

**CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH  
MINUTES OF THE LIBRARY COMMISSION**

September 14, 2015  
6:30 p.m.  
Manhattan Beach Library Meeting Room

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**A. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM.

**B. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG**

**C. ROLL CALL**

Present: Commissioners Elasowich, Cleamons, Hartzell, Casady and Kunkee\*

Absent: none

Others Present: Recreation Services Manager Eve Kelso

\*Commissioner Kunkee arrived at 6:43 PM.

**D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

July 13, 2015 - Commissioner Hartzell moved to approve the July 13, 2015 minutes as written. Commissioner Cleamons seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Ayes: Commissioners Elasowich, Cleamons, Hartzell and Casady

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Commissioner Kunkee

**E. CEREMONIAL**

None

**F. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (3-Minute Limit)**

Commissioner Elasowich opened the floor to audience participation.

Library Manager Yolande Wilburn reported that the Sunday hours had begun at the library and attendance is picking up. The Library partnered with the Manhattan Beach Police Department for National Night Out on August 4<sup>th</sup> and had a booth in front of the Library. Next year, with a little more time to plan, perhaps the library can do a movie on the lawn.

Upcoming events:

- Coder Dojo class for kids 7-17 to bring coding to the community.

Events for tweens ages 12-17:

- 9/22, Back to School bash
- 9/25 Teenzine - The project is meant for tweens to create a magazine that is relevant to their community. The magazine will be catalogued and every year

a new one will be made so kids can look back and see what was happening throughout the years.

Ms. Wilburn reported that the Teen area is thriving.

Ms. Wilburn stated that she has been working with Janet Jones on a project called MB, which stands for More than Books as well as Manhattan Beach. The project seeks to make the library a dynamic place where the community can explore arts, crafts, drama, culture, music, science and current events. The project seeks to be more robust than the Malibu Speaker Series. Janet Jones has been working with Ms. Wilburn with the desire to make the library the cultural hub of Manhattan Beach. Ms. Jones introduced herself as a resident, Parks and Recreation Commissioner and past television producer and writer. Envisioned events would take place either in the meeting room, or on the back lawn. The initial pilot proposal is for six events. Ms. Wilburn stated that she has met with the Friends of the Library who have provided \$5,000 of seed money. She is asking the Commission to consider options and ways that the City and Community can contribute to help bring this program to fruition. Ms. Wilburn also asked for assistance with branding and publicity and participation in quarterly meetings for input.

Commissioner Clemons inquired how many people the outdoor area can accommodate. Ms. Wilburn stated that about 250 people can fit on the lawn. Commissioner Hartzell asked if this would be a regular ongoing event. Ms. Wilburn stated that ideally there would be monthly events.

Commissioner Clemons inquired if local acts had been researched to help with the budget. She suggested Battle of the Bands and stated that there are many performance groups locally that could be approached.

Commissioner Elasowich asked about the costs involved in bringing in the suggested activities. Ms. Jones stated that it would depend on the activity but suggested that a \$1,000 honorarium would be recommended for speakers, but other acts, such as the theater troupe may require more.

Commissioner Hartzell stated that he would be interested in the logistics of the Malibu program with regards to who makes the decision on who will be in the program. Ms. Wilburn stated that there is a committee, which is why she suggested the quarterly input meeting.

Commissioner Casady inquired as to how the program would be integrated into the Community calendar in order to avoid competing with other community activities. Ms. Wilburn stated that this program does not want to compete with community activities.

Commissioner Elasowich stated that funding would be the biggest challenge as the City has already given money to try the Sunday hours on a trial basis.

Commissioner Hartzell asked how information would be best received.

Ms. Wilburn announced that she has accepted a position with another library system and the next library manager would be given this information to carry on with the project. In the meantime, please send information to Mark Leyman. Commissioner Hartzell requested that the Commission be advised when the new manager is chosen.

Melinda Ryder, Friends of the Library (FOL) – stated that the FOL will miss Ms. Wilburn greatly. The FOL will be holding book sales every two months. Book donations may be given to the circulation desk.

Commissioner Hartzell asked Ms. Wilburn if she was satisfied with the level of involvement of the school librarians. Ms. Wilburn stated that the relationship is very good and she is very satisfied. Commissioner Hartzell suggested that another mixer should be held when the new manager is hired.

Ms. Wilburn commended the FOL and the Teen FOL for their dedication to the library.

The floor was closed to public comment.

#### **G. GENERAL BUSINESS**

None

#### **H. COMMISSION ITEMS**

Commissioner Kunkee visited another library and checked out a preloaded Kindle, loaded with a personal finance series. She thought that this might be a good thing to request for the Manhattan Beach library. Commissioner Clemons asked Eve to follow up on whether it could be something that could be had in lieu of the original laptop bay that was proposed and funded but never materialized.

Commissioner Kunkee reported her observations over the summer. She stated that the Summer Reading list books were difficult to find as they were always checked out. She stated that Summer is a great time to get kids who would not normally go to the county library, into the library, because their school libraries are closed. They should be rewarded by finding what they are looking for. Commissioner Kunkee recommended, either purchasing more copies of the books on the Summer reading list or that they be borrowed from other libraries. She would like to investigate avenues to make that happen.

Commissioner Hartzell asked Ms. Wilburn if any other areas of demand have surfaced that the library has not been able to accommodate. Ms. Wilburn stated that the check out numbers are very high in this community across all categories. She has requested other libraries in the system to examine their collections to see if they can transfer some titles over and that the books are checked out as fast as they come in. She stated that having the classics on kindles or as ebooks would be very useful as many times, the classics are never returned and the titles need to be replaced year after year.

Commissioner Hartzell asked Ms. Wilburn if she has dealt with concerns that the new library has fewer volumes than the old library. She stated that while the number appears less, the lower number is a result of weeding out old, tattered books and titles that were not being checked out. Also when a library is new, all the titles are on the shelf so there is less space available for the books. As they get checked out, it frees up space to add more books so more titles have been added to the collection since the library has opened.

Commissioner Kunkee moved to request permission from City Council to discuss the topic of how to ensure that the library has the amount of books that will satisfy the community demand. Commissioner Casady seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Ayes: Commissioners Silverman, Elasowich, Clemons, Kunkee and Hartzell

Nays:

Abstain:

Absent:

**I. STAFF ITEMS**

None

**J. ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Hartzell moved to adjourn. Commissioner Cleamons seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Ayes: Commissioners Silverman, Elasowich, Cleamons, Kunkee and Hartzell

Nays:

Abstain:

Absent:

The meeting was adjourned at 7:35.