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MEETING MINUTES

August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2021

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

**Roll Call**

**PRESENT:** Chair Wendi Mahaney-Gurahoo, Vice Chair Jose Magaña, Commissioners Aaron Zisser, Hilary Thorsen, Patricia Mendoza, Kenneth Kelly, Elena Jolly, Angelica Ramos, Janice Allen, and Michael Melillo

**ABSENT:** Commissioner Pravir Ramtekkar

**STAFF:** Library Director Jill Bourne, Deputy Library Director of Public Services Michelle Ornat, Deputy Library Director of Operations Jenny Choi; Library Foundation Executive Director Dr. Dawn Coppin; Division Managers Michelle Amores and Ann Grabowski, Senior Librarians Elizabeth Nolan and Kyle Burkett, Librarian John Savercool, Literacy Specialist Katie Linder, Community Programs Administrators Karla Alvarez, Adrian McBride, Lauren Hancock, and Samantha Cramer, Administrative Officer Andrea Maestre, Senior Office Specialists Melissa Chheuy and Justin Sana; and Administrative Assistant Danika Relth

**Others:** City of San José District 8 Council Assistant Mariela Garcia

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

The Library and Education Commission convened at 7:08 PM via Zoom webinar. Quorum was achieved with 10 Commissioners present.

**II. Consent Calendar**

A. Approve the August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2021 Agenda.

B. Approve the Minutes for the Regular Meeting of June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

On the motion of Vice Chair Magaña, seconded by Commissioner Melillo, the Commission voted to approve the August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2021 Agenda and June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021 Meeting Minutes. Commissioners Kelly, Zisser, and Ramos abstained.

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

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

**V. Discussion/Action Items**

A. **INFORMATIONAL:** College & Career Readiness (A. McBride).

The San José Public Library (SJPL) staff Senior Librarians Elizabeth Nolan and Kyle Burkett, Community Programs Administrators Adrian McBride and Lauren Hancock, and Literary Specialist Katie Linder updated the Commission on the current status and future goals of College & Career Readiness programs for adults and teens. Discussion followed. Commissioner Zisser requested demographic information for participants in

College & Career Readiness programs to which Mr. McBride replied that SJPL does not track demographic information for general library programs as the Library relies on an equity index that uses zip codes to identify higher need communities.

Commissioner Janice Allen joined the meeting at 7:15pm.

**B. INFORMATIONAL: COVID-19 Service Impact & Overview (M. Ornat).**

The Commission received an informational update on the current COVID-19 service impacts, reconvening services, and concurrent work with Emergency Operations from SJPL staff Deputy Library Director of Public Services Michelle Ornat, Division Manager Ann Grabowski, and Community Programs Administrator Karla Alvarez.

Discussion followed.

Commissioner Kelly asked for the status of the Friends of the Library volunteer group. Miss Ornat shared that although there is no set return date, the Library is working with the City of create safe workplace to bring volunteers back on site and will provide regular updates to the Commission and volunteer groups.

Commissioner Zisser asked for demographic information for Library patron usage of in-person and pick-up services. Miss Ornat offered to share a point and time data table with the Commission.

Commission Mendoza requested more details for the Open Plus Pilot Program details and goals. Division Manager Michelle Amores leads the program, and will update the Commission on the status of the program in early 2022.

**VI. Council Liaison's Announcements:**

Mariela Garcia, Council Assistant, City of San José District 8, invited the Commission to a joint special meeting on child wellbeing. The date is tentatively set at Thursday, September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021 from 2:30 PM – 4:30 PM. Mariela will send a formal invitation to the Commission when the date is confirmed.

**VII. Chair's Announcements:** Chair Mahaney-Gurahoo shared that San Jose Unified School district returned to in-person learning. The Board of Supervisors meeting about the Reid-Hillview Airport Lead Study and its effects on children ended with a 5-0 vote in favor to require only unleaded fuel usage at the airport by December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021 and to begin the process of closing the airport.

**VIII. Library Director's Announcements:**

San José Public Library Director Jill Bourne announced that the Wee Explore Play Space at Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library is open to families during public service hours, the Library will now support the Youth Commission, asked for support to vote for SJPL for the opportunity to present on the Library's Digital Inclusion work at the 2022 South by Southwest Conference, Career Online High School held a graduation ceremony for eleven participants on August 5<sup>th</sup>, 2021 and more information on the program can be found at [www.sjpl.org/PAR](http://www.sjpl.org/PAR), and the Library will be participating in Silicon Valley Pride on August 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021 and you can visit [www.svpride.com](http://www.svpride.com) to learn more. Ms. Bourne encouraged advocacy on behalf on the Library to have Friends of the Library activities approved by the City of San José Office of the City Manager.

**IX. Comments and Announcements:**

- A. Youth Commission: Youth Commissioner was not present.
- B. Meetings Attended by Commissioners as Commissioners: Commissioner Allen attended the Career Online High School graduation ceremony. Chair Mahaney-Gurahoo attended the San José Unified School District Board meeting and wanted to acknowledge Vice Chair Magaña's work in ensuring that library cards are available in the San José Unified School District.
- C. San José Public Library Foundation (SJPLF) Board: Commissioner Thorsen provided the Commissions updates on SJPLF, introduced Yesenia Ramos as the new manager for the Resilience Corps Program which is currently recruiting college students, and reminded the Commission that they can follow San José Public Library Foundation on Facebook to stay updated on SJPLF news.

**X. Information and Upcoming Opportunities For Commission Participation**

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

**XI. Items for Future Commission Meeting Agendas**

**XII. Meeting Schedule and Agenda Items**

The next regular will be held virtually on September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 7:00 PM.

**XIII. Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 9:08 P.M.

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

ATTEST:

COUNCIL APPOINTMENT ADVISORY COMMISSION SECRETARY

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DANIKA RELTH