
MEETING MINUTES

March 17th, 2021

I. Call to Order & Orders of the Day

Roll Call

PRESENT: Vice Chair Jose Magaña, Commissioners Kristin Rivers, Pravir Ramtekkar, Hilary Thorsen, Patricia Mendoza, Tiffany Uhri Chu, Tom Trudell, Janice Allen, and Michael Melillo

ABSENT: Chair Wendi Mahaney-Gurahoo and Commissioner Elena Jolly

STAFF: 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, Senior Librarian Elizabeth Nolan, Literacy Program Specialist Amanda Otte, Library Assistant Benjamin Martinez, Administrative Officer Andrea Maestre, Community Programs Administrators Lauren Hancock, Adrian McBride, Samantha Cramer, and Karla Alvarez, Public Information Representative Nancy Macias, Senior Office Specialists Melissa Chheuy and Justin Sana; and Administrative Assistant Danika Relth

Others: City of San José District 8 Council Assistant Mariela Garcia, City of San José Department of Parks, Recreation, and Neighborhood Services (PRNS) Recreation Superintendent Laura Buzo, City of San José PRNS Community Services Supervisor Israel Canjura, City of San José Office of Economic (OED) Development Division Manager Monique Melchor

Call to Order

The Library and Education Commission convened at 7:01 p.m. via Zoom webinar. Quorum was achieved with 8 Commissioners present.

Orders of the Day: Approval of the Agenda

II. Approval of Agenda

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

III. Consent Calendar

- A. On the motion of Commissioner Allen, seconded by Commissioner Rivers, the Commission unanimously voted to approve the Library and Education Commission February 17th, 2021 meeting minutes.
- B. Correspondence: No correspondence was received.

IV. Public Record: No correspondence was received.

- V. Open Forum:** Taken out of order after Agenda Item VI A.
One individual addressed the Commission.

VI. Discussion/Action Items

- A. Education and Digital Literacy Annual Report (v. Kilambi/A. Grabowski):
Taken out of order after Agenda Item IV.
The Commission received a presentation from Vidya Kilambi, Division Manager, Araceli Delgado-Ortiz, Early Education Services Manager, Elizabeth Nolan, Senior Librarian, Adrian McBride, Samantha Cramer, Karla Alvarez, Community Programs Administrators, Ann Grabowski, Chief of Staff, City of San José Public Library, Laura Buzo, Recreation Superintendent, City of San José PRNS, and Monique Melchor, Division Manager, City of San José OED on the projects and accomplishments for education and digital literacy work within the past year.
Commissioner Allen asked for a list of universities participating in *Working Scholars*, a program that provides adult students the opportunity to receive a Bachelor's degree online. Mr. McBride provided 2 institutions: Thomas Edison University and Excelsior. Commissioner Allen asked if teachers are involved in the Schools/Collaborative. Mrs. Grabowski explained that due to COVID-19 restrictions, membership currently includes participating school superintendents and executives, with plans to expand after the pandemic.
Commissioners Snyder and Ramtekkar joined the meeting.
- B. Update on Adult Literacy Programming (V. Kilambi):
Taken out of order after Item V.
Received presentation on the current status of adult literacy programs at the library from Karla Alvarez and Adrian McBride, Community Program Administrators, City of San José Public Library.
Mr. McBride announced that the next volunteer tutor orientation for Partners in Reading will be on March 24th.

VII. Council Liaison's Announcements:

Mariela Garcia, Council Assistant, City of San José District 8, updated the Commission on the priorities for Councilmember Sylvia Arenas. Ms. Garcia stated the District 8 office expect to receive updates on expansion of digital resources to eastside San José neighborhoods in April 2021.

VIII. Chair's Announcements: Chair Mahaney-Gurahoo made no announcements.

IX. Library Director's Announcements:

Michelle Ornat, San José Public Library Deputy Library Director of Public Services, shared a video created by San José Public Library Marketing and Communications to recap the past year www.facebook.com/sanjoselibrary/videos/432662364485961.

Cardholders can reserve HP Chromebooks at all library locations, and iPads at Alum Rock, Hillview, Seven Trees, Tully, and Educational Park branches as part of SJ Access initiative. More information can be found at www.sjpl.org/sjaccess.

The last two events for Black History and Women's History Month speaker series will be on March 18th and March 25th at 1:00 pm.

New online Bilingual Storytime will occur every 1st and 3rd Thursday at 2:00 pm. Visit www.sjpl.org/earlyeducation for more information on all Storytime programs.

X. Comments and Announcements:

A. Youth Commission: Youth Commissioner was not present.

B. Meetings Attended by Commissioners as Commissioners:
Commissioner Rivers attended Anti-racist San José story time for children.

C. San José Public Library Foundation (SJPLF) Board:
Commissioner Thorsen stated that SJPLF continues to work on a plan for donor retention and advocacy in support of libraries.
On April 15th, they will host the Mayor's SJ Aspires Virtual Fundraiser.

XI. Information and Upcoming Opportunities For Commission Participation

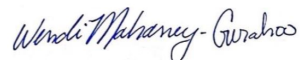
See SJPL Program Calendar at <https://www.sjpl.org/>

XII. Items for Future Commission Meeting Agendas: Commissioner Thorsen requested an update on measures taken to safely reopen libraries to the public.

XIII. Meeting Schedule and Agenda Items

The next regular will be held virtually on **April 21st, 2021 at 7:00 PM.**

XIV. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:44 P.M.



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

ATTEST:

COUNCIL APPOINTMENT ADVISORY COMMISSION SECRETARY


DANIKA RELTH