

CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH
MINUTES OF THE LIBRARY COMMISSION

August 9, 2021
5:00 p.m.
Virtual – Zoom meeting

CONTENTS

A. CALL TO ORDER

Due to technical difficulties, the meeting was called to order at 5:22 PM.

B. ROLL CALL

Present: Chair Jones, Windes, Schreiner, Siemak, Parikh and Bond

Absent: none

Others present: Recreation Services Manager, Jan Buike; Recreation Program Supervisor Adela Cornejo

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

This item was heard after item E, Audience Participation

Commissioner Windes moved to approve the July 12, 2021 minutes with the following changes:

P.1 B: Correct the Roll Call to read: **Present: Chair Jones, Windes, Schreiner, Bond, Parikh**

P.2 – Story Walk – change wording to indicate that the subcommittee is considering a name change to Story Walk. The change has not been decided.

Commissioner Bond seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Ayes: Windes, Jones, Schreiner, Bailey, Parikh

Nays: None

Abstain: Siemak

Absent: None

D. CEREMONIAL

None

E. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Due to the technical delay, Item E, Audience Participation was taken out of order in consideration of LA County Library Regional Administrator, Don Rowe's time.

Don Rowe, Regional Administrator LA County Library – Mr. Rowe thanked Acting Library Manager Josh Murray for leading the library during this unprecedented time. He thanked the commission for their comments and suggestions.

Regarding vacancies, he is hoping that the filling of full-time vacancies will be approved soon and the priority will be to fill management positions. The open Children's Librarian position would be the next priority.

The library meeting room is not yet available for booking. Once COVID case numbers are more consistent and going down, this can be revisited.

Commissioner Windes inquired if the small study rooms will open for student use. Mr. Rowe replied that the desire is to reopen them and the County is looking at options that will comply with Public Health Department requirements. He will inform the commission when the rooms become available.

Commissioner Windes expressed her appreciation for Acting Library Manager Josh Murray.

Acting Library Manager, Josh Murray gave his monthly report including the following:

The library welcomed 5,784 visitors for indoor service and circulated 19,447 items in July.

Upcoming virtual programs (register online):

August 10, 6:30 pm – Beatles Tribute Band concert

September 13, 6:30 pm – Virtual Book Club – discussing Infinite Country, Patricia Engel

The floor was closed to public comment.

F. GENERAL BUSINESS

Afternoon with an Author – (Schreiner, Windes) Commissioner Windes reported that Urban Plates is still on board to support the food needs of the event. Food selections will be made closer to the event. Commissioner Schreiner spoke with Jan Dennis who is still available and excited about the event. Attendees will email Commissioner Windes to RSVP. The Fire Chief will be contacted once a date is set. The subcommittee is just waiting to be able to book a date for the library meeting room.

East Manhattan Beach Library Services/Book Vending Machines – (Siemak) Commissioner Siemak reviewed the survey and found that it no longer makes a lot of sense due to the pandemic. Chair Jones asked if there is a target date for launching the survey. Commissioner Windes mentioned that the schools are opening on August 25th and they may need some time to prepare for proper distribution of the survey at the schools. The commission agreed that October would be appropriate. Commissioner Siemak will discuss the survey online with Manager Buike and Director Leyman. Chair Jones would like for the survey to be available to be done in-person as well as online.

Late Night at the Library/ MB Poetry event – (Windes, Schreiner) - Commissioner Windes mentioned that Councilmember Montgomery had asked her and Commissioner Schreiner about the Late Night at the Library and that there were funds leftover from another event. Manager Buike reported that Eilen Stewart had been appointed as Cultural Arts Manager and that there are many factors involved that may make this an event for another time.

Library Appreciation Event – (Jones, Bond, Schreiner) – Commissioner Jones reported that event is still planned for November 16th. No additional news to report

Library Welcome Back event – Tabled

MB Writer Awards – This item is currently tabled.

No Strings Attached – (Windes, Schreiner) Commissioner Windes announced that Commissioner Parikh will be joining her and Commissioner Schreiner at the Library Concert event on August 10th. They have a great selection of books and will have bags

available. Thank you notes were sent to book donors. The number of books per person will not be limited. Librarian Claire Moore created signs for the table. Commissioner Windes and Schreiner invited all commissioners to join the event.

StoryWalk (alternative name to be decided) – (Bond, Jones) – Commissioner Bond has been in contact with a Boy Scout who is interested in building the cases for the project. He will run the project by the Scoutmaster for approval. Commissioner Bond has also talked with other Scout representatives and hopes that one will accept the project.

Manager Buike and Director Leyman walked Polliwog Park to check potential locations and are in favor of the location near the Braille Trail. She needs to run the idea by Risk Management and Public Works.

Summer Reading Program – Commissioner Windes reported that the Spring/Summer Discovery Program (SSDP) ended August 8 with 222 participants. 610 books were read and STEM activity kits were given to all levels of participants. Librarian Moore prepared raffle gift bags for the kids, teens, and adult groups to win. No further recognition by the commission was needed.

G. STAFF ITEMS

Manager Buike reminded the commission to send work plan updates to Linda Robb a week before the meeting to be included with the agenda. The commissioners were not clear that they are supposed to update the templates monthly and thought that they only needed to do it if reminded. They asked for the templates to be re-sent to them.

Manager Buike confirmed that all recognition will be done by the City Council. The commission may make suggestions to the City Clerk's office that will be passed on for review by the City Council. All recognition will be done at City Council meetings.

H. COMMISSION ITEMS

Chair Jones announced that Melinda Reiter of the Friends of the Library will be attending the September meeting to talk about the Friends.

Commissioner Parikh has volunteered to work on the Afternoon with an Author and No Strings Attached sub-committees.

I. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Windes moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Schreiner seconded the motion. The motion carried unopposed.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 PM, to September 13, 2021.