



**MINUTES OF THE
ALAMEDA FREE LIBRARY BOARD MEETING
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2016**

The regular meeting of the Alameda Free Library Board was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Catherine Atkin, President
Kathleen Kearney, Board Member
Nancy Lewis, Board Member
Gertrude Woods, Board Member
Suzanne Whyte, Vice President

Absent: None

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 July and August 2016.
- *B. Draft Minutes of the Regular Library Board Meeting of July 13, 2016.
- *C. Library Services Report for the Months of June and July 2016.
- *D. Financial Report Reflecting FY16/17 Expenditures by Fund for July and August 2016.
- *E. Bills for Ratification for the Months of July and August 2016.

Director Chisaki informed the Board that the last Strategic Plan update is through 2019 and doesn't think there are any revisions necessary.

There was a small end of summer reading ceremony with approximately 150 children. Next year the program will start at the beginning of June and finish at the end of July with the end of summer reading ceremony at the beginning of August before the children go back to school. There were approximately 250 participants in the teen/adult summer reading program. The format of their program changed from strictly reading to collecting experiences. The library set up some experiences such as a tour of Crispin Bakery, a tasting at Alameda Island Brewery, drinks at American Oak, and various park walks.

Last fiscal year the library held over 1,000 programs. The speed friending program was very successful. There was great feedback and participants requested it be held on a regular basis. The craft programs for tweens have been going well. Next month, there is a Star Trek anniversary day and a Star Wars party and participants are welcome to come wearing a costume.

Jon Kerpel is retiring from the Art Committee. We don't know if there is a volunteer to step up and take over the position. Director Chisaki noted that the Friends of the Library offer program funding to the Art Committee for and pay for refreshments at the art receptions.

The library will be closed from 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. for staff to attend the Citywide Employee Picnic/Benefits Fair tomorrow.

Hallie Fields has settled into the Teen Librarian position beautifully. Dawn Boyer has taken over running classes in the computer lab. Open lab is averaging 25 participants.

There was an article included in the Board packet from Publishers Weekly about Graphic Novels. Eva Volin was interviewed because she is recognized as a national expert in graphic novels. She has already been contacted by Publishers Weekly for another article. She frequently moderates panels, is a frequent invitee to Comic-Con.

There were no changes to the Draft Minutes of the July 13, 2016 Library Board meeting.

Board Member Woods moved to approve the Consent Calendar. Board Member Kearney seconded the motion, which passed with a 5-0 vote.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Integrated Library System: Status Report (J. Chisaki)

Director Chisaki informed the Board that everything is moving forward and is on schedule. There were site visits last week. The system is projected to go live in December. It is anticipated that the library will close for two days to finish the migration. If possible, it will be completed without any disruption to the public.

NEW BUSINESS

A. New Logo for the Library (J. Chisaki)

Since the Friends of the Library and the Alameda Free Library Foundation have merged into one group, they are in the process of rebranding and creating a new logo. The goal is for the library and the Friends to have similar logos. The library will create a new logo and the Friends will design one that is complimentary. The Board will choose the final design of the library's logo. Director Chisaki expects to have a design to show the Board at the next meeting.

B. Friends of the Library/Alameda Free Library Foundation (L. Engh and K. Butter)

Friends of the Alameda Free Library President, Luzanne Engh, stated that the merge was official on July 1, 2016. It is no longer a membership organization and any donor will become a "Friend." All fundraising activities, such as the book sales and the concerts will continue. The new group has developed a mission and adopted bylaws. The Friends are using a temporary logo for the upcoming anniversary celebration and will later work with the library on creating a permanent logo. The 10th anniversary celebration will include two days of activities over the weekend of November 5 & 6. There is a fundraising concert at Rhythmix Cultural Works on Sunday, November 6th. Tickets are \$60 and proceeds will go to the purchase of three digital community boards at each library. Live at the Library starts this Saturday and approximately 100 out of 120 tickets have been sold. Friends of the Alameda Free Library Vice President, Karen Butter, is working on a redline version of the Gifts Donation Policy and will have a draft for the Board to review by the next meeting in November. Luzanne gives credit to both organizations because the transition went smoothly. There are 15 members of the board, including Director Chisaki. Last Saturday, there was an event for the 10th anniversary celebration which had 10-year-olds participate in a 10-year-old birthday photo in front of the library. There were 50 participants and many volunteers. The event went smoothly and was enjoyable. Luzanne gave a big thanks to all, Bob Haun, Al Wright, Director Chisaki and Honora Murphy for the success of the event.

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

A patron commented that Playaway books are great and requested more titles including sci-fi and fantasy books. The patron also requested more headphone books. Supervising Librarian, Cosette Ratliff responded that Playaway audio books circulate well, so the library is always looking to add more. Unfortunately, library versions of Playaway books are very expensive and not all titles are available. We buy as many as we can afford in as many different genres that are available, so keep an eye out for new titles throughout the year and if you see any that we don't have let us know.

A patron requested more books by Margaret Frazer. Supervising Librarian, Cosette Ratliff thanked the patron for the suggestion and responded that we currently have six of the Sister Frevisse mysteries. The last one was published in 2012. Since this series is so old, we won't be purchasing more to complete the collection. We don't have the room and there are too many new mysteries coming out every year. We will ask the Friends to keep an eye out for any paperback copies we can add in. Two other options for you are

to get a San Francisco Public Library card as they have a number of older copies from the early 2000's, so you can get a SFPL card and check out the books or we can request the via inter-library loan. They are also available as Kindle books on Amazon for \$4.99.

A patron was playing Pokémon Go and turned the corner and walked into the bike repair station. She admitted it was her own fault because she was looking at her phone when she cut the corner. The library has installed a wooden bench on the Lincoln Street side of the building that forces traffic to take a wider turn around that corner. The bench provides a place to sit and also helps to deter others from walking into the bike repair station.

LIBRARY BOARD COMMUNICATIONS

None.

DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS

Director Chisaki mentioned that the library hosts a quarterly blood drive. Every appointment was filled and on average, 24 units is collected at each drive. The library hosts the most successful drive in the area.

The city is embarking on a one year campaign called Love our Island. The kickoff is tomorrow at 5:00 p.m. at the steps of City Hall. Tuckers Ice Cream has created a new flavor called, "Love our Island," which will only be available for the year of the campaign. T-shirts, car magnets, buttons and window clings have been made for the campaign. The City has launched a Facebook page which has a link to order the t-shirts online. The community is encouraged to post pictures of anything they love about Alameda and use the hashtag #LoveOurIsland.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS, NON-AGENDA GENERAL

None.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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