

MINUTES

BOARD OF LIBRARY COMMISSIONERS CITY OF LOS ANGELES

September 10, 2020

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Library Commissioners was held via teleconference at 11:03 a.m. on the above-written date.

1. ROLL CALL:

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

Absent:	Commissioner	Josefa Salinas
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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: Commissioner Franzen opened the meeting with the poem *Invictus* by William Henly.

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

It was moved by Vice President Eidmann and seconded by Commissioner Franzen to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on July 23, 2020. The motion passed with 4 Ayes (Cao, Eidmann, Franzen & Lassiter). 0 Noes. Absent: Salinas.

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

The Board heard six (6) Public Comments on non-agenda matters.

5. CITY LIBRARIAN'S COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

City Librarian John F. Szabo reported the following:

- Update on the artists that participated in the 21 Collections Exhibit, including Karen Collins, creator of the African American Museum of Miniatures. She has since received acclaim, including a commission from Google for a Google Doodle about the Greensboro Sit-in.
- The Street Fleet has given away books and school supplies to children at motel sites during the pandemic.

- The Teen Film Festival and the Awards presentation was held virtually this year; 40 film submissions were received from teens throughout Los Angeles. The top three films for each category are posted online.
- A Virtual Town Hall was held to train staff on accessibility accountability standards, and how to create effective and accessible online programming; over 300 staff members participated.
- LAPL has created a chart illustrating how our programming and initiatives are aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. It is being used by the American Library Association and libraries globally as an excellent example.
- Disaster Service Workers from LAPL have filled over 10,000 shifts and over 500 staff members have participated.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS**AND REVIEW OF MATTERS PENDING (Item 10 Taken out of Order):**

- **Ad Hoc committee**

The Board held discussion on establishing an ad hoc committee on security and how the committee would report information to the Board for discussion and/or action.

The Board President reported that she had appointed herself and the Vice President to the ad hoc committee.

The Board members discussed the need for all the Board members to be informed regularly and that information be provided before the Board votes on matters dealing with reimagining safety and security for the Library.

The Vice President proposed the ad hoc committee meet before the next board meeting and to discuss whether the report would be part of the agenda for each Board meeting and to respond to questions the members may have.

6. CITY LIBRARIAN'S REPORTS:**Consent Items****a. Acceptance of Mitigation Fees
for the 668 Alameda Project**

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

LIBRARY RESOLUTION NO. 2020-31 (C-17)

WHEREAS, on September 10, 2020, the Board of Library Commissioners found that developer, Avalon Bay Communities applied for and received conditional approval from the Department of City Planning (DCP) to construct the 668 Alameda Project (the "Project") consisting of 475 live/work units to be located at 668 Alameda Street, 1516-157 Industrial Street, and 675 Mill Street, Los Angeles, CA 90021; and Library Resolution No. 2020-31 (C-17) Cont.

WHEREAS, the DCP imposed a condition of approval requiring the developer pay a Library Development Impact Mitigation fee of \$200 per capita based upon the 1520 projected number of residents in the 475 live/work units, which fee totals \$304,000; and

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Library Commissioners approved the acceptance of \$304,000 for payment of a Library Development Impact Mitigation Fee, from developer Avalon Bay Communities, Inc. 2050 Main Street, Suite 1200, Irvine, CA 92614; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Library Commissioners authorized the City Librarian, or designee, to deposit \$304,000 into the Library Trust Fund 831, Account 360, to purchase books, other library materials, technology, programs and/or facilities improvements for the Central and the Little Tokyo Libraries; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Librarian, or designee send a letter to Vince Bertoni Director of DCP, with a copy to Avalon Bay Communities, Inc. 2050 Main Street, Suite 1200, Irvine, CA 92614 notifying DCP that the Library Development Mitigation fee has been paid for this Project.

Discussion Items

b. Approval of appropriation of the Unreserved and Undesignated Fund Balance (UUFB) to the Fiscal Year 2020-21 Library Operating Budget and the Library Budget Reserve Fund: APPROVED

City Librarian John F. Szabo recommended approval to transfer \$2,570,000 in unspent funds from the previous fiscal year. The funds would be transferred from the Library's Unreserved and Undesignated Fund Balance (UUFB) to various accounts within the Library's Fiscal Year 2020-21 Budget. He stated that included in the request is the transfer of \$1,500,000 into the Library Budget Reserve Fund, that would bring the total to \$8.3 million for this fund. He noted that this is a relatively small amount compared to the overall Library budget. He also provided information on the transfer of \$1,070,000 into various accounts.

Public Comments

There were no requests for public comment for this item

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

LIBRARY RESOLUTION NO. 2020-32 (C-18)

WHEREAS, Funds are available in the Library's Unreserved and Undesignated Fund Balance (UUFB) at the end of Fiscal Year 2019-2020. The funds are a result of projects that were delayed, services which could not be completed and salary savings from vacant positions; and

WHEREAS, Library staff requested an appropriation in the amount of \$1,070,000 from the UUFB to various accounts within the Library's Fiscal Year 2020-21 Budget; and

WHEREAS, Library staff requested an appropriation in the amount of \$1,500,000 from the UUFB to the Library Budget Reserve Fund:

THEREFORE, RESOLVED, That the Board of Library Commissioners hereby approves an appropriation of \$1,070,000 from the Unreserved and Undesignated Fund Balance, Fund 300, Department 44, Account 2539, to the accounts listed below in Fund 300, Department 44:

	<u>Account</u>	<u>Amount</u>
From:	Fund 300; UUFB, Account 2539	\$ 1,070,000
To:	1090 – Salaries Overtime	\$ 50,000
	6010 – Office and Administrative	520,000
	9010 – Library Materials	500,000
	TOTAL:	<u>\$ 1,070,000</u>

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Library Commissioners hereby approves an appropriation of \$1,500,000 from the Unreserved and Undesignated Fund Balance, Fund 300, Department 44, Account 2539, to the Library Budget Reserve Fund, Department 44, Fund 58N:

	<u>Account</u>	<u>Amount</u>
From:	Fund 300; UUFB, Account 2539	\$1,500,000
To:	Fund 58N; LBRF	\$1,500,000

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board hereby authorizes the City Librarian and City Attorney to make technical corrections as deemed necessary.

7. PRESENTATION: L.A. LIBROS FEST

Madeline Peña, Senior Librarian from Emerging Technologies' Digital Content Team and Ana Campos, Acting Principal Librarian from the International Languages Department, provided an overview of the 2nd Annual Los Angeles Libros Festival that will be streamed live on Facebook and YouTube on Saturday, September 26 from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the Central Library.

Ms. Peña reported that this event is a free Bilingual book festival for the entire family offering a full day of entertainment for all ages featuring Spanish and bilingual storytimes, performances, and workshops with award winning authors and performers. The event is being presented in partnership with REFORMA, a national association to promote library information services to Latinos and Spanish Speaking individuals; and with La Librería, the first and only Spanish bookstore in Los Angeles. The art for the festival has been created and donated by award winning artist Leo Espinoza.

Ms. Peña reported that the first Los Libros Festival was held last year at the request of City Librarian John F. Szabo. It resulted in 5,000 people attending the festival that hosted over 20 authors and illustrators from the U.S. and Latin America. Mayor Garcetti attended with his family. It was very successful with the community coming together in celebration of Latinx Heritage.

Ms. Campos provided an overview of the programs and performers for the event that would include Grammy winning duo 123 Andrés, DJ Que Madre, panels with award-winning authors and illustrators such as Meg Medina, Juana Martinez-Neal; Josselyn Ramirez, Armando Lucas Correa, and Julissa Arce among them. It will also present pre-recorded videos of Don Miguel Ruiz, Carlos Cuauhtémoc Sánchez, and others. The event will begin with a pre-festival event with Antonio Sacre and Nathalia, who is also the MC for the festival and it will end with *Noche de Cuentos* (Night of stories).

Ms. Peña stated that a pre-event online challenge will give the public the opportunity to engage and win prizes that would include books from the authors. She pointed out that the team has been mindful of inclusivity beyond language by featuring diverse voices from the Latinx community, including Afro-Latino authors, LGBTQ artists and authors from many different Latin countries from South and Central America and the Caribbean representing the Dominican Republic, Cuba, Puerto Rico, Chile, Columbia, Venezuela, Guatemala, El Salvador, and Mexico. They have also partnered with the Department on Disability to provide closed captioning.

Ms. Peña pointed out that the planning team includes Ana Campos and Edwin Rodarte, who are the chairs of this year's Committee, as well as staff from the Translation Team, Central Library Services, Children Services, TeenScape, Engagement and Learning, Public Relations and Marketing, staff from the entire library system, and partners like La Librería and REFORMA. She thanked everyone involved including the Library hubs for distributing the event information and the Public Relations Office for promoting the event on social media en Español on Twitter, Instagram, and Facebook.

Commissioner Lassiter thanked the staff for creating an event that is very intentional and inclusive and asked if they could build on it with something throughout the year like a podcast to keep the community engaged.

Ms. Peña replied that the Library has been adding more Bilingual programs in Spanish Language highlighting Latino authors throughout the year and they are currently hosting live sessions on Facebook and YouTube titled "Preguntale a tu bibliotecaria" (Ask Your Librarian).

Commissioner Franzen thanked the City Librarian for the incredible and extraordinary work staff is doing during these difficult times. The enthusiasm and optimism of Ms. Pena and Ms. Campos to provide kids with an event that is so much needed right now, makes her proud of their work.

8. VARIOUS COMMUNICATIONS:

Received and Filed Communication from the Mayor to City Council, dated September 10, 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. ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020-21: CONTINUED.

Board President Cao asked for a motion to continue the Election of Officers to the next meeting when a full quorum is present.

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

**10. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS
AND REVIEW OF MATTERS PENDING**

Next Meeting: The next Regular Meeting of the Board is scheduled for Thursday, September 24, 2020, at 11:00 a.m. via teleconference.

11. ADJOURNMENT: The Meeting was adjourned at 12:17 p.m.

ATTEST:

Bích Ngọc Cao
President

Raquel M. Borden
Board Executive Assistant

Approved: 10/22/2020