
MEETING MINUTES
February 17th, 2021

I. Call to Order & Orders of the Day

Roll Call

PRESENT: Chair Wendi Mahaney-Gurahoo, Commissioners Kristin Rivers, Hilary Thorsen, Patricia Mendoza, Tiffany Uhri Chu, Tom Trudell, Elena Jolly, Janice Allen, Michael Snyder and Michael Melillo

ABSENT: Vice Chair Jose Magaña, Commissioner Pravir Ramtekkar

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; Chief of Staff Ann Grabowski; Division Managers Vidya Kilambi and Jean Herriges; Early Education Services Manager Araceli Delgado-Ortiz, Early Literacy Librarian Nari Ferderer, Administrative Officer Andrea Maestre, Community Programs Administrators Lauren Hancock and Karla Alvarez, Public Engagement Manager Elizabeth Castañeda, Senior Office Specialists Melissa Chheuy and Justin Sana; and Administrative Assistant Danika Relth

Others: City of San José District 8 Councilmember Sylvia Arenas, Councilmember Team Mariela Garcia, City of San José Department of Parks, Recreation, and Neighborhood Services Recreation Superintendent Laura Buzo

The Library and Education Commission convened at 7:01 p.m. via Zoom webinar. Quorum was achieved with 10 Commissioners present.

II. Approval of Agenda

On the motion of Commissioner Allen, seconded by Commissioner Thorsen, the Commission unanimously voted to approve the February 17th, 2021 agenda.

III. Consent Calendar

A. On the motion of Commissioner Allen, seconded by Commissioner Melillo, the Commission unanimously voted to approve the Minutes of the Library and Education Commission January 20th, 2021 regular meeting.

B. Correspondence: No correspondence was received.

IV. Public Record: No correspondence was received.

V. Open Forum: No individuals addressed the Commission.

VI. Discussion/Action Items

- A. Adopt Annual Commission Budget Position to Council (Sub-Committee/A. Maestre):
Andrea Maestre, Administrative Officer, San José Public Library, provided an overview of the Annual Commission Budget Position Memorandum to City Council drafted by the Budget Sub-committee on behalf of the Commission. The memorandum focused on expanding library fines free to all materials, approving ongoing city funding for citywide digital inclusion initiatives, and maintaining current public service hours at all library locations. Discussion followed. Chair Mahaney-Gurahoo requested additional information be added regarding gender equity.

On the motion of Commissioner Trudell, seconded by Commissioner Jolly, the Commission unanimously voted to approve the draft with an amendment to include a statement about the importance of gender equity.

- B. Update from Early Education Quality Standards (V. Kilambi/ A. Deglado-Ortiz):
Received presentation from Araceli Delgado-Ortiz, Early Education Services Manager, San José Public Library, Nari Ferderer, Early Literacy Librarian, San José Public Library, and Laura Buzo, Recreation Superintendent, City of San José Department of Parks, Recreation, and Neighborhood Services (PRNS), regarding the annual report on the Early Education Quality Standards. Discussion followed. Ms. Buzo stated PRNS will continue to work with human resources to assess and develop early education qualifications for new staff positions at recreational preschool. Ms. Buzo and Ms. Delgado-Ortiz confirmed that virtual programs will continue after COVID-19 restrictions are lifted.

VII. Council Liaison's Announcements:

Sylvia Arenas, Councilmember, City of San José District 8, updated the Commission on priorities for her office.

VIII. Chair's Announcements:

Chair Mahaney-Gurahoo announced that teachers and childcare workers should be able to schedule the COVID-19 vaccination beginning February 28th, 2021.

IX. Library Director's Announcements:

Jill Bourne, Director, San José Public Library, provided information on the success of the Library's Holiday Laptop Donation Drive, the first Annual Virtual Winter Reading Program, the ability to now reserve SJ Access hotspots through the online catalogue, and the conversion of Lynda.com to LinkedInLearning still at no cost to San José Public Library members. Ms. Bourne also informed the Commission that the 2020 Impact Report will be shared with the public on the Library's website in the coming months.

X. Comments and Announcements:

- A. Youth Commission representative was not present.

- B. Meetings Attended by Commissioners as Commissioners:

Chair Mahaney-Gurahoo, Commissioner Allen, and Commissioner Mendoza attended Career Online High School Virtual Graduation.

Commissioner Thorsen attended City of San José Mayor Sam Liccardo's Town Hall Budget meeting, and enquired with Library staff about possible opportunities to provide feedback on the Library Budget.

C. San José Public Library Foundation (SJPLF) Board:

Commissioner Thorsen stated that the SJPLF Annual Report will be available in the coming months. Commissioner Thorsen also provided the dates of the next SJPLF Board meeting on March 17th, 2021, and Advocacy Committee meeting on February 18th, 2021.

XI. Information and Upcoming Opportunities For Commission Participation

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

XII. Items for Future Commission Meeting Agendas: No items were suggested.

XIII. Meeting Schedule and Agenda Items

The next regular will be held virtually on **March 17th, 2021 at 7:00 PM.**

XIV. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:57 P.M.

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

ATTEST:

COUNCIL APPOINTMENT ADVISORY COMMISSION SECRETARY

DANIKA RELTH