

**CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH
MINUTES OF THE LIBRARY COMMISSION**

September 12, 2016

6:30 p.m.

Manhattan Beach City Council Chambers

CONTENTS

A. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 PM.

B. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

C. ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Casady, Elasowich, Cleamons and Hustvedt

Absent: Commissioner Kunkee

Others Present: Recreation Services Manager, Eve Kelso and recording secretary, Linda Robb

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

July 11, 2016 - Commissioner Cleamons moved to approve the July 11, 2016 minutes as written. Commissioner Hustvedt seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Ayes: Commissioners Casady, Elasowich, Cleamons and Hustvedt

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Commissioner Kunkee

E. CEREMONIAL

None

F. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (3-Minute Limit)

Commissioner Casady opened the floor to audience participation.

Melissa McCollum, Library Manager –Ms. McCollum presented the following regarding library programs:

September 17th – County Librarian, Skye Patrick has scheduled 5 community meetings to solicit input about services desired at Library. The nearest meeting will be at the Lennox library. Ms. McCollum stated that she believes that it is very important for residents to be able to have this direct input and that Ms. Patrick is very sincere about taking the input and having it affect the strategic direction of the library in the next few years.

Commissioner Elasowich asked if there is a suggestion box to make suggestions if you can't make the meeting. Ms. McCollum stated that there is an online avenue for that.

September 17th, 3:00 – 4:00 p.m. – Jazz Marcus Miller ensemble. Cultural Arts Commissioner, Jackie May has put together a Jazz art exhibit in the meeting room. The event is sponsored by Friends of the Manhattan Beach Library.

Over 800 children participated in the Summer reading program, with over 1000 attending reading program activities. Dozens of teen and adult volunteers donated over 1000 hours of time over the summer.

The Monday night adult dance series presented in collaboration with the Older Adults Program was the surprise hit of the Summer. Due to the popularity of the series, Ms. McCollum will be looking into doing a monthly event or another series in February or March, 2017. Each class was attended by 30 or more participants.

The Poetry writing workshop was attended by about 12 writers. Stephen Raines, City Poet of West Hollywood taught the workshop, which was sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

The summer movie screening with partner Nikau Kai, went very smoothly, and was attended by about 150 people.

The Big Read kickoff party was a big success and was attended by about 50 people. Copies of *The Maltese Falcon* were given away at the event. The event was sponsored by National Endowment for the Arts, Shakespeare at Play, the Friends of the Library and the City of Manhattan Beach. There was a presentation by Dashiell Hammit's granddaughter about the book, a detective mystery game and swing music outside. There will be a book discussion of *The Maltese Falcon* and screening of the movie in February, 2017.

Baby story time designed for babies 0-18 months kicked off last week. Baby story time will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Wednesdays.

Library will start programming on Wednesdays for Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math (STEAM). Participants should bring their own charged laptop to sign on to the wi-fi.

September is Library Card sign up month. Ms. McCollum encouraged the commissioners to reach out to their contact lists about getting library cards.

Commissioner Cleamons asked about volunteering and who to contact regarding the program. Ms. McCollum replied that the new volunteer coordinator will be Ann Quach so new volunteers will need to contact her for an application.

Commissioner Cleamons asked what is considered a successful attendance number. Ms. McCollum replied that for a Wednesday night event for a book that is not new, 50 was a great number, but she doesn't necessarily measure success by attendance. She said that as long as people are learning, engaged, meeting other community members and maybe trying something new, it is a success.

Commissioner Cleamons asked the vision for the future of the baby story times. Ms. McCollum stated that they are limited by the size of the staff but there is always hope.

Commissioner Elasowich stated that perhaps volunteers could be considered to help when thinking of expanding programs.

Commissioner Casady commented that all of the library events he has attended have been very interesting and well attended. He wanted to acknowledge Ms. McCollum for the hours she has dedicated to the Library services. He asked what the Commission might be

able to do to assist in gaining more staff. Ms. McCollum stated that these are budget related discussions that are happening at a higher administrative level.

Recreation manager, Eve Kelso mentioned that the annual meeting had happened but there will not be any budget information available until November.

Commissioner Cleamons thanked Ms. McCollum for coming to the Commission meetings.

Commissioner Hustvedt stated that spreading the word about events is one of the most useful things the Commissioners. The goal can be to push out the information to the point that there are too many people attending, which could be a good problem.

The floor was closed to public comment.

G. GENERAL BUSINESS

None

H. COMMISSION ITEMS

Commissioner Casady asked about the status of the Commission request to begin work on a work plan. Recreation Services Manager, Eve Kelso explained that the City Council has decided to consider the Commissioner handbook item before approving the work plan request. The item is scheduled to be on the October 18th City Council agenda.

I. STAFF ITEMS

Recreation Manager Kelso announced that there will be a Commissioner orientation on September 27th, with a Dial-a-Ride tour of the City. Commissioners will be able to bring up ideas they would like to talk about, with the goal of identifying possible commission collaboration opportunities.

J. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Elasowich moved to adjourn. Commissioner Cleamons seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Ayes: Commissioners Casady, Elasowich, Cleamons and Hustvedt

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Commissioner Kunkee

The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 PM.