



BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES MINUTES
REGULAR BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES MEETING

March 16, 2023, 6:00 p.m

1. NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS

1.a NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF LIBRARY BOARD TRUSTEE CHAIRPERSON

1.b NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF LIBRARY BOARD TRUSTEE VICE-CHAIRPERSON

MOTION: To table Nomination and Election of Officers until the April Meeting

Moved by Trustee Vega

Seconded by Trustee Hiyashibara

AYES (4): Trustee Hiyashibara, Trustee Landmann, Trustee Milich, Trustee Vega

ABSENT (2): Trustee Baltazar-Sabbah, Trustee Muñoz

Carried (4-0)

2. ROLL CALL

Trustees Present: Trustee Hiyashibara, Trustee Landmann, Trustee Milich, Trustee Vega

Trustees Absent: Trustee Baltazar-Sabbah, Trustee Muñoz

Staff Present: Library Director Martinez, Administrative Analyst Martinez, Principal Librarian Addison, and Circulation Manager Chavez

MOTION: Excuse Trustee Baltazar-Sabbah and Trustee Muñoz absence

Moved by Trustee Milich

Seconded by Trustee Vega

AYES (4): Trustee Hiyashibara, Trustee Landmann, Trustee Milich, Trustee Vega

ABSENT (2): Trustee Baltazar-Sabbah, Trustee Muñoz

Carried (4-0)

3. CONSENT AGENDA

3.a MOTION APPROVING MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 16, 2023

MOTION: Approve February 16, 2023 minutes

Moved by: Trustee Milich

Seconded by: Trustee Landmann

AYES (4): Trustee Hiyashibara, Trustee Landmann, Trustee Milich, Trustee Vega

ABSENT (2): Trustee Baltazar-Sabbah, Trustee Muñoz

Carried (4-0)

4. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA - No items were removed

5. PRESENTATIONS & ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

5.a ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC & TRUSTEES

Trustee Hiyashibara attended the Poets' Circle and has invited community members to attend future sessions.

Trustee Landmann toured the Freedom Branch Library and was informed about the new Creative Cafe; her friends are willing to donate items when the need arises. The Library Director is grateful that trustees reach out to community members to not only attend library programs but also donate items to help support them.

Trustee Milich invited Maria Burnett to this meeting to discuss the policy for the display cases, unfortunately she has been impacted by the flood and unable to attend.

5.b ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE LIBRARY DIRECTOR

a) Library Operations Update

Unfortunately many families have been impacted by the flood especially our neighboring community members in Pajaro. They are looking for a location to send students from Pajaro Middle School. The Disaster Recovery Center located in the old city Council Chambers will be open until the end of the month; hours of operation are Monday-Thursday 8:30-4:30pm. The Santa Cruz County Fairgrounds shelter had been highly impacted; other shelters are located at the Veterans Hall or Cabrillo College. Community members are encouraged to get updated information on the City's website or social media. Both lanes on Highway 1 are open and have alleviated some of Watsonville's traffic. Trustee Landmann asked how the flood has affected the library. There was a decrease in walk-in during the storm, but we are extremely busy helping patrons connect with resources, logging onto devices and printing forms.

The Library Director along with designated staff vetted 11 Strategic Plan Consultant Proposals and virtually interviewed the top three firms. We selected MJ Gomez LLC from Santa Cruz as they are familiar with our community and non-profit organizations making a better coordinated partnership to assist with this planning process. The Library Director asked if a Trustee would like to volunteer to be on the advisory committee. The first meeting will be next Tuesday, April 6 at 4:00pm. The Library Director will email a reminder.

We are still recruiting staff. We promoted a half-time employee to full-time. This individual is assigned to work both in the circulation and technical services departments. We hope that Measure R will allow the library to increase the allocation of funds for more staff, resources and technology to help support future endeavors identified by the Strategic Plan.

We are working with various partnerships. The Parks & Community Services along with Library Director and Principal Librarian Addison are on the 41 Developmental Assets Builder Team which is a collaboration with non-profit organizations to coordinate assistance based on the 41 Developmental Assets model created by United Way. This model helps identify assets that will support youth. Principal Librarian Addison and Teen Librarian Carrillo are on the City's Youth Coordination Team, which is a collaboration effort amongst city departments to help avoid duplication of resources and overlapping of events/programs.

Housing Matters from Santa Cruz comes to the library every third Thursday from 1:00-3:00pm to help the homeless with rental assistance and housing efforts.

We have partnered with PVUSD's work study program; we welcomed two new students as library page interns.

The city just launched an Opportunity to Work program for adults and young adults that will work in selected city departments. Two individuals will work at the library and will receive on-the-job experience as a library clerk.

Teen Librarian Carrillo and Teen Action Council (TAC) will be tabling on Sunday, April 23 for Day of the Child/Earth Day event and Friday, April 28 at Alianza's Day of the Child event.

Both Libraries will be closed Friday, March 31 in observance of Cesar Chavez Day. The Freedom Branch Library will be open on Saturday, April 1.

b) Teen Action Council (TAC) Update

The TAC recently attended a training with Dexter Cypress from the City's Planning Department to prepare for the 2050 Plan Youth discussion groups. They are working alongside Empower Watsonville, a PVPSA program, youth group to facilitate discussion. The two youth groups are going to interact with one another sharing their community concerns and solutions. Poet Laureate Bob Gomez will be at the next TAC meeting to discuss and encourage nominations for the Youth Poet Laureate. Teen Librarian Carrillo is

coordinating with the Circulation Manager and the Friends of the Library to have quarterly book sales.

5.c COMMENT FORMS

No comment forms were received.

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

6a. YOUTH POET LAUREATE 2023-2025

The request for applications is officially open and will close at the end of April 2023. We sent a press release to the various newspapers, created a designated webpage on our website, have a display in the lobby and a series of poetry workshops by Magdalena Montagne to help encourage youth participation. The Library Board of Trustees Chair will get the opportunity to be on the Youth Poet Laureate selection committee.

7. REPORTS

7.a FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

They are excited to participate in the selection of the Youth Poet Laureate appointment. The Librarians are busy preparing their budget request proposals for programming for FY 2023/24.

7.b PROGRAMS

a) Calendar of Events

Principal Librarian Watonka Addison briefly described upcoming programs and activities. She highlighted the following upcoming programs:

- Virtual Author Talks - Library Speakers Consortium
- Beanstack – Women’s History Reading Challenge
- Watsonville Film Festival
- Poets’ Circle
- Poetry Workshop
- Family Science Nights
- Creative Cafe Programs
- PodCast - Biblito
- Tiktok videos

Please remember to visit the library’s website and social media outlets to learn more about the library resources, outreach efforts and programs.

8. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:40 pm

Trustee Muñoz, Chair

ATTEST:

Alicia Martinez, Library Director