



**MINUTES OF THE
ALAMEDA FREE LIBRARY BOARD MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 9, 2019**

The regular meeting of the Alameda Free Library Board was called to order at 6:11 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Dorothy Wismar, Vice President
Kathleen Kearney, Board Member
Joyce McConeghey Board Member

Absent: Cynthia Silva, President None
Amber Bales, Board Member

Staff: Jane Chisaki, Library Director
Lori Amaya, Recording Secretary

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS, AGENDA (Public Comment)

None.

CONSENT CALENDAR

An asterisk indicates items so enacted or approved on the Consent Calendar

- *A. Report from the Library Director Highlighting Activities for the Months of November and December, 2018.
- *B. Draft Minutes of the Regular Library Board Meeting of November 14, 2018.
- *C. Library Services Report for the Months of October and November, 2018.
- *D. Financial Report Reflecting FY17/18 Expenditures by Fund for November and December, 2018.
- *E. Bills for Ratification for the Months of November and December, 2018.

Director Chisaki shared the new launch date for the City's website is January 24, 2019. There is more freedom to add buttons, and there will be access to the new digital services the library is offering – Mango Languages, Kanopy, and Hoopla Digital.

The new City Council was sworn in on December 18, 2018. Assistant City Manager Warmerdam is leaving the City for a new position. The newly seated City Council has interviewed the short list of City

manager candidates have narrowed it down to two. The new City Manager can be in place by March. Library employee, Carol Roth has retired. The recruitment to fill her position is open and applications are currently being screened and may have a candidate selected in February.

Board Member McConeghey abstained from voting on the Draft Minutes of the November 14, 2018. Library Board meeting. The minutes will be continued to the March 13, 2019 meeting for approval. Board Member Kearney moved to accept the Consent Calendar. Board Member McConeghey seconded the motion, which passed with a 3-0 vote.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Strategic Plan Status Update. (J. Chisaki)

The consultants were unavailable to talk over the holidays, but Director Chisaki is working with President Silva on setting up phone interviews. Two consultants have expressed interest and the State Library has provided recommendations to fill the third spot, as there needs to be at least three consultants to choose from. Director Chisaki expects the process to go well once the new consultant is on board.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Introduction of New Library Board Member: Joyce McConeghey

Board Member McConeghey introduced herself to the board members.

B. Friends of the Library. (J. Chisaki)

The next Friends meeting is on January 28, 2019. Director Chisaki and the Book Sale Chair toured a warehouse space at Alameda Point that they can move into in a couple months. It has a kitchen area, a working restroom, heat, and electricity. The current space they are in continues to be broken in to, and have items stolen.

C. Patron Suggestions/Comments (Speak-Outs) and Library Director's Response

A patron feels they paid too much for a bran muffin at the Café and feels they try other places such as Costco instead of Feel Good Bakery because they are too expensive. The Café Coordinator responded that they are aware that Feel Good Bakery prices have risen and will track sales of Feel Good Bakery items and will look for alternatives. Costco is not an option. Feel Good is close in proximity, have free delivery and offers a generous discount to the café.

A patron complimented Librarian Carlie Webber, by saying she did a great job, had excellent customer service, and was extremely helpful.

LIBRARY BOARD COMMUNICATIONS

Board Member Kearney shared that she is happy about the docent programs the Friends are having.

DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS

Director Chisaki shared at the previous meeting that the library is exploring the elimination of fines. The library is currently in the data collection phase through February. Surrounding libraries are going fine free in the next few months. The next board packet will have information supporting elimination of fines and would like some of the board members to attend the City Council meeting for support.

Board Member Kearney asked if there is a more heavy duty version of equipment they library can get. Director Chisaki responded that David Boxton is responsible for acquiring the necessary equipment and knows the usage and needs of the library and takes that information into account.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS, NON-AGENDA GENERAL

None.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Chisaki, Library Director and
Secretary to the Alameda Free Library Board