PIMA COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

October 4, 2018, 4:00 p.m.

Joel D. Valdez Library, 4th Floor Boardroom, 101 N. Stone Ave, Tucson, Arizona

Present: Edward Buster, Chair; Cheryl Langer, Vice-Chair; Amanda Castillo; Maria Iannone; Nancy Magelli; Nancy Puckett; Elizabeth Soltero; and Nubia Valentino

Absent: Joelyn Marlowe and Rebecca Whitmer

Also Present: Amber Mathewson, Director; Karyn Prechtel-Altman, Deputy Director; Michelle Simon, Deputy Director; Amy Rusk, Library Services Manager; Beth Matthias-Loghry, Library Services Manager; Jen Maney, Library Services Manager; Kate DeMeester, Library Services Manager; Richard DiRusso, Library Services Manager; Sharla Ronstadt, Library Services Manager; Holly Schaffer, Community Relations Manager; Betsy Langley, Santa Rosa Library Branch Manager; Kendra Davey, Literacy Initiatives Program Manager; and Maura Robinson, Friends of the Pima County Library

1. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Edward Buster and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

2. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING’S MINUTES

Nancy Magelli moved and Nancy Puckett seconded approval of the September 6, 2018 minutes. Motion carried.

3. INTRODUCTIONS

Introductions were made of Library Board members.

4. REPORTS FROM LIBRARY BOARD MEMBERS, FRIENDS, AND FOUNDATION

- Amanda Castillo, who is also on the board for Mission Garden, brought fliers about their upcoming Membrillo Fest, to be held on October 21. She also commented that the New York Times article “36 Hours in Tucson” made Mission Garden stop #6.
- Edward Buster wrote a letter on behalf of the Library Advisory Board thanking John Byrnes, who just retired from the Pima Library Foundation Board. Edward also attended a meeting with the CEO of the Greater Vail Chamber of Commerce and others, and noted the great enthusiasm of everyone for the new Southeast Library that is coming.
- Maura Robinson (Friends of the Pima County Library), informed that they just had their biggest sales ever in September. They raised $8,000 at their half-price sale, and $20,000 at their community sale. Maura speculated that the publicity about their 50th anniversary increased attendance.
Edward asked Holly if she made contact with someone who had tried to connect with the two of them about promoting the Library. Holly said that he is specifically selling advertising, and that while she has not connected with him yet, she would soon.

5. **NEW BUSINESS**

A. **PRESENTATION ABOUT SANTA ROSA LIBRARY AND THE SERVICES AND PROGRAMS PROVIDED:**
   Betsy Langley, Branch Manager, Santa Rosa Library

Some highlights provided:

- Santa Rosa Library is located south of downtown, near 22nd Street and 10th Avenue, and is next to a Parks and Recreation Center, a Montessori school and a Head Start. They serve many refugee and immigrant families.
- Santa Rosa Library opened in 2002, as part of the Hope VI Grant Project. Originally, they had no books and served as a computer learning center. Books were added when people started requesting them.
- Santa Rosa Library provides Storytimes, English classes (through Literacy Connects), after school snacks and a public nurse. Core services include Job Help, GED, Homework Help, and Teen 365. They also offer meeting and study rooms.
- The Metropolitan Education Center recently moved into the neighborhood, and future partnership ideas will be explored. Nubia highly recommended doing this, particularly with their Teen Council.
- The Afterschool Snack program originated at Santa Rosa Library and has since expanded to other libraries.
- Their Bookbike goes out 4-5 times a month to regularly scheduled places, such as senior centers. Their reach is already far higher this year than 2017’s total.
- Santa Rosa was selected to be the second library for the Library Restorative Practices for Youth (LRPY) program. Staff will get training before it is implemented.
- Recent events:
  - Local author Kellie Fitzgerald, read her book at a Read to a Dog event.
  - Mexican artist Nidia T. Noriega came for a painting class and to display her artwork.

Elizabeth asked about the LRPY board, and if it was comprised of people from the neighborhood. Betsy said it can be people from the neighborhood, or from organizations in the area. She said the board could be 3 or 4 people and are there to listen to the child.

Maria works with kids from that area and asked how she could help them get back in good standing with the library. Betsy said to refer parents to staff and they will work with them. There may even be misunderstandings about being suspended from the library, as there aren’t any current suspensions there.

B. **LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD DEVELOPMENT – DISCUSSION:**
   Nancy Magelli updated on the first meeting of the Liaison Committee. The first meeting was to get acquainted. People were engaged and asked good questions. Attendees included representatives from Pima Library Foundation, Friends of the Pima County Public Library, Friends of the Green Valley Library, Friends of Arivaca, Friends of the Kirk-Bear Canyon Library, Southeast Library Steering Committee, Nancy Puckett, and Nancy Magelli.
The next step is to set up training and the first one will be on fundraising, probably in December. Library staff will provide this training. They will try to use Skype for future meetings since all attendees had to drive at least 10 miles.

6. LIBRARY REPORTS

A. COMMUNITY RELATIONS REPORT
Holly Schaffer, Community Relations Manager, highlighted and/or added to her written report:

- PCPL will be running ads at the Loft Cinema for a year. Holly distributed promo material relating to movies.
- Woods Memorial Library will be celebrating their 50th anniversary on October 20th.
- At the Board of Supervisors meeting on October 16th, a Proclamation will be given declaring National Friends of the Library Week. Representatives from all Friends groups will be attending.
- On October 10th, Karyn Prechtel-Altman and Mary Sanchez will be on the Bill Buckmaster Show talking about LRPY and the Urban Libraries Council (ULC) Innovative Award the Library received.

B. LIBRARY DIRECTOR’S REPORT
Amber Mathewson, Library Director, highlighted and/or added to her written report:

- Amber informed about the upcoming LGBTQ author event at the Loft Cinema on October 24th. Michael Twitty is the featured author.
- If unable to attend the Proclamation, Amber encouraged Board members to contact and thank a Friends group.
- Amber and Karyn attended the ULC conference in Baltimore where they received the Top Innovator award for LRPY.
- Amber recently attended the Pima Library Foundation’s first retreat. They are undergoing changes, including getting four new board members and electing officers.
- On October 8th, the first all staff development day is happening at the Tucson Convention Center. All the libraries will be closed.

C. PUBLIC SERVICES REPORT
Karyn Prechtel-Altman, Deputy Director of Public Services, highlighted and/or added to her written report:

Karyn attended the ULC Forum, and something that spoke to her was understanding more about how the partnerships that libraries have with organizations and community members don’t immediately appear to be win-win, but may result in a long-term payoff. An example of this is the Library’s partnership with the Tucson Festival of Books.

Five staff members attended the Joint Conference of Librarians of Color (JCLC) in Albuquerque. Amy Rusk did a couple of presentations.

Sandy White was selected to be the new Data Analyst for the Library, so statistics will be presented differently. Karyn asked if the Board had any specific things they’d like to see.

- Amanda Castillo said she would like to see Tucson mapped out with areas of poverty indicated, and where libraries are placed, to see if we are serving everyone.
• Cheryl would like to see information in the charts, such as gate count, correlate to information in other charts.
• Nancy Magelli would like to see streaming information separated from digital books.
• Nancy Puckett would like more explanation on stats that are outside the norm.

Concerning the library branch presentations, Elizabeth would like to hear more about the unmet needs of communities.

Cheryl reminded that as part of their action plan, Board members can contact the libraries in their districts, especially face-to-face, so branches know that someone on the Library Board is advocating for them.

Edward asked about security presence at libraries, and if there were less issues because of them, and/or whether or not people from other countries were put off by them. He also asked if security guards received training to learn how to handle people from other countries so they would know what was considered acceptable behavior here. Karyn responded that there had been some staff concern that people would be put off, but that has not been the case. Officers tend to have normal interactions with people, which helps to build relationships. She is not aware of any specific training that Vet-Sec gives to the guards, and that it is up to the Library to set up trainings. Kate DeMeester is working on a training to teach them how to work with homeless people.

Elizabeth asked how staff members who work at libraries with higher incidents are supported. Amber responded that the keynote speaker scheduled for the staff day wrote a book, Trauma Stewardship. It is also managed on a case by case basis. Sometimes staff may move to a less stressful location. Another resource is the resiliency internal team.

Amanda commented that years ago, staff sometimes worked alone. Karyn said we no longer allow libraries to be open with only one person.

D. SUPPORT SERVICES REPORT
Michelle Simon, Deputy Director of Support Services, highlighted and/or added to her written report:

• Sam Lena-South Tucson Library: issues are getting worked out and will open in November.
• Flowing Wells Library: their books have arrived. Check out their Facebook page for information. It is looking great, but doesn't have furniture yet.
• Sahuarita Library: they have had many design discussions and are getting input from staff and community. It is expected to open in 2020.
• Southeast Library: budget issues are getting worked on, and then construction documents will get worked on. They hope to open early 2020. Edward asked if they will still be getting 9,500 square feet, with inflation. Michelle responded that they do everything not to reduce the size. Some things can be added later but adding square footage later is more difficult.
• Other libraries are slated to get new furniture, painting, and carpeting.
• About safety, all libraries have security cameras and badge readers on doors.

7. CALL TO THE AUDIENCE

No members of the public were in attendance.
8. **ADJOURNMENT**

Nancy Magelli moved and Cheryl Langer seconded adjournment of the meeting. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 5:13 p.m.

**Next Meeting:** November 1, 2018, Joel D. Valdez Main Library, 101 N. Stone Ave., Tucson, AZ.

Submitted by:
Judy Moses
Special Staff Assistant - Senior