MEETING OF THE LIBRARY COMMISSION
AGENDA

DATE: Thursday, November 15, 2018
TIME: 7:00 p.m. LIBRARY COMMISSION MEETING
LOCATION: LIBRARY ADMINISTRATION, Second Floor, Quail Room
777 Arnold Drive, Suite #210, Martinez, CA 94553

- Electronic agenda packet viewing is available at: http://guides.ccclib.org/commission
- Hard copy agenda packets are available for viewing at each Contra Costa County Library

The Library Commission will provide reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities planning to attend Library Commission meetings who contact Library Administration at least 48 hours before the meeting, at (925) 608-7700.

Any disclosable public records related to an open session item on a regular meeting agenda and distributed by the Contra Costa County Library Commission to a majority of members of the Library Commission less than 96 hours prior to that meeting are available for public inspection at Contra Costa County Library Administration, 777 Arnold Drive, Suite 210, Martinez, CA 94553.

Library Commissioners, please call Library Administration, at (925) 608-7700 by 5 p.m. Wednesday, November 14, 2018 if you will NOT be at the meeting. A quorum must be established before a meeting can be held. A record is maintained of Commissioner’s attendance.

1. 7:00 p.m.
(5 mins.) CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER / ROLL CALL
The Library Commission Chair will call the meeting to order. Commissioners will introduce themselves for the record.

2. 7:05 p.m.
(5 mins.) INTRODUCTIONS
Visitors will have an opportunity to introduce themselves; self-introductions are voluntary.

3. 7:10 p.m.
(5 mins.) PUBLIC COMMENT – Agenda Attachment 1
Speakers from the audience may address the Library Commission on any relevant issue that is not scheduled for the agenda. Public comment can be made on agenda items when the item is discussed. Public comment is limited to three (3) minutes per speaker and speakers may fill out a speaker card. Public comment on agenda items can also be e-mailed to the Library Commission at ccclibcommission@ccclib.org to be received one day prior to the Library Commission meeting.

PRESENTATIONS

4.A 7:15 p.m.
Presentation (20 mins.) FIRST5 OF CONTRA COSTA
Sean Casey, Executive Director of First5 Contra Costa will speak about the organization and possibilities for partnering with the County Library.

4.B 7:35 p.m.
Presentation (10 mins.) CCC Library & First5
Librarian Specialist Amy Mockoski will speak about past collaborations with First5 Contra Costa and answer commissioners’ questions.
CONTINUED BUSINESS

5.  7:45 p.m. DISCUSSION (25 mins.)
WORKING COMMITTEE REPORTS – Agenda Attachments 2 and 3
A. Commissioner Wilson will report on the activities of the Work Plan & Annual Report Working Committee. (10 minutes)
B. Commissioner A. Smith will report on the activities of the Legislative Working Committee. (10 minutes)
C. Commissioner Bracken will report on the activities of the Nominating Working Committee. (5 minutes)

NEW BUSINESS

6.A  8:10 p.m. ACTION (10 mins.)
NOMINATIONS AND ELECTION OF 2019 LIBRARY COMMISSION OFFICERS
Chair of the Ad Hoc Nominating Committee Commissioner Bracken will present the slate of candidates to the Commission. Commission Chair Miller will take nominations from the floor and the Election of Library Commission Officers for 2019 will be held.

B  8:20 p.m. ACTION (10 mins.)
SET COMMISSION MEETING DATES FOR 2019 – Agenda Attachment 4
Commissioners will vote to adopt meeting dates for 2019.

C  8:30 p.m. ACTION (10 mins.)
2018 ANNUAL REPORT AND WORK PLAN FOR 2019 – Agenda Attachment 5
The Library Commission is required to submit an annual report and work plan to the Board of Supervisors in December to satisfy advisory body requirements. The commissioners will vote to submit these draft reports to the Board as presented or with any suggested edits.

OTHER BUSINESS

7.  8:40 p.m. ACTION (10 mins.)
ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES – Agenda Attachment 6
Commissioners will approve or amend the minutes for the meeting of September 27, 2018.

8.  8:50 p.m. (5 mins.)
ITEMS OF INTEREST TO THE COMMISSION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
Commissioners or library staff may make announcements regarding the Library Commission and Library or Friends group activities of interest to other Library Commission members.

9.  COUNTY LIBRARIAN WRITTEN REPORT – Agenda Attachment 7
County Librarian Melinda Cervantes submits a written report report on items of interest to Commissioners.

10.  8:55 p.m. ACTION (5 mins.)
AGENDA SETTING FOR NEXT MEETING and FUTURE TOPICS
Commissioners will suggest items for future meetings.

11.  9:00 p.m. ACTION (10 mins.)
ADJOURNMENT TO THE January XX 2019 LIBRARY COMMISSION MEETING.
CONTRA COSTA COUNTY LIBRARY COMMISSION

AGENDA ATTACHMENT 1

MEETING DATE: Thursday, November 15, 2018
AGENDA ITEM #: 3.
ITEM: PUBLIC COMMENT

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Commission members will be presented with a communication from a patron (that was also sent to the County Librarian and the County’s Chief Administrative Officer, David Twa) and the County Librarian’s response.
November 5, 2018

Aaron Law
3171 Stonehenge Way
San Ramon, CA 94583

Dear Aaron,

Thank you for your emails about your son’s experience at Dougherty Station Library. Separate emails were directed to the Count Administrator, the Library Commission and the County Librarian. This email serves as the response to all three communications. First, as County Librarian, I want to assure you that customer service is a priority for the Library and we take your comments seriously. Your concerns have been shared with front desk personnel, along with a reminder that each and every person must do their best to serve customers in positive and friendly manner.

Your son was asked to leave the library for the day when a group of middle-schoolers were being loud and disruptive in the computer lab. In your letter, you expressed concern was that he was asked to leave along with the group even though he was not being noisy and was simply doing his homework. You feel that he should have been given a warning.

The Dougherty Station Library is one of the busiest libraries in the system and at the close of the school day, over 100 unattended, primarily middle school students come to Dougherty Station Library. Library staff make every effort to balance having a welcoming and safe place for the students, while maintaining library conduct policies to assure that other patrons also have a pleasant experience. The Library does not offer an after school program per se, nor is the library staffed to provide a level of supervision that could be expected at a school or daycare facility. At the beginning of each school year, students are made aware of expectations that they will keep the noise level that naturally occurs after a long day of school within reason; and, that if too loud or overly physical, they will receive a verbal warning. If the noise or disruption continues all the students in the lab are asked to leave the library for the day. By late October, if students in the lab get so noisy that other patrons are unable to use the library and staff can
hear the noise across the library, all students in the lab are immediately asked to leave. Unfortunately, every day there are children who say that they were not the ones talking or being disruptive, but who find themselves in a group that is being loud. Library staff strives to be equitable, but are not always able to address each child's needs individually. Fortunately, each day is a clean slate and students are welcome back the next day.

I understand that your son is a regular patron of our library and we want him to continue to feel welcome. One suggestion to avoid this situation in the future is for your son to use a computer outside of the lab. These computers can be reserved online ahead of time so that he would be assured to have a seat when he comes. Any staff member would be happy to show you or your son how to make these reservations.

I hope that this addresses your concern and assures your son that he is welcome in the library. Please feel to contact me if you would like to discuss this further.

Sincerely,

Melinda S. Cervantes
County Librarian

Cc: Nancy Kreiser, Deputy County Librarian
    Dena Hollowood, Senior Community Library Manager
Library Commission Email.

Thank you,

Shannon Ladge
OFFICE MANAGER • CONTRA COSTA COUNTY LIBRARY • LIBRARY ADMINISTRATION | 777 Arnold Drive, Suite 210 | Martinez, CA 94553
sladge@ccclib.org | 925-608-7700 | Follow us on facebook | twitter

-----Original Message-----
From: Aaron.Eunice@gmail.com [mailto:Aaron.Eunice@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, October 31, 2018 1:05 PM
To: Library Commission
Subject: Commission mail, Concern over Librarian kicking quiet student out of Library - a victim

This message was submitted to the Library Commission.

e-mailmessage: This message was submitted to the Library Commission.

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to: ccclibcommission@ccclib.org

comments: Dear Library Commission:

I am writing regarding the concern over a librarian kicking a child out of library even though he is using the computer quietly to look up information for school work.

*Incident:*  
My son (a 5th grade student) was using the computer to research Missouri State information for school state report. He was kicked out of the library by a librarian on duty during that time because the other children are loud in the same computer room.  
My son was horrified by the librarian and the treatment. He was frightened to cry. The librarian continued to kick him out even though my son explained to the librarian he was only using the computer to look up information and was not part of the crowd who made the noise.  
My son, being horrified and scared, cried and asked to be able to stay in the library to continue to use computer to do his homework quietly. My older daughter also helped talked to the librarian and explained the situation. The librarian refused to listen and kicked my 5th grader out of library because of the other crowd in the same computer room.
The librarian said she was kicking all computer room users out of library even though the noise belonged to some users only.

The crowd (about 4 kids) who were loud in the same computer room all left library quickly when the Librarian kicked them out.

*Location: Dougherty Station Library - Contra Costa County Library (Computer Room)
*Address: 17017 Bollinger Canyon Rd, San Ramon, CA 94582
*Date: 10/30/2018 Tuesday
*Time: Around 3:30pm to 3:45pm.

We are writing and requesting for a more fair, more reasonable, and more human way of treatment in public. The Librarian could ask the loud crowd to leave. And for the quiet people, we hope the librarian would give a verbal warning first to alert the users in the room (such as: warning computer users in the computer room that they will also be kicked out of library if someone else in the computer room is loud even though you are quiet). Most responsible people would know that one should be quiet in library. However, most people are not accustomed to this treatment: where you will be kicked out of library if there are a few other people making noise.

This way, the quiet computer user is given a verbal alert and has a chance to pack up and leave the computer room and move to another place in library without being victimized, horrified, embarrassed in public and being kicked out of Library. This way, a quiet person will not be deprived of the right to use the county library and will not be subjected to humiliation in public while using public facility responsibly.

Aaron
Contra Costa (San Ramon) Resident
(925) 519 8137

Name: Aaron Law
emailaddress: Aaron.Eunice@gmail.com
spambegone: Library
phone: 925 519 8137

v1.1
emailmessage: This message was submitted to the Library Commission.

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My son, being horrified and scared, cried and asked to be able to stay in the library to continue to use computer to do his homework quietly. My older daughter also helped talked to the librarian and explained the situation. The librarian refused to listen and kicked my 5th grader out of library because of the other crowd in the same computer room.
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This way, the quiet computer user is given a verbal alert and has a chance to pack up and leave the computer room and move to another place in library without being victimized, horrified, embarrassed in public and being kicked out of Library. This way, a
quiet person will not be deprived of the right to use the county library and will not be subjected to humiliation in public while using public facility responsibly.

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(925) 519 8137

Name: Aaron Law
emailaddress: Aaron.Eunice@gmail.com
spambegone: Library
phone: 925 519 8137

v1.1
From: Aaron Eunice Gmail <aaron.eunice@gmail.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, October 31, 2018 1:40 PM  
To: David Twa <David.Twa@cao.cccounty.us>  
Subject: Concern over County Librarian kicking quiet student out of Library - a victim

Dear County Administrator's Office:

I am writing regarding the concern over a county librarian kicking a child out of library even though he is using the computer quietly to look up information for school work.

*Incident: 
My son (a 5th grade student) was using the computer to research Missouri State information for school state report. He was kicked out of the library by a librarian on duty during that time because the other children were loud in the same computer room.  
My son was horrified by the librarian and the treatment. He was frightened to cry. The librarian continued to kick him out even though my son explained to the librarian he was only using the computer to look up information and was not part of the crowd who made the noise.  
My son, being horrified and scared, cried and asked to be able to stay in the library to continue to use computer to do his homework quietly. My older daughter also helped talk to the librarian and explained the situation. The librarian refused to listen and kicked my 5th grader out of library because of the other crowd in the same computer room.  
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We hope a verbal alert will be given before the librarian start kicking quiet and responsible users out of library. This way, the quiet computer user is given a verbal alert and has a chance to pack up and leave the computer room and move
to another place in library without being victimized, horrified, embarrassed in public and being kicked out of Library. This way, a quiet person will not be deprived of the right to use the county library and will not be subjected to humiliation in public while using public facility responsibly.

Thank you.

Aaron
Contra Costa (San Ramon) Resident

(We have written the concern to the Library contact and we would like to bring this to county office regarding the concern.)
Dear Aaron,

Thank you for reaching out to Library Administration, County Administration and to the Library Commission. I understand that your son is a regular visitor to the Dougherty Station Library and should have had a joyful experience, not one ending in tears. For this I deeply apologize.

Please allow me a few days to look into the specific circumstances so I can be as responsive as possible.

Regards,

Melinda

Melinda S. Cervantes
COUNTY LIBRARIAN • CONTRA COSTA COUNTY LIBRARY

Library Administration | 777 Arnold Drive, Ste. 210 | Martinez, CA 94553
mcervant@ccclib.org | 925.680.7701 | Follow us on Facebook | twitter

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v1.1
MEETING DATE: Thursday, November 15, 2018
AGENDA ITEM #: 5.A.
ITEM: WORKING COMMITTEE REPORTS – WORK PLAN & ANNUAL REPORT WORKING COMMITTEE

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

No Action Required. (See Attachment 5)
1. Activities - Members of the Commission:

- Attended meetings of “Friends” and/or “Foundations” associated with their Libraries for the purpose of establishing communication pathways and supporting their activities (in some cases Commission members are also members and frequently officers in their respective support groups).
- Worked with support groups to expand services at local Libraries (e.g. El Cerrito City Council funding Wednesday hours).
- Visited other county libraries as well as some outside the county (e.g. San Francisco, Milbrae, Redwood City) and the country (e.g. Iceland, Zanzibar) for inspiration regarding programs/services and facilities.
- Contacted local city, town, state and national political representatives and to civic organizations (e.g. chambers, services clubs) on behalf of the libraries, their services, programs and needs.
- Participated in the 2nd Annual CCCL Friends, Foundations and Commission Forum held at the new San Pablo Library to encourage collaboration between community library friends and foundation groups and interchange with commissioners.
- Represented the Commission at civic events (e.g. quarterly Mayor’s Meetings, monthly Mayor’s Conferences).
- Encouraged a successful “YES” vote on Orinda Measure J.
- Participated in the opening of San Ramon and Brentwood Libraries, the Antioch Library 50th anniversary celebration, and in the planning process for the new Pleasant Hill Library.

2. Accomplishments - Members of the Commission:

- Assisted with planning and carrying out programs designed to celebrate individual Library accomplishments (e.g. El Cerrito “First Wednesday” celebration).
- Developed conceptual framework, work plan and community briefing for a proposed Contra Costa County Library Foundation and reached out to existing “Friends” and “Foundation” leadership as well as political leaders for consultation and feedback purposes prior to finalizing it.
- Advocated for State and Federal funding for libraries through letters, phone calls and personal contact.
- Received approval for Board of Supervisor support for state literacy funding as well as IMLS and the Innovative Grants to Literacy Program, reached out to Senators and Assembly members to support augmentation for lunch at the library and the Braille library.
- Finalized and received BOS approval for the revised Commission By-Laws.
CONTRA COSTA COUNTY LIBRARY COMMISSION
2019 ANNUAL WORK PLAN (DRAFT) November 5, 2018

Goal 1: Advocate for both public and private library funding required to meet assessed county needs.
Objective 1: Increase Legislative outreach, both at the state and federal levels, for funding necessary to sustain and enhance the libraries.
Objective 2: Have the Commission take a more active role in the ALA and CLA lobbying efforts.
Objective 3: Support the creation of a unified private fund raising approach for funding of countywide and local community library needs and to meet service standards and objectives of the Library’s strategic plan.

Goal 2: Identify ways to ensure stable and adequate funding for county libraries.
Objective 1: Encourage collaboration between community library friends and foundations groups an interchange with commissioners through the re-established “Friends Council” and the annual forum.
Objective 2: Meet with elected officials in an effort to identify additional funding sources.
Objective 3: Explore ways of ensuring stable and adequate public funding for the county library.

Goal 3: Provide links between the community and the Contra Costa County Library
Objective 1: Develop community and city/town support for all libraries.
Objective 2: Conduct more meetings of the Commission at community libraries.
Objective 3: Provide regular reports to appointing authorities (e.g. Supervisors and City/Town Councils) to keep them informed about Commission activities/accomplishments and Library programs, services and needs.
Objective 4: Participate in public events and activities of community libraries.
Objective 5: Reach out to organizations in the County (e.g. First 5, County Schools, PTAs) with common interests in literacy for the purpose of building supporting networks and programs.

Goal 4: Provide a forum for the public to express views regarding Contra Costa County Library
Objective 1: Develop a portion of the County Library website for us by each commissioner to interact with the community on various issues to bring the library more into the residents’ lives.
Objective 2: Find ways to solicit community feedback at public forums (e.g. hold “open mike” sessions in various county locations to permit the public to provide suggestions and air concerns involving the library).
CONTRA COSTA COUNTY LIBRARY COMMISSION
AGENDA ATTACHMENT 3

MEETING DATE: Thursday, November 15, 2018
AGENDA ITEM #: 5.B.
ITEM: WORKING COMMITTEE REPORTS – LEGISLATIVE WORKING COMMITTEE

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

No Action Required.
October 10, 2018

Senator Diane Feinstein
United States Senate
331 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington D.C. 20510

Re: Support S3530 to Reauthorize Museum and Library Services Act (MSLA)

Dear Senator Feinstein,

As Chair of the Board of Supervisors of Contra Costa County, I write to request your assistance in reauthorizing the Museum and Library Services Act (MSLA) in S3530.

MLSA provides the only Federal funding through the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) for grant programs that are exclusively for libraries, supporting lifelong learning and innovative library programs throughout the nation. Over the years, Contra Costa County Library has been able to fund many such innovative programs through such grants.

Additionally, many states' Braille and Talking Book Libraries (BTBL) are dependent upon much of their funding from IMLS. In California BTBL receives 90% of its funding from IMLS.

Patronage of the Contra Costa County Library continues strong (over 3.5 million visits last year). Services include providing homework assistance to students, helping with job searches and resume writing, and offering computer access for those who might otherwise lack what has become a basic need in today's society.

With over 1.5 billion library visits a year nationally, it is essential that the MLSA and its grant making capabilities be reauthorized this year so that public libraries can continue to serve the public and innovate.

Thank you for your continuing support of public libraries.

Sincerely,

Karen Mitchoff Chair

CC;

Senator Kamala Harris
Members Board of Supervisors
Contra Costa County Legislative Delegation
David Twa, County Administrator
Contra Costa County Library Commission
October 10, 2018

Senator Kamala Harris
United States Senate
112 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington D.C. 20510

Re: Support S3530 to Reauthorize Museum and Library Services Act (MSLA)

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Thank you for your continuing support of public libraries.

Sincerely,

Karen Mitchoff Chair

CC;
Senator Diane Feinstein
Members Board of Supervisors
Contra Costa County Legislative Delegation
David Twa, County Administrator
Contra Costa County Library Commission
CONTRA COSTA COUNTY LIBRARY COMMISSION
AGENDA ATTACHMENT 4

MEETING DATE: Thursday, November 15, 2018
AGENDA ITEM #: 6.B.
ITEM: SET COMMISSION MEETING DATES FOR 2019

RECOMMENDED ACTION:
Commissioners will vote to adopt meeting dates for 2019.
Proposed Dates for 2019 Library Commission Meetings

If the Library Commission intends to remain on the same schedule for meetings that has been in place for years (the 4th Thursday of every other month, except for November, which instead is the 3rd Thursday), then the proposed meeting dates of the commission in 2019 are as follows:

Thursday, January 24, 2019
Thursday, March 28, 2019
Thursday, May 23, 2019
Thursday, July 25, 2019
Thursday, September 26, 2019
Thursday, November 21, 2019
CONTRA COSTA COUNTY LIBRARY COMMISSION

AGENDA ATTACHMENT 5

MEETING DATE: Thursday, November 15, 2018
AGENDA ITEM #: 6.C.
ITEM: 2018 ANNUAL REPORT AND WORK PLAN FOR 2019

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Commissioners will vote to submit draft copies of the 2018 Annual Report, 2019 Work Plan and 2018 Attendance Report to the Board of Supervisors as is or with revisions.
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Names highlighted in yellow above still need to certify they've (re)viewed the Brown Act and Ethics videos.
MEETING DATE: Thursday, November 15, 2018
AGENDA ITEM #: 7.
ITEM: ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

RECOMMENDED ACTION:
Commissioners will vote to accept the minutes of the September 27th meeting.
MEETING OF THE LIBRARY COMMISSION

Minutes

DATE: Thursday, September 27, 2018

1. CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER / ROLL CALL
Chair, Brian Campbell-Miller, called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

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Total Commission positions: 24
Commission positions filled: 21
Commission positions vacant: 3
Commission quorum: 13

With fifteen commissioners present, a quorum was established.
2. **INTRODUCTIONS**  
The Chair requested everyone introduce themselves and explained to any members of the public that this was not required. No audience members came forward.

3. **PUBLIC COMMENT**  
No members of the public came forward to comment.

4. **DONATION TO THE EL SOBRANTE LIBRARY**  
Two young residents from San Ramon, Janet Smith and Bella Grima, presented a donation to the commission for the El Sobrante library. Janet’s mother, Lillian, had mentioned to them that she’d read about the fire at the library and they decided to have a fundraiser to collect funds for the rebuilding effort. They brought the sign they’d made with them to the meeting. Janet and Bella called their effort the Phoenix Foundation (as in ‘rising from the ashes’). Their event consisted of selling three kinds of lemonade, several types of cookies and some of their gently used stuffed animals. Their sale was a success and they raised $108.85 for the library. District II Supervisor Candace Andersen was on hand to present a proclamation to the girls, thanking them for their hard work and expressing her pride that two such civic-minded young ladies were residents of her district. James Lyons, the Field Representative from (District I) Supervisor Gioia’s office also attended, as the El Sobrante library is located in District 1. Janet and Bella presented the funds to County Librarian Cervantes and Library Commission and Chair Brian Campbell-Miller after which photos were taken to memorialize the occasion. The specific use of the funds will be determined at another time.

5.A. **CONTINUED BUSINESS/REPORT OF THE ANNUAL REPORT & WORK PLAN WORKING COMMITTEE**  
Vice-Chair Wilson began by reminding the commissioners that Commissioner Kelly (Orinda) and Commissioner Smith (Concord) were the other two members of this working committee and had worked with him to produce the document now under review. After the meeting in May commissioners were invited to provide their input. Members of the committee reviewed and commented on the draft report before submitting to the full commission. Vice-Chair Wilson commented that he grouped things together when it made sense to do so. This year’s report has four goals. The Annual Work Plan breaks down into advocating for more library funding, looking for ways to stabilize funding, providing links between the community and the library and providing a forum for the public to express views. Commissioner Kelly summarized it this way: The links between the community and the library describes what the commission will do, and providing a forum describes how we reach out and receive input.

This version is a draft. After collecting more input from all of the commissioners, this report will be revised and a final version will be presented at the November meeting for approval. Vice-Chair Wilson then mentioned that he was attempting to keep the report to one page as this is a requirement and asked commissioners to respond with comments by October 5th. Vice-Chair Wilson then suggested that if any of the commissioners cared to share their thoughts this evening so that the rest of the group could hear them that would be fine also.

Commissioner Gilcrest offered that she thought the report was an excellent first pass and praised the group for getting such an early start on the process. She did point out that under “Activities” the annual forum event was described as co-sponsored by the commission and she’d been under the impression that the forum was a library event. County Librarian Cervantes agreed that it was a library event engaging more than just the commission but that the library looks to the participants to bring forward issues and possibly to speak at the event. The Forum is an event, “library forum” refers to public opportunities to
gather and confer. Commission meetings are considered a library forum. For the purposes of the annual report, it was agreed to change “co-sponsor” to “participated.” Commissioner Fischer suggested that under “Activities” that the committee include, “Make reports to the appointing authority regarding library matters” as an activity that most commissioners engage in. Vice-Chair Wilson agreed that reporting back to the people who had appointed the commissioners was an important part of a commissioner’s responsibility, not to mention a sign of respect. He then clarified that what was being suggested went further than the fourth bullet which mentions meeting with various groups. What was being suggested was reporting directly to the elected officials that had appointed the commissioners to brief them about what was going on with the Library Commission.

Commissioner Gilcrest then suggested another correction. Bullet two under “Accomplishments” needs to have the word “Library” added to “Contra Costa County Foundation” and omit the word “County.” It now reads “Contra Costa Library Foundation.”

Next, Commissioner Fischer suggested editing Goal Three, Objective Four where it says “Participate in public events and activities of community libraries represented by commissioners” by omitting the last three words. In his experience at El Cerrito, many events there are attended by other commissioners as well and he has attended events elsewhere himself. He feels that all the commissioners view the entire system as part of their responsibility, not just the branch in the city where they were appointed. There was general agreement for both the change and the sentiment.

Commissioner Gilcrest then wanted to pose a question to the entire commission. One of the stated goals is to “Conduct more meetings of the Commission at community libraries.” While she felt this was a worthwhile goal, the attempt in July to do this resulted in the meeting being canceled for lack of a quorum, so she was curious if a majority of the commissioners felt it was important and would commit to making the trek to whichever branch was chosen for this goal? Her expressed concern was for the additional burden placed on library personnel. County Librarian Cervantes reminded the commissioners that this had been discussed at the meeting in January and the decision at the time was to schedule the July meeting at one of the libraries. The idea behind selecting July was that it is daylight longer and traffic is somewhat lighter. The question was asked if the reason people couldn’t make the July meeting was because of vacations and also whether or not there were enough alternates to reach a quorum. Vacations were part of the problem and there are only eight alternates appointed, reducing the likelihood of achieving a quorum. Vice-Chair Wilson said he understood Commissioner Gilcrest’s concern: if the commission says they’re going to do this then it needs to happen. Establishing it as an objective, however, doesn’t say how the commission will attempt, nor how/when the goal will be achieved, only that it is one of the commission’s goals and every effort will be made to accomplish it. His opinion, therefore, was that it could remain as a stated goal. How it gets accomplished will be up to the commission to decide.

Commissioner Pursley then asked whether or not it might be possible to change the time and day of the commission meetings to weekends during the day, thus removing (or certainly reducing) the impact of traffic as well as commissioners having to drive home in the dark. County Librarian Cervantes said that normal business hours for Library Administration are Monday-Friday and there is insufficient staff to support a Saturday meeting schedule. Some discussion followed regarding putting the word out more broadly when a meeting was going to be held at a library. The hope being that members of the public might be more inclined to come and express their concerns if they knew about it.

Commissioner Fischer then had a question about Goal Three, Objective Five (“Reach out to organizations in the County (e.g. First Five, County Schools) with common interests in literacy for the purpose of
building supporting networks and programs”). The question was whether or not this objective was meant to be as narrow as just literacy or should it be defined more broadly? Vice-chair Wilson shared that he had recently attended a presentation given by First 5 and that was how this item occurred to him. Several suggestions were then given for changing the language slightly, such as “...literacy and other library issues” and “...common interests, such as...” County Librarian Cervantes then commented that literacy is prominently mentioned in the Library’s Strategic Plan, making this a reasonable objective.

Then County Librarian Cervantes said that she'd found several items in the work plan that needed correction. Her first suggestion was to change “First Five” to “First5,” as this is how they refer to their organization. Next, there are several instances in the report referring to Contra Costa Library, and in these cases she would like to see the word County inserted so as to read “Contra Costa County Library.” The library is currently emphasizing one county-wide library system, thus making the word “County” very important. Finally, in Goal One, Objective Two (“Have the Commission take a more active role in the ALA and CSLA lobbying efforts”), she inquired whether CSLA was meant to be CLA (it was) and suggested making this change.

Chair Campbell-Miller wrapped up the discussion by asking the commissioners to send their additional comments to Walter by October 5th so he could forward them on to the working committee members.

5.B. REPORT OF THE LEGISLATIVE WORKING COMMITTEE

Commissioner A. Smith reported that two weeks prior he had received an email from County Librarian Cervantes seeking input regarding legislative priorities for the Board of Supervisor’s annually published legislative platform. This was the first time he could recall being asked for input as to what should be included. His list was divided by state and federal items. The first being literacy, then the (unfunded) Public Library Fund (PLF), which used to bring the library several hundred thousand dollars for operating expenses. This one is still on the books but has remained unfunded by the current governor. Also on the state list should be a state library construction bond. In conjunction with this would be the “Son of SCA-7” measure to lower the threshold on library bond measures to 55%. SCA-7 was Lois Wolk’s measure in 2014 that went nowhere but was much broader in scope than last year’s SCA-3 and broader is what we need. Broader means not just limited to library construction but includes any library related bonds. Several other items include funding for Lunch at the Library and increased funding for CENIC, the broadband funding initiative, as well as Senator Scott Weiner’s Net Neutrality bill.

On the federal level, continued funding of the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), the only federal source of funds for libraries and previously a source of funds for our library. And, even though we've not received funds recently, the Board of Supervisors has previously supported the Department of Education’s Grants for Innovative Literacy Programs. Commissioner Smith ended by once again thanking County Librarian Cervantes for the chance to provide some input.

County Librarian Cervantes then mentioned that her report of legislative priorities was being submitted tomorrow, at which point the Board of Supervisors review the collected input and make decisions about the 2019 legislative platform. The final report will be posted on the county website. Once published, as in years past, a link to the report will be provided to the commissioners.

6. FORMATION OF A NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Chair Campbell-Miller introduced this item and asked for any discussion. County Librarian Cervantes reminded the commissioners that the responsibilities are relatively light, involving two short
meetings at most. Commissioner Valdez, who served on the committee last year, briefly described the experience. Commissioner Kelly (who was also a member) added that he thought it was fun and not really that difficult. After being reminded that members of the committee were ineligible to be nominated, Commissioner A. Smith was the first to volunteer, followed by Commissioner Bracken and Commissioner LaLanne.

_It was agreed by consensus that the members of the 2018 Nominating Working Committee are Commissioners A. Smith, Bracken and LaLanne._

7. A. **NEW BUSINESS/SUMMER READING AND LUNCH AT THE LIBRARY**
Librarian Specialist Amy Mockoski’s PowerPoint presentation will be appended to these minutes.

7. B. **PROJECT EQUITABLE ACCESS**
Deputy County Librarian Nancy Kreiser’s PowerPoint presentation will be appended to these minutes.

At the conclusion of the discussion, Commissioner A. Smith made a motion to recommend that the Board of Supervisors adopt the _new Fees and Charges Schedule Policy_ eliminating overdue fines and the charge for replacement library cards; and increasing the processing charge for lost/damaged items thus moving the library to a fine-free environment as described by this presentation. Commissioner Pursley seconded the motion.

_After a brief discussion the Commission voted unanimously to move this issue forward to the Board of Supervisors for their consideration._

7. C. **LIBRARY FOUNDATION UPDATE**
District 3 Commissioner McCormick’s PowerPoint Presentation will be appended to these minutes.

8. **ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES**
No changes were suggested for the minutes from the May 24, 2018 Commission meeting. Commissioner A. Smith made a motion to accept the minutes as submitted. Commissioner Fischer seconded the motion.

_The motion passed by a consensus vote of the Commission._

9. **ITEMS OF INTEREST TO THE COMMISSION AND ANNOUNCEMENT**

**Commissioner A. Smith:** Commissioner Smith, having previously mentioned the federal Marrakesh Treaty, was happy to share that the implementation bill has moved through both the House and Senate and now requires only the President’s signature. And number two, the Oakland Public Library measure he mentioned back in the Spring passed with over 75% of the vote! Also, for anyone who questions how important the Braille Talking Books folks are, there are over 500,000 users who read an average of fifty-six books per year.

**Commissioner Fischer:** The El Cerrito Library held the grand opening of their new LGBT+ collection on September 4th, the first of its kind in the county. The event was attended by the Mayor and city council, as well as District 1 Supervisor, John Gioia and a number of fellow commissioners.
10. COUNTY LIBRARIAN REPORT
County Librarian Cervantes urged the commissioners to review her written report for an update on what is happening in the Library. She announced the Grand Opening of the new Brentwood Library on Saturday, September 29th. The festivities begin at 9:30 am with brief speeches by a number of elected and appointed officials and donors. The doors to the library will open at 10:00 am and the fun begins! There are a number of celebratory activities planned offered throughout the day. Parking is plentiful as there is a nearby parking garage. She expressed the hope that any commissioners available that day would attend to support the latest branch of the Contra Costa County Library.

Also, a number of commissioners attended the BALIS Forum in Pleasant Hill to hear Luis Herrera, Retired San Francisco City Librarian and Susan Hildreth, who modestly referred to herself as the Interim Director of the Sonoma County Library (she has been the Director of the IMLS, the California State Librarian and the Treasurer of the ALA, among others). Contra Costa County Library was well represented.

11. AGENDA SETTING FOR NEXT MEETING AND FUTURE TOPICS
The following topics were suggested for inclusion at the next meeting of the Commission:

- Election of Officers
- Work Plan and Annual Report – Approve final version
- First5 Presentation
- Consider Different Meeting Schedule for 2019

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Submitted by Walter Beveridge
Administrative Aide, Contra Costa County Library
SUMMER READING

HELLO!
I am Amy Mockoski
Librarian Specialist- Youth Services
7,078
babies, kids, teens & adults completed Summer Reading in 2018

3,963
people attended County funded events celebrating Summer Reading in 2018

99%
of the 937 people surveyed about Summer Reading agreed, or strongly agreed, that they felt welcome at their library

Summer Reading
promotes all kinds of learning for all ages
Summer Reading is a Key Library Service

Fights Summer Slide
Students that don't read over the summer "slide" back at least 2 months, and research shows that Summer Reading and access to reading materials helps combat the slide.

Celebrates reading and summer learning
Summer Reading is the perfect opportunity to celebrate reading and STE(A)M learning.

Promotes Good Early Literacy Practices
Baby Summer Reading is designed to promote talking, singing, playing, writing and reading.

Levels the playing field
Access to free learning opportunities and books is especially important for lower-income families that are statistically more likely to suffer achievement loss over the summer.

Encourages use of the library and collections
Summer is not break time for the public library! Libraries are busy and books are checking out.

Positions library as the literacy center
Families recognize the library as partners in the educational journey of their children and teens.

For KIDS, TEENS and ADULTS

READING TAKES YOU EVERYWHERE

SUMMER READING JUNE 4 - AUGUST 4
Cool Events Across the County
Outreach to Underserved Communities

- School assemblies
- Events with Housing Authority
- Food Bank grocery distribution
- Summer schools
- North Richmond Community Center
- WIC (Women, Infants, Children) clinics
- Head Start

Lunch at the Library
Contra Costa County
Lunch Participation 2014-2018

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COMMUNITY PARTNERS

CALIFORNIA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
CALIFORNIA SUMMER MEAL COALITION
FOOD BANK of Contra Costa & Solano
AUSD

6
Why is *Lunch at the Library* important?

Summer meal programs help combat childhood hunger and obesity when school is out by providing free, healthy meals to children and teens in low-income neighborhoods.

Summer meals and summer reading events work together to provide nourishment and help prevent summer learning loss.
Libraries are natural spaces for serving meals to children whose access to lunch disappears when school ends and summer begins.

Libraries are community spaces in the heart of the neighborhood. They welcome all and they provide access, free of charge.
Playing With Your Food
Exploring Food Literacy with Young Learners

- Where our food comes from.
- Shopping for a rainbow of foods.
- Eating balanced meals.
- Sugar in drinks.
- Physical activity.

Thank You!
Do you have any questions?
Amy Mockoski
Librarian Specialist- Youth Services
amockosk@ccclib.org
"The program is a blessing to our family. Our kids have days fill of fun filled activities and a healthy lunch instead of having to stay home all summer due to finances."

— California Lunch @ Library parent
The Library ensures easy, equitable access to library services for all CCC residents.

EQUITY/EQUITABLE
- **Definition:** The quality of being fair and impartial
- **Synonyms:** justness, impartiality, egalitarianism, objectivity, balance

ACCESS
- **Definition:** The means to approach or enter, the right or opportunity to use or benefit from something
- **Synonyms:** entry, approach, connection, in, open door, open arms
Some important questions to consider

- What does it mean to deliver equitable access to library services?
- What barriers do we face?
- What barriers have we constructed?

Current thinking about equity in public libraries

- GARE’s Advancing Racial Equity in Public Libraries identifies library fines as a form of “structural racism.” Negative consequences include being blocked from library and computer use, or being reported to a collections agency.
- Supporting Parents in Early Literacy through Libraries (SPELL) research reveals that library fines and fees are barriers preventing low-income families from using public libraries.
- ULC – Statement on race and social equity
  “Committed to achieving racial and social equity by contributing to a more just society in which all community members can realize their full potential.”
Impact on Youth

- Of 132,000 youth accounts 43% owe a balance
- 21,000 youth accounts are blocked, preventing access to library materials

Outstanding Library Late Fines and Fees by Supervisioinal District

District 5
Supervisor Glover
$781,036

District 4
Supervisor Mitchoff
$907,021

District 1
Supervisor Gioia
$757,718

District 2
Supervisor Andersen
$1,224,230

District 3
Supervisor Burgis
$937,342

Total approximately
$5,000,000
**Why fine free?**

- Elimination of fines removes barriers for our community and makes access easy, equitable, and enjoyable for everyone.
- Doors are open to everyone in our community to take advantage of all the Library has to offer.

- Fines and fees are dropping both in terms of budget and collections
- Fines are less than 2% of revenue
- Reflects lower circulation of physical collections
- Reflects higher circulation of fine free electronic resources
Will customers pay charges that were accrued in the past?

• No. All charges will be waived to give everyone an opportunity to restart their relationship with the library.
• Doors are open to everyone in our community to take advantage of all the Library has to offer.

What does “fine free” mean?

• The Library will no longer issue daily charges for overdue items.
• If an item is damaged or lost, replacement fees will still apply.
• No fines does not equal no responsibility. 30 days after an item is due, it is considered lost and the customer is charged the replacement fee and processing fee.
Proposed Fee Schedule

- Simplified! No late fines!
- All CGCL owned Books, CDs, DVDs – replacement cost is item price or $25.00, plus $5.00 processing fee
- Charges for major and minor damage
- UMS fee remains the same
- Other charges

Project timeline

- Communicate plan, build support – July-September
- Board Order – October
- New fine schedule implemented – November
- Clear all accounts of fines and fees- November
- Purge/clean-up of inactive adult accounts – end of 2018
- Establish processes to routinely purge inactive accounts – early 2019
- Establish a process to routinely write-off uncollectable debt – early 2019
Libraries eliminating all fines

- Berkeley Public Library
- San Diego County Library
- Palm Springs Public Library
- Outside of California
  - Baltimore’s Enoch Pratt Free Library
  - Kitsap Regional Library, Washington State
  - Arapaho County, Colorado
  - Dayton, Ohio
  - Salt Lake City, Utah
  - Nashville, Tennessee

QUESTIONS? COMMENTS?
Contra Costa Library Foundation

COMMUNITY BRIEFING PRESENTATION
DON MCCORMICK, DISTRICT III LIBRARY COMMISSIONER
SEPTEMBER 2018

Project Plan Goals
* Explore opportunity and feasibility to establish a county wide library foundation
* Solicit input from current foundations and friends groups
* Determine ways to align with and support foundations/friends groups
* Develop comprehensive work and possible launch plan
Foundation Description (Draft)

The Contra Costa Library Foundation is a private fundraising organization formed to seek private and public sector support for improvements and enhancements to the Contra Costa County Library, as established by the Library Administration, that are not adequately funded through traditional government sources.

Mission (Draft)

The Contra Costa Library Foundation supports the Contra Costa County Library’s strategic priorities for countywide and community library services to ensure public access to knowledge in all of its forms throughout the county. Operating as an independent organization, we accomplish this mission by raising revenue in support of programs, facilities and services that promote traditional and digital literacy, encourage educational achievement, lifelong learning, and address opportunity gaps in library services.
Foundation Goals (Draft)

- Establish fundraising programs in alignment with Library Administration to support countywide and community library priorities for achievement of the Library's strategic goals and objectives
- Engage community stakeholders and benefactors in support of library needs
- Create a communications strategy to promote the Library as the "Community Knowledge" Center
Current Friends Groups & Foundations

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New Foundation Summary

- Focus is on supporting strategic priorities for countywide and community library programs and projects that lack adequate funding from traditional sources to meet basic services standards established by the Contra Costa County Library.
- Partner with the library's community Library Foundations and Friends of the Library groups to share best practices.
- Serve as a funding vehicle for donors to make gifts and grants toward countywide and community library programs.

- Initial formation team:
  - Melinda Cervantes, County Librarian
  - Gail McPartland, Deputy County Librarian
  - Allison McKee, Deputy County Librarian
  - Kathy Gilcrest, San Ramon Commissioner
  - Peter Wilson, District V Commissioner
  - Don McCormick, District III Commissioner

- Project plan developed.
- Working to raise seed money and identify staffing requirements.
- Target launch in 2019.
CONTRA COSTA COUNTY LIBRARY COMMISSION

AGENDA ATTACHMENT 7

MEETING DATE: Thursday, November 15, 2018

AGENDA ITEM #: 9.

ITEM: COUNTY LIBRARIAN REPORT

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

No Action Required.
County Librarian’s Report to the Library Commission
Thursday, November 15, 2018

EVENTS TO CALENDAR:
➢ BCJ Architects Design Development Town Hall Meeting, Pleasant Hill Community Center, 320 Civic Drive, Pleasant Hill: Nov. 13 at 6:30 pm
➢ American Library Association Midwinter Meeting, Seattle, WA: January 25-29, 2019
➢ American Library Association Annual Conference, Washington, DC: June 20-25, 2019

PERSONNEL
New appointments and reassignments:
• Noelle Burch, Community Library Manager, Martinez Library
• Geneva Moss, Interim Senior Community Library Manager, Antioch and Prewett Libraries
• Leah Coffin, Library Assistant-Journey Level – Librarian-Teen Services, San Ramon Library
• Julia Wiswell, Librarian-Adult/Teen Services, Pittsburg/Bay Point Libraries

Promotions:
• Rob Clima, Information Systems Supervisor, Automation
• Stacie Deng, Senior Business Systems Analyst, Automation
• Kim Ballie, Network Administrator I (TU)

FACILITIES
The new Brentwood Library celebrated its Grand Opening on Saturday, September 29, 2018. It’s estimated that over 5,000 people visited the library and joined in the festivities.

The Pleasant Hill Library building program and schematic design phases of the project will continue through summer 2018. Pleasant Hill City Council, Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors and Pleasant Hill Recreation and Parks are moving forward with plans for site development including the design for a grand boulevard on Monticello Street.

The El Sobrante Library schematic design is nearly complete. Principal Architect ROBERT WEST in partnership with BRW ARCHITECTS and Project Manager David Ruiz, MS Commercial, Incorporated are working closely with CCC Public Works Department to design and construct the new El Sobrante Library for a projected opening in spring 2019.

FEDERAL LEGISLATION AND FUNDING
SCOTUS Ends Court Battle Over Obama’s Net Neutrality: The Supreme Court on Monday put an end to a legal battle over the Obama administration’s net neutrality rules, refusing to hear an appeal of a lower court ruling that upheld the 2015 regulations. While the Supreme Court’s order is a win for net neutrality supporters, the fight over how internet access will be regulated is still far from over. The FCC voted 3-2 along party lines last December to repeal the rules, a decision that is facing a separate challenge from net neutrality supporters before the D.C. Circuit. The repeal went into effect in June, and Monday’s order will have no immediate bearing on the current state of the rules. It leaves in place a high court ruling that the FCC has the authority to regulate broadband like a public utility. —The Hill
Read more here.
INITIATIVES

The *Project Equitable Access* initiative to eliminate overdue fines and revise the Fines and Charges Schedule Policy has been scheduled for a public hearing on December 11, 2018. With the support of the Library Commission, the Board of Supervisors will consider setting the December 11, 2018 public hearing at their November 6, 2018 meeting. Also on December 11, 2018, staff will be requesting that the Board of Supervisors consider discharging uncollectible debt for outstanding fines and charges for all accounts.

GRANTS / SCHOLARSHIPS / AWARDS

The following grants have been awarded since September 2018:

- $10,000 from the Keller Canyon Mitigation Fund to purchase new tables and chairs for the children’s area of the Antioch Library
- $10,000 from California State Library to purchase bilingual and foreign language books.
- $10,000 from Keller Canyon Landfill Mitigation Fund to provide children’s books in Spanish for the Pittsburg Library
- $329 one Silver iPad from the California State Library, designated for Project Second Chance (PSC), the Contra Costa County Library adult literacy program, to use with learners and tutors.
- $11,661 in California Library Services Act funds for Link+
- $15,000 from Pacific Library Partnership 2018-2019 PLP Grant, *Readers Initiative: Creating the Evocative Library*

COMMUNITY OUTREACH / TRAINING

- Participated in a *Creating a Respectful Workplace* workshop on October 30, 2018
- Attended the CCC & FirstNet Workshop hosted by County DoIT on October 24, 2018
- Kicked off our Annual Staff Development/Training Day on October 8, 2018
- Speaker at the grand opening of the new 22,000 sf Brentwood Library, designed by FOG Architects and Mark Davis Interior Design, opened on September 29, 2018
- On September 27, 2018 toured the new 22,000 sf San Mateo County Library/Half Moon Bay Library, designed by Noll & Tam Architects, opened on August 17, 2018
- Various meetings with the City of Pinole to discuss increasing open hours to 35 hours per week
- Various meetings with the City of Pleasant Hill to discuss the design and timeline for construction of the new Pleasant Hill Library

*Respectfully submitted by Melinda Cervantes, County Librarian*