MINUTES
BOARD OF LIBRARY COMMISSIONERS
CITY OF LOS ANGELES
October 24, 2019

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Library Commissioners convened at 11:03 a.m. on the above-written date, held at the Central Library, 630 West 5th Street, Los Angeles, CA 90071.

1. ROLL CALL

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

Absent:  Commissioner      Mai Lassiter
          Commissioner      Josefa Salinas

ALSO PRESENT:  Susan Broman, Asst. City Librarian; Basia Jankowski, Deputy City Attorney; and staff.

2. OPENING REMARKS: Literary Appreciation - Frederick Douglass

Commissioner Franzen honored Frederick Douglass by reading a brief biography and quotes, including, “People might not get all they work for in this world, but they must certainly work for all they get.”


4. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON MATTERS WITHIN THE BOARD’S JURISDICTION:  None.

5. CITY LIBRARIAN’S COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Assistant City Librarian Susan Broman reported the following on behalf of City Librarian John F. Szabo:

“LA Libros Festival”: The Los Angeles Public Library (LAPL) held its first bilingual book festival on Saturday, September 28 at the Central Library. More than 5,000 people attended, including Mayor Eric Garcetti and his family. It featured storytimes, musical performances and crafts for kids. The LAPL presented “LA Libros” in partnership with the LA Librería, an L.A. bookstore that specializes in Spanish Language children’s books and REFORMA, a national organization that promotes library services to Latinos and Spanish-speakers.
New Americans Center opens at the Echo Park Branch Library: Mayor Garcetti joined the City Librarian John F. Szabo for the opening of a New Americans Center at the Echo Park Branch Library. This is the seventh location in the Los Angeles Public Library (LAPL) system. The other centers are located at the Central Library, Benjamin Franklin, Junipero Serra, Pacoima, Pico Pico-Koreatown, and Wilmington Libraries.

Career Online High School (COHS) Graduation: On October 18, 2019, the Los Angeles Public Library held a graduation ceremony for 42 students. This is the sixth graduation ceremony. In total, 326 students have graduated from the COHS program and 374 are currently enrolled as active students.

Music Production series at the Hyde Park Branch: This eight-week music production course is taught by Michael Pilar, aka Young Myk, who is a music producer and works as a Messenger Clerk at the branch.

5. CITY LIBRARIAN’S REPORTS:

Consent Items

Assistant City Librarian Susan Broman reviewed the Consent Calendar and recommended its approval.

It was MOVED by Vice President Eidmann, seconded by Commissioner Franzen, and unanimously carried 3/3 to adopt the following resolutions:

A. Approved Acceptance of Gifts

LIBRARY RESOLUTION NO. 2019-40 (C-32)

RESOLVED, That a gift of $2,000 received from the Friends of Westwood Library, A Branch of the Los Angeles Public Library, for benefit of the Westwood Branch Library be accepted; and deposited in Trust Fund 831, Account 340; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, That a letter of thanks be sent to the Friends of Westwood Library, A Branch of the Los Angeles Public Library, expressing the grateful appreciation of the Board and staff for the generous gift.

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LIBRARY RESOLUTION NO. 2019-41

RESOLVED, That a gift of ten (10) Lenovo 100E Chromebooks valued at $1,944.07 received from the Friends of Silver Lake Library, to be utilized by the Silver Lake Branch Library be accepted; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, That a letter of thanks be sent to the Friends of Silver Lake Library expressing the grateful appreciation of the Board and staff for the generous gift.
B. Approved Acceptance of a Grant  
From the American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS)

LIBRARY RESOLUTION NO. 2019-42 (C-33)

WHEREAS, In October 2018, Marissa K. Lopez, Professor of English and Chicana/o Studies at UCLA, reached out to the Los Angeles Public Library staff with a proposal to partner on a Mellon/ACLS Scholars and Society Fellowship. The fellowship is meant to foster collaboration between faculty and non-academic partner organizations and provides a $75,000 stipend for the partner as well as $10,000 for the organization; and

WHEREAS, Professor Lopez became an awardee of the first cohort of Mellon/ACLS Scholars in the United States; and

WHEREAS, The project aims to build a mobile app that visualizes 19th Century Mexican Los Angeles by using geolocation data to show users historical images and text that relates to their current location; and

WHEREAS, Professor Lopez will spend the 2019/20 Fiscal Year at Central Library doing research on materials in the Library’s Collections and collaborating on programming related to the project; and

WHEREAS, This project aims to not only highlight the riches in the Collections, but also increase the Los Angeles Public Library’s visibility as a research destination with regards to the study of the enduring presence of LatinX in Los Angeles:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Library Commissioners accept the American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS) grant award for the Mellon/ACLS Scholars and Society Fellowship for the sum of $10,000 for the Los Angeles Public Library; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the $10,000 grant award be deposited in the Photo Trust Fund 831, Account 050, where it may be used to purchase necessary materials and equipment to archivally care for and/or digitize materials in the special collections.

Discussion Items

C. Approved Supplemental Agreement No. 1  
To Contract No. 788 with Legacy Media Lab  
for Audiovisual Coordinator Services

Assistant City Librarian Susan Broman recommended approval to extend the contract for audiovisual services. She said they anticipate developing an RFP within the year.
It was MOVED by Commissioner Franzen, seconded by Vice President Eidmann and unanimously carried 3/3 to adopt the following resolution:

LIBRARY RESOLUTION NO. 2019-43 (C-34)

WHEREAS, On September 22, 2016, the Library executed Contract Number 788 (C-128256) for a term of two (2) years with one (1) one-year renewal option, to Legacy Media Lab (Consultant) to provide professional audiovisual coordinator services at the Branch Libraries and Central Library; and

WHEREAS, Library staff recommends the approval of a Supplemental Agreement to extend the term by one-year to allow the Consultant to continue to provide professional audiovisual coordinator services as the Library develops and performs a Request for Proposal (RFP) process; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Library Commissioners found, in accordance with Charter Section 371(e)(2) and Los Angeles Administrative Code Section 10.15(a)(2) that the consultant services to be provided are professional and special services of a temporary and occasional character for which a competitive bidding is not practicable or advantageous; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Library Commissioners found, in accordance with Charter Sections 371(e)(10) and 1022 and 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, Consultant has demonstrated the skills and expertise necessary to continue to provide the requested services and meet the expectations of the Library; and

WHEREAS, funds are available in the Library’s Contractual Services Account 3040 to continue this service:

THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that the Board of Library Commissioners approve the Supplemental Agreement to Contract Number 788 (C-128256) with Legacy Media Lab to continue to provide professional audiovisual coordinator services at the Branch Libraries and Central Library; and

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

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board President is authorized to execute the Supplemental Agreement.
7. **PRESENTATION: Digital Storytelling on the Central Library Video Wall**

Neale Stokes, Librarian, Digital Content Team, provided an overview of the Central Library’s video wall programming. He said the 28-foot wide screen is located in the Tom Bradley Atrium where it plays silent high definition video. The video wall, which was constructed in 2017 as part of the S. Mark Taper Digital Commons, serves as a venue for video art, storytelling, and communication. Primarily, it plays prerecorded video of content programmed by the Library’s Digital Content Team (DCT). The DCT staff also work with an advisory group made up from Central Library department staff and Standard Vision, a local company specializing in content for large scale displays.

Mr. Stokes stated that the purpose of the video wall is a space for storytelling about our community, our institution, and our world. The Video Wall content is intended to delight, inform and educate library visitors with compelling visual stories. He presented some examples of the programming that included original content created and developed by DCT such as marketing library programs and services, content that ties in with various heritage months, and images from the Library’s visual collections.

Mr. Stokes noted that they also have curated content that is externally produced from a variety of local and international artists, animators and film makers which represent a broad cross section of current works on moving digital arts. He provided examples of curated programming from artists such as Johnathan McCabe’s *Pages*, which transforms the contents of a book into a cinematic aerial landscape, soaring over pages like sand dunes in the desert; the font of the pages is set in Cheltenham, a typeface designed by Los Angeles Central Library architect Bertram Goodhue.

Mr. Stokes also demonstrated digital animations inspired from the art and architecture of Central Library, especially the decorative ceiling patterns painted by Julian Garnsey turned into digitally animated ceiling patterns. He said the Library has also commissioned pieces in the Historic Portraits Project with filmmaker Mark Scorbano from Standard Vision. For this project community members were selected to represent historical figures; connecting Los Angeles’ past with its present. Staff identified the following six noteworthy people from Los Angeles’ past for this project: Biddy Mason, Dolores del Río, Toyo Miyatake, Pio Pico, Jefferson Edmonds, and Tessa Kelso.

Mr. Stokes also spoke about future plans for the video wall, such as becoming a prominent venue for digital art and storytelling and having artists seek to present their work here. He said the DCT would like to also build programming around the wall by developing workshops, demonstrations of the techniques used to create this digital art and connect the video wall with the work in the Octavia Lab.

**Discussion**

Commissioner Franzen asked about the commissioning process. Mr. Stokes replied that the process is in development. He said the Library is curating with the assistance from Standard Vision, who streamlines the process, but DCT also accepts direct submissions from artists. He stated that DCT is looking at other ways of doing additional outreach.
Vice President Eidmann asked if the projects are grant funded. Asst. City Librarian Susan Broman stated that the cost of the video wall came under budget and those funds are being used for projects relating to the video wall.

8. **VARIOUS COMMUNICATIONS**: None.

9. **COMMISSIONERS’ COMMENTS & REVIEW OF MATTERS PENDING**:

   **Announced Next Board Meeting**

   The next regular meeting of the Board is scheduled for Thursday, November 14, 2019, at the Silver Lake Branch Library at 11:00 a.m.

10. **ADJOURNMENT**

    There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:35 a.m.

   

   ATTEST:

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   Bích Ngọc Cao               Raquel M. Borden
   President                   Board Executive Assistant

   Approved: January 23, 2020