
MEETING MINUTES

April 17, 2019

I. Call to Order & Orders of the Day

Roll Call

PRESENT: Chair Michael L. Snyder, Michael Melillo, Commissioners Hilary Thorsen , José Magaña, Daniel Newell, Tiffany Uhri Chu, Janice Allen, Pat McMahon, Elena Jolly, Thaddeus Aid (7:45), Christina Dunbar (7:20), and Pravir Ramtekkar (7:05).

ABSENT: Vice Chair Wendi Mahaney-Gurahoo and Kristin N. Rivers, Ph.D.

STAFF: Deputy Library Directors Michelle Ornat and Jenny Choi, Division Managers Jean Herriges, Michelle Amores and Vidya Kilambi, Senior Public Information Representative Elizabeth Castañeda, Public Information Representative Nancy Macias, Literacy Program Specialist Adrian McBride, Administrative Officer Andrea Maestre, Senior Librarian Margaret Yamaski, Chief of Staff Ann Grabowski, San José Public Library Foundation Executive Director Dr. Dawn Coppin, and Administrative Assistant Adriana York.

Others: Council Member Representative, Monica Rodriguez, Council District Seven – Sylvia Arenas

Call to Order

The Library and Early Education Commission convened at 7:00 p.m. in the Community Room of the Evergreen Branch library.

Orders of the Day: Approval of the Agenda

Upon a motion by Commissioner Allen seconded by Commissioner Magaña and carried unanimously, the Commission approved the adoption of the April 17, 2019 agenda (8-0-7)

II. Consent Calendar

Upon a motion by Commissioner Allen and seconded by Commissioner Melillo the Minutes for the Regular Meeting of March 20, 2019 meeting were unanimously approved with the abstention of Commissioners Thorsen and Jolly (6-0-7)

A. Correspondence: There was correspondence.

IV. Public Record: There was [correspondence](#) for the Commissioners to review.

V. **Open Forum:** There was no public testimony from the floor.

VI. **Discussion/Action Items**

- A. [SJPL Foundation Update](#) (Executive Director Dr. Coppin): Review of last year's Foundation activity and future plans was presented and accepted by the Commission.
- B. Education Update – [SJ Engage](#) (E. Nolan): Feedback on the SJ Engage Program was provided and accepted by the Commission.
- C. Education Update – [SJ Aspires](#): College & Career Readiness (V. Kilambi/A. McBride): An update regarding the SJ Aspires Program, which is associated with the College and Career Readiness plank of the Education & Digital Literacy Initiative was presented and accepted by the Commission. The Commission accepted the update.
- D. [Budget Update](#) (A. Grabowski, A. Maestre): A presentation of the Library's budget for Fiscal Year 2018-2019 was presented and accepted by the Commission.
Action: Staff will send out reminder of upcoming budget meeting the Commission may want to attend.
- E. [Evergreen Branch Update](#) (M. Yamasaki): A power point overview of the Evergreen Branch library's current and future programs and community events was presented and accepted by the Commission.

VII. **Council Liaison's Announcements:** Council Member Representative, Monica Rodriguez thanked the Commissioners for their service. Congratulated Margaret Yamasaki for her newest assignment at Evergreen Branch. Said the Council Member highlighted the Mount Pleasant Library Branch opening on her Face Book page. She invited all to attend the Mama Palooza festival taking place at Village Square on May 11th.

VIII. **Chair's Announcements:** Chair Snyder thanked Monica Rodriguez for attending the Commission meeting. Welcome, acknowledged and thanked Bonnie Mace from the Evergreen School District for being in attendance.

IX. **Library Director's Announcements (J. Choi):**

The San José Public Library (SJPL) partnered with FIRST 5 Santa Clara County and The Roots Community Health Clinic to officially open the **Roots Bridge Library** this **Friday, April 19 from 1-2:30 p.m.** at **The Roots Community Health Clinic located at 1898 The Alameda in San José.** SJPL's Early Education Team will work closely with partners to strengthen the Library's connection to the community and the neighborhood needs; in addition, Library staff will provide regular outreach services and programs. A new service will also be introduced – families will have the opportunity to have books delivered to them by Roots Health Clinic staff during their monthly home visits.

Students, parents, educators, city leaders and members of the community attended the grand opening event of the [Mt. Pleasant Neighborhood Library](#) on **Monday, April 8.** Speakers including, Mayor Sam Liccardo, District 5 Councilmember Magdalena Carrasco, and City Librarian Jill Bourne, helped kick-off the community celebration. There were light refreshments, cupcakes, games, crafts, and of course, the opportunity to check out brand new library books and DVDs. The Mt. Pleasant Neighborhood Library is San José Public Library's newest location and first-ever "bridge branch". A bridge branch library provides

Library services to residents in neighborhoods where geographic barriers may limit access. By transforming a new or existing facility, such as a school multipurpose building, into a functional public library, a safe place is created for students and every member of the community to read, learn and explore.

The Library celebrated its volunteers' diverse talents and expertise during National Volunteer Week, **April 7-13**. In 2018, **2,853 volunteers donated 90,560 hours** throughout the 24 San José Public Library locations to support Library programs and services. Volunteers provide valuable resources to meet community needs, including teaching coding as part of the Coding5K program, leading English as a Second Language Conversation Clubs, supporting as homework helpers, engagement as Friends of the Library, and involvement as Readers to Children. The annual celebration recognizes the important contributions that volunteers make in our community.

In addition to the week-long celebration, the Library's Volunteer Services Team will host its first-ever **Volunteers of the Year Bash** on **Wednesday, April 24 from 6-7:30 p.m.** in room #225 at the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library. Every year, each of our library locations and units selects a volunteer they want to recognize as their Volunteer of the Year. The Volunteers of the Year Bash will kick-off with remarks from Library staff, followed by hors d'oeuvres, games, and opportunities for volunteers to share their stories.

San José Public Library joined communities across the country to celebrate [National Library Week, April 7-13](#). In keeping with this year's theme of "Libraries=Strong Communities", the Library invited the public to "Share Your Story" of how the library has made a positive impact in their life. We are thankful for the contributions our librarians and library workers make in our communities by providing broad opportunities for people of all ages and backgrounds to learn, grow, and achieve their dreams. The Commission was encouraged to also "Share Your Story" by filling out a simple form on www.sjpl.org/sjplstoriesform

X. Comments and Announcements:

A. Youth Commission: Not present.

B. Meetings Attended by Commissioners as Commissioners:

- Commissioners Allen, Ramtekkar and Aid attended the San José Library Foundation's Donor Recognition event held at the Village Square Branch library.
- Commissioners Allen and Ramtekkar also attended the Mount Pleasant Bridge Library opening at Robert Sanders School.
- Commissioner McMahan mentioned that he attended "The Public" which featured a discussion with Emilio Estevez and Jill Bourne. He also attended the All Friends Meeting and found that two issues were brought to his attention: 1) maintenance at the branches and 2) the All Friends Website needs to be updated – they would like assistance from the SJPL regarding both issues.

C. San José Public Library Foundation (SJPLF) Board (Executive Director Dr. Dawn Coppin): They have not had a meeting since the last Commission meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for May 8th. They currently do not have a Commission Liaison –

the Chair said he would investigate what steps are needed to become a Liaison to the Foundation.

XI. Information and Upcoming Opportunities For Commission Participation –

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

XII. Items for Future Commission Meeting Agendas:

Commissioner McMahon would like the Retreat scheduled. The Chair suggested the Retreat be held before a regular Commission meeting.

XIII. Meeting Schedule and Agenda Items

The next regular meeting will be May 15, 2019 at 7:00 p.m., in SJPL Works at the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. (maybe Mt. Pleasant Bridge) library.

XIV. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:20 p.m.

MICHAEL L. SNYDER, Chair
San José Public Library
and Early Education Commission

ATTEST:

COUNCIL APPOINTMENT ADVISORY COMMISSION SECRETARY

ADRIANA A. YORK