

MINUTES

BOARD OF LIBRARY COMMISSIONERS CITY OF LOS ANGELES

May 23, 2024

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Library Commissioners was held at the Central Library starting at 11:05 a.m. on the above-written date.

1. Roll Call:

Present:	President Commissioner Commissioner	Valerie Lynne Shaw Hiram Sims Mayra Valadez
Absent:	Vice President Commissioner	Linda Blank Kelly Besser

Also present: City Librarian John F. Szabo, Assistant City Librarian Susan Broman; Deputy City Attorney Josh M. Template; Administrative staff and members of the public.

2. Opening Remarks: Board President Shaw welcomed everyone to the meeting.

3. Approval of the Minutes: None.

4. Public Comments on Matters

Within the Board's Jurisdiction: The Board heard one general comment.

5. City Librarian's Comments

and Announcements: City Librarian John F. Szabo reported on past and upcoming events.

6. City Librarian's Reports:

Consent Items: None

Discussion Items

**a. Approval of Restated and Amended Contract
Number C-138262 with USBT Property Owner LP
for the Maintenance of the Central Library
Landscape and Hardscape Areas**

City Librarian John F. Szabo recommended approval of the Restated and Amended Contract (Number C-138262) with USBT Property Owner LP, for the maintenance of the landscape and hardscape areas around the perimeter of Central Library as well as Maguire Gardens for a three-year term. Mr. Szabo provided a brief history of the agreement that began when the Library entered into an agreement with the owner of what is now the US Bank Building. The owner purchased the air rights and

adjacent property from the Central Library in the 1980's and is the current owner of the Westlawn Garage and Maguire Gardens.

Mr. Szabo pointed out that the set annual amount also allows for a 1.5% increase each subsequent year within the 3-year agreement, as it has been in previous agreements.

Discussion

Commissioner Valadez asked if the Library pays the vendor directly and whether the funds come from city funds requiring approval from the City Controller. Mr. Szabo replied that the Library uses its own funds to make payments to USBT, who contracts for the services.

It was moved by Commissioner Valadez and seconded by Commissioner Sims to approve the following resolution with the amended subject line on the agenda. The motion passed unanimously with 3 Ayes (Shaw/Sims/Valadez); Noes: 0. Absent: 2 (Besser/Blank).

LIBRARY RESOLUTION NO. 2024-15 (C-13)

WHEREAS, on July 9, 1985, as part of the Central Library Project, the Community Redevelopment Agency entered into an Owner Participation Agreement (OPA) with Maguire/Thomas Partners (MTP). The OPA contained language regarding maintenance of the landscape areas and stipulated that the City of Los Angeles and MTP would develop a mutually acceptable arrangement for the maintenance of the landscape areas of the Central Library; and

WHEREAS, on September 10, 1985, the Library and MTP entered into a Library Garage Parking Agreement (GPA), which contained similar language as the OPA regarding maintenance of the landscape areas of the Central Library. On May 29, 1987, the GPA was transferred to Library Square, Ltd. On October 4, 2010, the Library and Library Square, Ltd., entered into a separate contract for the maintenance of the Central Library landscape areas; and

WHEREAS, on June 18, 2013, the contract with Library Square, Ltd., was transferred to Beringia Central, LLC (Beringia). The contract expired On October 3, 2013. The Library and Beringia then entered into Contract No. C-138262, also referred to previously as Library Contract No. 769, to continue the maintenance of the Central Library landscape areas; and

WHEREAS, on April 23, 2021, the First Amendment to Contract No. C-138262 was executed to reflect USBT as the new owner of the US Bank Tower and included the maintenance of the Central Library hardscape areas. The contract was set to expire on August 3, 2023. On October 26, 2023, the Board approved Library staff to exercise the temporary extension of Contract No. C-138262 until January 3, 2024; and

WHEREAS, on May 23, 2024, Library staff requested that the Board approve the Restated and Amended Contract No. C-138262 (Contract) between USBT and the Library for a term of three years to continue the maintenance of the Central Library landscape and hardscape areas; and

Library Resolution
No. 2024-15 (C13) Cont.

WHEREAS, funds are available in the Library's Contractual Services Account 3040 to compensate USBT for services in accordance with the Contract:

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board adopts the recommendations and findings of the City Librarian's Board Report and authorizes the approval and execution of the Contract between the Library and USBT to continue the maintenance of the Central Library landscape and hardscape areas.

7. Staff Presentation: Summer with the Library 2024: L.A. Dreaming

Cathie Chenoweth, Librarian III, School Liaison from the Youth Services Department, Engagement & Learning Division, provided an overview of "Summer with the Library 2024: L.A. Dreaming" program activities and goals. Ms. Chenoweth stated that from June 10 to August 10, all LAPL libraries will offer activities, performances, and programs, including "Your Author" series for children and teens at several libraries, as well as 23 pop-up library events at Recreation and Parks and at LA's Best sites. Those who sign up will receive a book and a tote bag with artwork created by local illustrator Noor Sofi. This year's goals look to increase reading to 4 million minutes (over 66,500 hours), and to increase completion rate by 10%; to engage with 2,000 youth participants through pop-up library partnerships with the LA Department of Recreation and Parks. She concluded by stating that this program is made possible by the generous donations from the Library Foundation of Los Angeles and the Los Angeles Dodgers Foundation.

Discussion

Commissioner Valadez asked if the Library participates in the City's Summer Night Lights program, which engages a lot of young people in evenings and across the city. Ms. Chenoweth replied that the Library does participate in the program with Outreach Librarians. Ms. Chenoweth added that the Los Angeles Unified School District has strengthened their partnership with the Library by creating a digital badge so that students can earn points and show that they participated in Summer with the Library reading challenge.

Board President Shaw thanked Ms. Chenoweth for the presentation and for all her hard work.

8. Commissioners' Comments and Announcements

Board President Shaw commented that she had attended the Asian Heritage event at the Central Library and that she had a meeting with staff from the Friends of the Library unit to find resources to support all of those entities in the city.

Board President Shaw informed Board members that if they had any ideas or matters that they want to bring forward for board briefings to send the request to the City Librarian or Assistant City Librarian.

Next Board Meeting Notice: The next Regular Meeting of the Board is scheduled for Thursday, **June 13, 2024**, at **11:00 a.m.**, will be held at the Central Library.

9. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 11:39 a.m.

ATTEST:

Valerie Lynne Shaw
President

Raquel M. Borden
Board Executive Assistant

Approved: 7/25/2024