendas.

B. Approve the Minutes for the Regular Meeting of [March 15, 2023](#) and [April 19, 2023](#).

Action not taken

**III. Public Record:** Niandong Wang, San José Public Library patron, submitted an email to the Commission stating staff should remove their masks and the plastic separators should be removed. The WHO, State of California and President have declared the COVID emergency over. These items create a false sense of emergency and make communications extremely unfriendly and difficult.

**IV. Open Forum:** Paul Soto commented on racial equity issues at Biblioteca Library Branch.

**V. Discussion/Action Items**

**A. INFORMATION: Youth Commission Announcements (M. Maloy)**

Librarian Megan Maloy shared that seven of the Youth Commissioners presented their Annual Work Plan report to the Neighborhood Services and Education (NSE) Committee, last Thursday. The report was accepted unanimously by the committee. The final Youth Commission meeting for this fiscal year will be held on Monday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> in the Council Chambers. The Youth Commission recognition awards event will be held at the Rotunda in City Hall on Friday, June 16<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 P.M. Youth Commission has been working on “Enhancing the Youth Commission and Youth Participation in the City” memorandum that will be going to NSE on Thursday, June 8<sup>th</sup>. Discussion followed.

Public Comments: Paul Soto commented on the racial alignment within the Youth Commission.

**B. INFORMATION: Submission of Topics for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Library and Education Commission Work Plan (A. Grabowski)**

The Commission discussed topics for the 2023-2024 Library and Education Commission Work Plan. Discussion followed.

Public Comments: Paul Soto commented on racial equity.

**C. INFORMATION: Adult Literacy Programming (K. Alvarez/A. McBride)**

The Commission received a report on the San José Public Library’s Partners in Reading and Family Learning programs. 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 hosted a Paint in the City event at Martin Park. Their office has been promoting the Summer Learning Program at their events. Council District 3 will be continuing to promote and support all Library events.

**VII. Chair’s Announcements**

Chair Mahaney-Gurahoo was absent and did not share any announcements with Vice Chair Magaña.

**VIII. Library Director’s Announcements**

San José Public Library Director Jill Bourne shared that the San José Public Library’s West Valley Library Branch turned 20 and a celebration was held Saturday, May 13<sup>th</sup> at the branch. The Department appreciates the support of the Library and Education Councilmember liaison, Omar Torres, for his support during the budget sessions. Summer Learning pre-registration is now open. The program goes from June 1 – July 31. Register at [sjpl.org/summer](http://sjpl.org/summer). Also, this summer we are providing a new opportunity for Summer Learning participants who can now have their reading sponsored to raise funds for the library through its new “*Read to Raise*” fundraiser. Funds raised from June 1 through July

31 will directly support the 2024 Summer Learning program. The San José Public Library is proud to have six award-winning staff members, this year.

**Library Journal's 2023 Movers & Shakers:**

LJ Mover & Shaker – Innovator:

- **Karla Alvarez**, SJPL's Racial Equity and Inclusion Manager

LJ Mover & Shaker – Advocates:

- **Lizzie Nolan**, SJPL's Youth Service Manager

**California Library Association (CLA)**

Young Adult Service Award:

- **Megan Maloy**, Youth Services Librarian, TeenHQ and Youth Commission Coordinator

CLA's PReXcellence Award:

- SJPL's Marketing and Communications Team for their "Sundaes on Sunday! New Hours Campaign".
  - **Elizabeth Castañeda**, Public Information Manager
  - **Nancy Macias**, Public Information Rep II
  - **Moises Moreno**, Public Information Rep I

SJPL also hosted its 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Gira de Libro - Library Tour by Bicycle. The tour had approximately 28 people pedaling the 21-mile route that visited Tully, Seven Trees, Edenvale, Santa Teresa, and Pearl Avenue branches. View photos of this year's event at [sjpl.org/GiraDeLibro](http://sjpl.org/GiraDeLibro)

**IX. Comments and Announcements:**

- A. Friend's Groups Comments, Announcements and Updates: Commissioner Kelly shared they are trying to initiate recognition for the Friend's Groups. He was pleased to see a vlog, from the Library administration, about the Bascom volunteer of the year Brian Finerty. There was a book sale at Bascom Library on Saturday, May 13<sup>th</sup>, where the Friend's Group made \$600 in sales. All Friend's Group Meeting was Wednesday, April 29, 2023, at Almaden Library.
- B. Meetings Attended by Commissioners as Commissioners: Commissioner Kelley attended a Silicon Valley Rotary meeting. Commissioner Thorsen attended the Council District 10 Community Budget meeting and the May 16<sup>th</sup> City Council Meeting. Commissioner Brown attended the Mayor's Budget meeting on May 1<sup>st</sup> at Seven Trees Community Center.
- C. San José Public Library Foundation (SJPLF) Board: Commissioner Thorsen provided an update on behalf of the Library Foundation. The next Empower, Educate and Engage event is coming up on May 21, 2023 at West Valley Branch Library, visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/sjplfs-empower-educate-engage-learn-more-series-2-tickets-567193810957?utm-campaign=social&utm-content=attendeeshare&utm-medium=discovery&utm-term=listing&utm-source=cp&aff=escb> to register for the event. Kristi Yamaguchi's Family Literacy Festival will be taking place Saturday, June 10, 2023, at the Children's Discovery Museum. Visit [www.sjplf.org](http://www.sjplf.org) for more information. The Advocacy Committee has been trying to attend the Community Budget


meetings. The final budget hearings will be: 1) City Council meetings, on June 13<sup>th</sup> and June 20<sup>th</sup>; 2) Planning Commission meeting on June 12<sup>th</sup>.

**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.

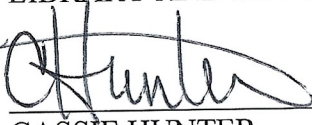
**XII. Meeting Schedule and Agenda Items**  
The next regular meeting will be held on **June 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023, at 7:00 P.M. at Berryessa Library Branch.**

**XIII. Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:09 P.M.

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

ATTEST:

LIBRARY AND EDUCATION COMMISSION SECRETARY

  
CASSIE HUNTER