M I N U T E S

BOARD OF LIBRARY COMMISSIONERS
CITY OF LOS ANGELES

June 10, 2021

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**
	Commissioner	**Arianne Edmonds**
	Commissioner	**Josefa Salinas**
Absent:	Vice-President	**Kathryn Eidmann**
	Commissioner	**Dale Franzen**

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

2. **Opening Remarks:** None.

3. Approval of the Minutes:

a. Minutes of the Regular Meeting - April 8, 2021: CONTINUED

It was moved by Commissioner Salinas and seconded by Commissioner Edmonds to continue approval of the April 8, 2021 Minutes to the next meeting when a quorum of those present on that meeting is met. The motion passed with 3 Ayes (Cao, Edmonds & Salinas). Noes: 0. Absent: 2 (Eidmann & Franzen).

b. Minutes of the Regular Meeting - April 22, 2021: APPROVED

It was moved by Commissioner Salinas and seconded by Commissioner Edmonds to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on April 22 , 2021. The motion passed with 3 Ayes (Cao, Edmonds & Salinas). Noes: 0. Absent: 2 (Eidmann & Franzen).

4. Public Comments on Matters
Within the Board's Jurisdiction: No requests were received for public comment.

5. City Librarian's Comments
and Announcements: City Librarian John F. Szabo reported the following:

- **Status of Reopening of Libraries:** As of June 1, a total of 50 libraries are providing service to the public; 8 of them are offering Library to Go services and the remainder with interior public access. The remainder of the libraries will be reopened later this month. Mr. Szabo reported that a patron posted the following message on the Silver Lake Branch Facebook page, "Thank you for being a lifeline during the pandemic. My five year old doesn't want to play with toys anymore because she gets so absorbed in the books we get from your branch every week. You have helped inspire the next generation of voracious readers."

- **June Pride Month:** The Library is celebrating Pride Month in June with online programs and youth activities, book display and blog posts on LGBT history in LA. The Library will participate in the San Fernando Valley Pride Car Parade with the LAPL's Street Fleet vehicles.

- **Summer Reading Challenge:** The Library's Summer Reading Challenge began this week. The artwork was done by local artist Jose Ramirez. This year's Summer Reading Challenge invites readers of all ages to read; reconnect with the library; renew their love of reading, learning and community; and reimagine all that is possible this summer. This year, the Library is partnering with the Department of Recreation and Parks to provide Summer Reading Challenge materials and books in English and Spanish to children attending day camps.

- **Library Journal's Movers and Shakers:** The Library Journal selected LAPL Librarian Ramin Naderi as one of their Movers and Shakers for 2021. Ramin Naderi, Acting Senior at Venice Branch, was named a "Community Builder" for his work on reaching out to the Farsi-speaking community, a population of approximately 700,000 people. Naderi's work includes running a Persian Reading Club and a Farsi radio program.

- **New LAPL Vehicle:** A new 2021 Toyota Sienna was donated to the Library by the Southern California Toyota Dealers Association with the assistance of the Library Foundation of Los Angeles The new vehicle replaces a 1994 Toyota Previa and it has been wrapped like its predecessor to be used to support library youth programming and outreach events as well as a branding and marketing tool.

- **Teens Leading Change Program**: Teens are working on five civic-engagement projects at seven branches (Will & Ariel Durant, Mar Vista, Memorial, Palisades, Palms-Rancho, Pio Pico-Koreatown and Robertson) tackling issues such as education equity, food insecurity and mental health.

- **Juneteenth Celebration:** Library staff have done a great job in helping celebrate and draw attention to Juneteenth, a history that not enough people know about. Juneteenth, also known as Freedom Day, commemorates the end of slavery in the United States two years after the Emancipation Proclamation. Teen'Scape will host a great online program called *Black Being with DJ Pastel Shade*; there will be a

zine-making workshop by the Octavia Lab and Sabine Maxine, as well as book displays and blog posts.

- **LAPL Receives Collection from LA Yiddish Culture Club:** More than 4,000 volumes as well as ephemera and video related to the club, which was established in 1926, was donated to the Library. The members of the Yiddish Cultural Club included virtually every Yiddish writer, artist, and performer in Southern California and the Club hosted dozens of other internationally renowned scholars. The books in the collection have been digitized and are available online. The Library is honored to acquire this very important part of Los Angeles history.

- **"Life on a String**: **The Yale Puppeteers & The Turnabout Theatre" Exhibit**, which originally opened as an online exhibit, is now open in the Central Library's Getty Gallery through March 2022. The exhibit provides a historic perspective on the LGBTQ community of the mid-20th century. The Library Store has merchandise and a novel by one of the puppeteers written in the 1930's. The novel has been reprinted by the Photo Friends with a foreword by the City Librarian.

- **Linda Lindas,** the all-girl punk band, made their late night television debut on *Jimmy Kimmel Live!* last week. Kimmel mentioned the Library in their introduction and they performed their song, "Racist, Sexist Boy."

6. City Librarian's Reports:

Discussion Item(s)

a. Approve Recommendation to adopt the Library Department's Budget for Fiscal Year 2021-22

City Librarian John F. Szabo recommended adoption of the Library Department Budget for Fiscal Year 2021-22 in the amount of $218,190,022 as approved by the Mayor and City Council. He stated that this budget is very successful for the Library with all the work developing the formation of the Library Experience Office contributing to the presentation of the budget to the City Administrative Office, Mayor's Budget Team, the Budget and Finance Council Committee, and the full City Council

Mr. Szabo reported that the Library materials budget is a little over $19 million up from $6.8 million a few years ago. Per capita spending for materials is at $4.75, but to meet demands for e-content and expanding all areas of the collection it should be $8 - $12 per capita. The total for related costs is $86.4 million, 39.6% of the total budget.

Discussion

Commissioner Salinas had questions on how much of the budget would go to funding the new positions such as social workers and whether those positions would be filled during this budget period.

Mr. Szabo stated that the positions that are in the Personnel Resolution to be approved and the Personnel Department is working on getting those positions filled.

Commissioner Salinas asked where those positions would be assigned or how would they be deployed. Mr. Szabo replied that the positions of Lead Social Worker will be hired first who will determine how to deploy the social workers.

Board President Cao thanked staff for their diligence and hard work in establishing the new office. She asked in terms of related costs, how did the pandemic affect the use of those services.

Mr. Szabo replied that in some instances more funds were spent in some areas, such as increased custodial and porter services for libraries.

Ms. Broman stated that during the process of reopening libraries more custodial services have been added to meet the health guidelines such as hourly cleaning for open buildings. In other instances, due to the hiring freeze, there were cost savings from unfilled positions.

It was moved by Commissioner Salinas and seconded by Commissioner Edmonds to approve the following resolution. The motion passed with 3 Ayes (Cao, Edmonds & Salinas). Noes: 0. Absent: 2 (Eidmann and Franzen).

LIBRARY RESOLUTION NO. 2021- 17 (C-16)

WHEREAS, On November 12, 2020, the Board of Library Commissioners (Board) approved the Library Department Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2021-22 in the amount of $218,190,022 to fund Library services and programs (Library Resolution Number 2020-37 [C-21]); and

WHEREAS, Staff recommends the adoption of the Library Department Budget for Fiscal Year 2021-22 as approved by the Mayor and City Council in the amount of $218,190,021; and

WHEREAS, Staff recommends the appropriation of non-designated funds in the amount of $49,029 included in the Fiscal Year 2021-22 Adopted Budget to Contractual Services Account 3040 for the Library Experience Office social service contracts; and

WHEREAS, Staff recommends the appropriation of non-designated funds in the amount of $75,001 included in the Fiscal Year 2021-22 Adopted Budget from the Various Special Account 9510 to Contractual Services Account 3040 for Branch Libraries alterations and improvements:

THEREFORE, RESOLVED, That the Board of Library Commissioners hereby adopts and certifies the Adopted Library Department Budget for Fiscal Year 2021-22 in the amount of $218,190,021, as approved by the Mayor and City Council; and

Library Resolution
No. 2021-17 (C-16) Cont.

THEREFORE, FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Library Commissioners hereby approves the appropriation of $49,029 of non-designed funds included in the Fiscal Year 2021-22 Adopted Budget to the Contractual Services Account Library Experience Office social service contracts, Fund 300, Department 44, Account 3040; and

THEREFORE, FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Library Commissioners hereby approves the appropriation of $75,001 of non-designed funds included in the Fiscal Year 2021-22 Adopted Budget from the Various Special Account 9510 to the Contractual Services Account Branch Libraries alterations and improvements, Fund 300, Department 44, Account 3040.

b. Recommendation to adopt the Library Department's Personnel Resolution for Fiscal Year 2021-22

City Librarian John F. Szabo recommended the Board adopt the Library Department's Personnel Resolution for the Fiscal Year 2021-2022. He stated that the Personnel Resolution is connected to the budget, as it funds the number of positions per classification within the Library Department.

It was moved by Commissioner Salinas and seconded by Commissioner Edmonds to adopt the following resolution. The motion passed with 3 Ayes (Cao, Edmonds & Salinas). Noes: 0. Absent: 2 (Eidmann & Franzen).

LIBRARY RESOLUTION NO. 2021-18 (C-17)

PERSONNEL RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION FIXING PERSONNEL IN THE LIBRARY DEPARTMENT OF THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2021-2022.

WHEREAS, this Board has considered the various classification of employees and the number of positions in each classification approved by the City Council as part of the Library Department's Budget for the fiscal year 2021-2022; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the City Charter, Section 511(a), it is the desire of the Board to adopt a resolution authorizing personnel for fiscal year 2021-2022 to include both positions approved by the City Council and those authorized by the Board of Library Commissioners.

Library Resolution
No. 2021-18 (C-17) Cont.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. Effective July 1, 2021, the following classes of positions are hereby authorized in the Library Department, and the number of positions, and code numbers and titles as set forth in the attached schedule "A" are hereby fixed for such classes of positions and shall be known as the 2021-2022 Library Personnel Resolution.

2. Memoranda of Understanding approved by the Board of Library Commissioners, and the City Council where appropriate shall be considered to be incorporated into this resolution. The provisions of each of the Memoranda of Understanding shall take precedence over any conflicting provisions contained in this resolution, but only for those employees in classes and/or positions within the employee representation unit to which the various Memoranda of Understanding apply.

3. It is the intent of the Board that all City Council actions relating to salaries and benefits and affecting classes in the Library Department will become effective on the same basis and date as those approved by the City Council for council-controlled employees.

(The entire resolution will be included in the official Minutes Book records.)

7. Commissioners' Comments and Announcements

a. Reappointment of Ms. Kathryn Eidmann
Board President Cao reported that Mayor Eric Garcetti had sent a letter to the City Council regarding the reappointment of Ms. Kathryn Eidmann to the Board of Library Commissioners for the term ending June 30, 2026.

b. Board Meeting Schedule July - Dec. 2021
Board President Cao asked the Board Member to review the new meeting schedule and to notify the Board Secretary of their availability.

c. Commissioner Edmonds commented on the Budget, noting that a lot of work had been done in preparing the budget during a very difficult and challenging time. She said it showed a lot of effort and care had gone into it, and that she was proud to vote for it and excited to see how it would unfold.

- **Next Board Meeting Notice**
The next Regular Meeting of the Board is scheduled for Thursday, June 24, 2021, at 11:00 a.m. via Teleconference.

8. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

ATTEST:

Bích Ngọc Cao
President

Raquel M. Borden
Board Executive Assistant