CONTRA COSTA COUNTY LIBRARY COMMISSION

AGENDA ATTACHMENT 1

MEETING DATE: Thursday, March 16, 2023
AGENDA ITEM #: 4.
ITEM: ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Commissioners will vote to approve, with/without edits, the minutes of the January 19, 2023 meeting.
1. CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER / ROLL CALL
Chair Michael Fischer called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

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With eighteen commissioners present, a quorum was established.

Total Commission positions: 24  
Commission positions filled: 23  
Commission positions vacant: 1  
Commission quorum: 13

2. INTRODUCTIONS
Chair Michael Fischer announced the commissioners excused from this evening’s meeting. There were no new or retiring commissioners this evening.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT
No one from the public came forward to speak.

4. ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES
No edits/corrections were proposed when asked. Commissioner Medrano made a motion to accept the minutes as submitted. Commissioner Ferree Seconded the motion.

*The motion was approved by commission vote, fifteen Aye votes, three abstentions and zero No votes.*

5. COUNTY LIBRARIAN REPORT –
County Librarian Alison McKee shared the following highlights from her printed report:

- The Library is contracting with data analytics firm OrangeBoy to work with staff to public a strategic plan progress report, revise the current strategic plan, and create a marketing plan. The progress report will be completed by the end of March and will be included in the annual letters provided to each city. The updated strategic and marketing plans will be completed by the end of 2023. Library staff will seek feedback from the Library Commission on both the updated strategic plan and the marketing plan.

- Library’s eAudiobooks are featured on the backs of County Connection, WestCat and TriDelta buses through the end of February. The same promotion appeared on the large digital billboard on Highway 4 East at Somersville Road through January 15th.

- The County Planning Commission approved the Orbisonia Heights project (which includes a new library) on December 14th, 2022. The next step will include the developers finding funding for the full project and the beginning of work on the building plans.

- On January 17, 2023 the Board of Supervisors adopted its new two-year legislative platforms. Attached are the items specifically related to libraries. These items were developed with input from the Legislative Working Group of the Library Commission.

6. AGENDA SETTING FOR THE NEXT MEETING AND FUTURE TOPICS –
Chair Fischer explained that this new standing agenda item will be where the commissioners can be involved in setting the agenda for these meetings. The following topics were either mentioned this evening or at prior meetings:

- Sunday Hours – Comm. Rosekind (mentioned previously)
- Wellness (Children’s) – Comm. Hoisington
- Library Fund Allocation Amongst Branches / Process – Comm. Dozier
- Commission Aiding Library Admin. – Comm. Dozier
- Friends/Foundation Group Restart – Comm. Dexter

7. **PANDEMIC RECOVERY – HOW ARE WE DOING?** –
County Librarian McKee’s PowerPoint presentation will be appended to the minutes.

8.A. **LEGISLATIVE UPDATE** –
Comm. Dozier updated the Commission on the following legislative items:
Governor Gavin Newsom released his January 2023-24 State Budget proposal in a press conference in Sacramento. The Governor’s Budget does not propose cuts or deferrals to the historic, major appropriations that public library programs received in the 2021-22 and 2022-23 state budgets, including $439 million (Budget year 2021-22) and $50 million (Budget year 2022-23) for library infrastructure projects. The Governor does propose suspending the $100 million that he and the legislature intended for public library infrastructure projects this Budget year, if the state’s fiscal picture would have allowed. Instead, the Governor suggests that the $100 million for library infrastructure money intended for 2023-24 be delayed until 2024-25 at which time $33 million could be made available, then $33 million in year 2025-26, and $33 million in year 2026-27. Again, this is just a proposal from the Governor, and it will be subject to extensive discussions with the legislature over the course of the next 5-6 months as the state Budget is developed. Also, notable is that the Governor has chosen to protect funding for popular programs such as Lunch at the Library, the Dolly Parton’s Statewide Imagination Library, and online public library subscriptions for job training and workforce development programs. The Governor will release a May Revision of his January Budget in mid-May, which will serve as an updated analysis of the state’s fiscal picture after the April tax receipts are in hand. The legislature is required to send the Governor a Budget bill by the Constitutional deadline of June 15th.

8.B. **LIBRARY FOUNDATION UPDATE** –
Vice-Chair Gemmer shared the following with the Commissioners:
The Library Foundation of Contra Costa Organizing Committee is a community effort to establish a countywide library foundation as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

As of yesterday, January 18th, Foundation bylaws and a conflict of interest policy were adopted and a five member board of directors was elected. The first board meeting is expected to be held in February.

Work on the application for federal tax-exempt status and designation as a 501c3 organization continues to progress.

Work is also underway to hone the mission and goals of the Library Foundation of Contra Costa and build multiple communication avenues, including a foundation website. This will allow easier access to more expanded information about the foundation and its objectives.
8.C. **2022 ANNUAL REPORT UPDATE** –
Chair Fischer had asked that the current work plan be attached to this agenda. He referenced it and commented that there would be a new standing agenda item (Item 9 for this meeting) where commissioners will be able to report out any activities that they have participated in which are part of that work plan. This will be a standing item going forward and a place where the items can be collected and used when compiling the report.
Chair Fischer also once again asked for volunteers to work on this year’s annual report and work plan.

9. **COMMISSIONER’S WORK PLAN REPORTING OUT** –
Comm. Dexter: Has begun researching what needs to happen to reconstitute the Friends Council. He has been reaching out to the various friends groups to gauge interest.
Comm. Hoisington: Mary Ann wanted to emphasize that the sharing amongst each other was important as a tool to communicate throughout the various organizations. This is the main way information makes its way from one group to another. Chair Fischer re-emphasized that the sharing out or work plan successes is in addition to the regular sharing portion of the meeting (Item 11 on this evening’s agenda) and would remain as part of the agenda also.

10. **CORRESPONDENCE** –
No commission-related correspondence was received or shared for this meeting, so nothing to report here.

11. **ITEMS OF INTEREST TO THE COMMISSION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS** –
Comm. DeFraga: The Martinez Friends will be having a book sale on February 11th, Also, Martinez is looking into ways to increase their open hours in the next fiscal year.
Comm. Morgan: Emily Ferne, the new Teen Librarian in Moraga, is doing great work and seems to be a terrific fit.
Comm. Dexter: The Martinez Book Sale features a $5 Book Bag special that contains an assortment of books for $5. It’s a way to really move some books out the door for any Friend’s groups who may not have tried this before.
Comm. Hoisington: Two upcoming WOW programs to mention are Feb 8th at 2pm (in-person): Sargent and Spain at the Legion of Honor. Also, March 8th at 2pm (in-person): Goddess by the Asian Art Museum.
Comm. Ferree: Shared that Clayton’s Friends had done the $5 book bag sale idea previously and seconded the idea that it was very effective. She also mentioned the Clayton Foundation was getting active after a long period of inactivity.

12. **ADJOURNMENT TO THE March 23, 2023 LIBRARY COMMISSION MEETING**.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Submitted by Walter Beveridge, Executive Secretary, Contra Costa Library
Pandemic Recovery
How Are We Doing?

Open Hours

2018-19
- 1067.5 per week
- 6.65%

2021-22
- 1138.5 per week

Active Cardholders

2018-19
- 425,237
- 21%

2021-22
- 337,554
Library Collection Size by format

2018-19
- 1,133,940 Physical
- 171,786 eBook
- 21 Databases

2021-22
- 1,067,374 Physical
- 369,653 eBook
- 36 Databases

Circulation

2018-19
- 7,226,273 Items Checked Out
  - 13% of total

2021-22
- 8,152,184 Items Checked Out
  - 13% of total
Change in Circulation by Age Group and Materials Type

- Physical Collection
  2016-19
  - 206,071 Adult
  - 239,017 Children
  - 156,427 Rom

- Physical Collection
  2021-22
  - 1,355,949 Adult: 34%
  - 235,107 Children: 6%
  - 166,407 Rom: 25%

- Digital Collection
  2018-19
  - 495,456 Adult
  - 167,855 Children
  - 45,511 Rom

- Digital Collection
  2021-22
  - 1,125,736 Adult: 13.7%
  - 251,630 Children: 3.9%
  - 126,403 Rom: 8.9%

Library Commission*

2018-19
- 21 Commissioners
- 8 Alternates
- 3 Vacancies

2021-22
- 24 Commissioners
- 11 Alternates
- 0 Vacancies

*Membership as of last meeting of the FT

Most Popular Book 2018-19

- Early Reader
  The Thank You Book
  by David Wiesner

- Middle Reader
  Harry Foster and the Tenement Street
  by J.F. Kassel

- Teen Junior
  All the Way Down John
  by Jordan Green

- Adult Reader
  Educated
  by Tara Westover
Most Popular Book 2021-22

- **Early Reader**
  - The Thank You Book
  - Dork Diaries
  - The Big Book
  - The Berenstain Bears

- **Middle Reader**
  - Diary of a Wimpy Kid: The Deep End
  - Buck Lemon
  - The Light Bear
  - The Lincoln Highway

- **Teen Reader**
  - Shadow & Bone
  - Anglesh Bear
  - The Lincoln Highway
  - The Last Mile