

MINUTES

BOARD OF LIBRARY COMMISSIONERS CITY OF LOS ANGELES

August 27, 2020

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Library Commissioners was held via teleconference at 11:07 a.m. on the above-written date.

1. ROLL CALL:

Present:	President Commissioner Commissioner Commissioner	Bích Ngọc Cao Dale Franzen Mai Lassiter Josefa Salinas
Absent:	Vice-President	Kathryn Eidmann

Also present via teleconference: City Librarian John F. Szabo, Assistant City Librarian Susan Broman, Asst. City Librarian; Deputy City Attorney Basia Jankowski; Library staff and members of the public.

2. OPENING REMARKS: City Librarian John F. Szabo read the following quote about libraries by novelist Toni Morrison:

“Access to knowledge is the superb, the supreme act of truly great civilizations. Of all institutions that purport to do this, free libraries stand virtually alone in accomplishing this mission. No committee decides who may enter, no crisis of body or spirit must accompany the entrant. No tuition is charged, no oath is sworn, no visa is demanded. Of the monuments humans build for themselves very few say - touch me, use me, my hush is not indifference, my space is not barrier. If I inspire awe, it is because I am in awe of you and the possibilities that dwell in you.”

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Regular Meeting – July 23, 2020: CONTINUED.

It was moved by Commissioner Salinas and seconded by Commissioner Franzen to continue approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on July 23, 2020, to the next meeting. The motion passed with the following votes: 4 Ayes (Cao, Franzen, Lassiter, Salinas) Noes: 0. Absent: Eidmann.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON MATTERS WITHIN THE BOARD’S JURISDICTION:

The Board heard 10 Public Comments on non-agenda items.

5. CITY LIBRARIAN'S COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

City Librarian John F. Szabo reported the following:

- LAPL commemorated the Centennial of women's suffrage with a bronze plaque honoring first female City Librarian Mary Foy in the rotunda at Central Library.
- LAPL celebrated the 100th anniversary of Ray Bradbury's birth and participated in the national Read-A-Thon of "Fahrenheit 451" that was streamed on August 22.
- LAPL shared Kobe's Reading List again via social media to commemorate Kobe Bryant's Day [August 24]. The list highlights books Kobe had read and books he was involved in writing or publishing.
- Mayor Garcetti recently tweeted a thank you to all of our librarians who have created so many engaging online programs and activities for children and their families during the pandemic.
- Tutor.com usage of live sessions through LAPL went up 16% in March, 51% in April, 39% in May and an astounding 80% in June. This service is supported by the Library Foundation of Los Angeles.
- Vote By Mail Drop Boxes will be located outside at Central Library and 67 branch libraries to support the November elections.
- North Hollywood Regional Branch Librarian Basya Samuels participated in a virtual panel discussion about K-12 educational resources available to support kids and their families during distance learning on a Facebook Live webinar.
- Changing Tones - LAPL's Cultivating Racial Equity and Inclusion Initiative Team, led by Principal Librarian Jené Brown, held a virtual discussion titled, "Unraveling the Purpose." More than 300 staff members participated.
- Get the Balance Right is the focus of a suite of teen programs and resources focused on teen health, wealth, and wellness, with the greatest emphasis being on health and wellness. Topics addressed include LGBTQIA resources, stress relief, mental health, and more.
- The new Student Success web page went live this week. It is a go-to for homework resources for parents and educators, and teachers can schedule virtual school visits.
- Adult Literacy students participated in a Summer Reading Poetry Class that culminated with an afternoon of poetry reading. Poet Luis Antonio Pichardo shared a poem that he wrote especially for the event. Staff is working on starting a permanent creative writing class. The poems will be published in the fall Read Newsletter.

6. CITY LIBRARIAN'S REPORTS:**Consent Items**

- a. **Acceptance of gift from
the Friends of Little Tokyo
Branch Library: APPROVED**

It was moved by Commissioner Salinas and seconded by Commissioner Franzen to approve the following resolution. The motion passed with 4 Ayes (Cao, Franzen, Lassiter & Salinas). 0 Noes. Absent: Eidmann

LIBRARY RESOLUTION NO. 2020-29

RESOLVED, That a gift of audiovisual equipment including installation valued at \$6,895.47 received from the Friends of Little Tokyo Branch Library, for the benefit of the Little Tokyo Branch Library be accepted; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, That a letter of thanks be sent to the Friends of Little Tokyo Branch Library, expressing the grateful appreciation of the Board and staff for the generous gift.

Discussion Items

- b. **Approval of Supplemental Agreement No. 1
to Contract No. 795 with Sam Mellon and
Claudia Bohn-Spector DBA Micronaut to
For exhibit coordinator services: APPROVED**

City Librarian John F. Szabo recommended approval.

Public Comments

There were no requests for public comment for this item.

It was moved by Commissioner Salinas and seconded by Commissioner Lassiter to approve the following resolution. The motion passed with 4 Ayes (Cao, Franzen, Lassiter & Salinas). 0 Noes. Absent: Eidmann

LIBRARY RESOLUTION NO. 2020-30

WHEREAS, on June 21, 2017, Library (LAPL) and Sam Mellon and Claudia Bohn-Spector, a Partnership dba MICRONAUT (MICRONAUT) entered into Contract No. 795 for three years to provide Exhibition Coordinator Services (Services) for the Los Angeles Public Library (LAPL) (Library Resolution No. 2017-11 [C-11]); and

WHEREAS, LAPL seeks to extend the three (3) year term of agreement with MICRONAUT for one (1) additional year from the date of execution of Supplemental Agreement No. 1 for an amount of \$100,000, for a total amount not to exceed \$400,000; and

Library Resolution
No. 2020-30 (Cont.)

WHEREAS, the Supplemental Agreement No. 1 will allow MICRONAUT and LAPL sufficient time to continue the provision of Services and allow LAPL time to create a Request for Proposal and a new contract execution; and

WHEREAS, MICRONAUT has agreed to the requested contract term extension and desires to continue to provide professional exhibition coordinator services at the Central Library and branch library facilities on an as needed basis to meet the exhibition needs of LAPL in accordance with the same terms and conditions of Contract No. 795, except as revised by this Supplemental Agreement No. 1; and

WHEREAS, on August 27, 2020, Board approved the execution of Supplemental Agreement No. 1 to Contract No. 795; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Library Commissioners found, in accordance with Charter Sections 371(e)(10), and 1022; as well as Los Angeles Administrative Code Section 10.15(a)(10), that the work can be performed more economically by an independent contractor than by City employees, and the use of competitive bidding would be impractical due to the temporary nature of the services; and

WHEREAS, the MICRONAUT has demonstrated the necessary skills and expertise to successfully perform the requested services and meet the expectations of LAPL; and

WHEREAS, on August 27, 2020 the Board approved the following Ratification Clause which will be added to Section V. Add SECTION 15 ("RATIFICATION CLAUSE") to Supplemental No. 1 to Contract No. 795 to include the following:

"Due to the need for Contractor's services to be provided on an ongoing basis, Contractor may have provided services prior to the execution of this Agreement. To the extent that Contractor's services were performed in accordance with the terms and conditions of this Agreement, those services are hereby ratified."

WHEREAS, LAPL has sufficient funds available within the Funds are available in the Contractual Services, Account 3040 to compensate the MICRONAUT for materials and services provided under this Supplemental Agreement No. 1 to Contract No. 795; and

THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that the Board of Library Commissioners award Supplemental Agreement No. 1 to Contract No. 795 for a period of one year from the date of execution by the Board to Sam Mellon and Claudia Bohn-Spector, a Partnership dba MICRONAUT (MICRONAUT), to continue providing professional exhibit coordinator services to plan, organize/coordinate, and manage exhibitions in accordance with the same terms and conditions of Contract 795, except as revised by this Supplemental Agreement No. 1, at the Central Library and other Library facilities; and

Library Resolution
No. 2020-30 (Cont.)

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Librarian and City Attorney be authorized to make technical changes if needed to the RFP; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board President is authorized to execute the contract.

7. PRESENTATION: SUMMER READING 2020

Terri Markson, Senior Librarian, Exploration and Creativity Department, provided an overview of Summer at the Library. This summer's theme was "Get in the Game." Participants were asked to read every day, and gave them suggestions and activities to complete, such as attending virtual library programs, downloading e-media from the library's website, engaging in online learning, contributing to the Safer at Home Archive, encouraged community engagement such as completing the Census. As of this morning, over 51,000 registered participants have logged in more than 46,000 days of reading and 13,000 activities.

Ms. Markson stated that all Summer at the Library programs and performances were transitioned to virtual platforms. They created a schedule for each group (Early Learners, Children, Teens, Adults (LA Made), and Your Author Series. The branch libraries also created and hosted their own virtual programs like Storytime, Neighborhood Science and Full STEAM Ahead, Book Clubs, Careers and Job Skills, Adult Literacy, Crafts, Yoga and Meditation.

Ms. Markson stated that the Summer Reading Challenge Committee promoted the programs in the LAPL online newsletter, social media, television (KTLA and Univision) and through cross promotion with partners – CalArts and Los Angeles Zoo. The Library obtained permission from the state to use grant funds for pop up library programs at community sites to distribute activity bags, folders with game boards, learning activities, and books for grades K-12 at eight LAUSD Grab and Go Centers and to meal distribution centers. Over, 4,280 bags were distributed.

Ms. Markson concluded her presentation stating that the challenge ends August 31 and showed a picture of Elly Martinez, who completed both, the Summer Reading Challenge and the puzzle.

8. VARIOUS COMMUNICATIONS:

Received and Filed Communication from the Mayor to City Council, dated August 27, 2020, relative to the reappointment of Mai Lassiter to the Board of Library Commissioners for the term ending June 30, 2025." **Council File Number: 13-1275**

9. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS

& REVIEW OF MATTERS
PENDING

a. **Election of Officers for Fiscal Year 2020-21: CONTINUED**

It was moved by Commissioner Lassiter and seconded by Commissioner Salinas to continue the Election of Officers to the next meeting when a full quorum is present. The motion passed with 4 Ayes (Cao, Franzen, Lassiter & Salinas). 0 Noes. Absent: Eidmann.

b. **Next Meeting**: The next Regular Meeting of the Board is scheduled for Thursday, September 10, 2020, at 11:00 a.m. via Teleconference.

10. **ADJOURNMENT**: The Meeting was adjourned at 11:58 a.m.

ATTEST:

Bích Ngọc Cao
President

Raquel M. Borden
Board Executive Assistant

Approved: 10/08/2020