

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

August 14, 2017  
6:00 p.m.  
City Council Chambers

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CONTENTS

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 6:06 PM.

**B. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG**

**C. ROLL CALL**

Present: Commissioners Casady, Kunkee, Schreiner, Windes

Absent: Commissioners Elasowich, Scalabrini

Others Present: Recreation Services Manager, Eve Kelso

**D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

July 10, 2017

Commissioner Kunkee proposed two changes:

P. 2, ¶6 Commissioner Kunkee requested clarification of the second sentence to read “Ms. McCollum advised that City and County Administrators would need to look at usage and other statistics if there is interest in evaluating the library’s open hours.”

P. 3, ¶4 Commission items – Commissioner Kunkee requested a third sentence be added for clarification. Third sentence to read “Ms. McCollum also stated that residents may contact the Friends of the Manhattan Beach Library for more information about donating books to the Manhattan Beach Library.”

Commissioner Windes moved to approve the July 10, 2017 minutes as amended.

Commission Schreiner seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Ayes: Commissioners Casady, Kunkee, Schreiner, Windes

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Commissioners Elasowich, Scalabrini None

**E. CEREMONIAL**

None

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

Commissioner Casady opened the floor to audience participation.

**Melissa McCollum, Library Manager** –Ms. McCollum presented the following, regarding library programs:

Late Night at the Library – There is much interest on Facebook for this event with 35

indicating attendance and 250 interested. There will be live music and refreshments on second floor followed by the artist panel for *Method Movement Memory*.

On September 2, there will be a related workshop with the artists including printmaking, bookmaking, spin art and a DJ. Both events are the result of a partnership with the Cultural Arts division.

Eclipse – the library is hosting an eclipse viewing pop-up program and will have 50 pairs of eclipse viewing glasses and coverage from NASA playing in the meeting room. Commissioner Windes will provide a school district contact to Ms. McCollum as the district is planning an eclipse viewing event in conjunction with staff development day.

August 22<sup>nd</sup> - Librarian and MB resident, Penny Markey to speak at the monthly Community Interactive Forum in partnership with the Manhattan Beach Senior Citizens Resources Committee/Historical Society Conservancy/Older Adults Program. Ms. Markey was the head of the County Library Youth Services for 30 years, is an expert in early childhood education and was involved in starting Family Places at many library locations.

Ms. McCollum mentioned that the MB Library is not an officially designated Family Place but does follow best practices and hopes to one day receive the designation.

August 29 – Former Library Commissioner Gary Hartzell will be giving a talk on television westerns from the 50's, 60's and 70's.

Fall storytime session will begin on September 5<sup>th</sup>.

College workshop September 11.

County Librarian Skye Patrick has started an initiative called “I Count” looking at all locations and trying to remove barriers to library access. Every County library location is receiving training on the initiative. Ms. McCollum shared a video on the initiative.

Commissioner Windes commented that she is concerned that people will attend the College workshop and be led to a service that they are required to pay for. Ms. McCollum stated that all entities that present at the library are told that they must provide substantive information free of cost but are able to distribute information regarding their business in case any attendees would like to pursue further services.

The floor was closed to public comment.

## **G. GENERAL BUSINESS**

None

## **COMMISSION ITEMS**

(The following discussion occurred at the beginning of the meeting, after the approval of minutes)

Outstanding summer readers will be recognized at the September meeting. Three students each at the elementary, middle and high school levels will be recognized and will be invited by the librarians to attend the meeting.

Commissioner Windes asked how the readers are chosen. Ms. McCollum stated that the

number of books read is not tracked and there are games and incentives during the summer reading program. The Childrens and Teen Librarians chose the recipients this year. Recipients were chosen based on their level of participation in various areas. Commissioner Windes stated that in the future, it would be good to have defined criteria. Manager Kelso offered that the criteria might be something that is set by the commission. Ms. McCollum stated that the criteria could be considered for the Outstanding Reader recognition, however, the reading program itself is dictated by the County and is consistent throughout the LA County Library system. Commissioner Kunkee stated that for the past one to two years there has been an initiative to reduce stress and dial back the competition. One way to dial back the competition is to have some people randomly picked for an award that does not involve competition. For example, pick some recipients from the heart; readers who may not be the best readers but who have had great attendance or helped out. Commissioner Windes reiterated her desire to have some general criteria for recognition. Commissioner Casady inquired if there are published criterion in place for the current program. Ms. McCollum replied that there are goals on the game cards and participants receive prizes when they meet those goals.

Commissioner Schreiner asked how the winners would be introduced. Ms. McCollum envisioned that they would be announced by the appropriate librarian for their age group. The commission discussed what questions they would ask the participants. It was decided that the questions would be the following, and will be provided to the students ahead of time with the understanding that they will be speaking for about 1 minute:

1. What is your favorite book and why? (elementary)
2. Why do you like coming to the library? (elementary)
3. What do you love about reading? (middle and high school)
4. Where is your favorite place to sit in the library and why? (middle)
5. How do you learn about new books to read? (high school)

Ms. McCollum stressed that this is a celebration and that speaking should be optional. The commission agreed as there will always be shy students.

Commissioner Kunkee gave an update on the Little Free Libraries (LFL) – work is continuing at the various locations. The Joslyn Center location is stalled as the Girl Scouts are awaiting a final artistic design from the older adults. Work will slow down a bit now that school is starting. The Scouts will sand and prep the Joslyn Center LFL and the design will be completed by the older adults.

Commissioners Schreiner and Windes attended the opening event for *Method Movement Memory* which was lovely and well attended.

Commissioner Windes gave kudos to Ms. McCollum and her staff for the Movie at the Library event which was well attended and enjoyed by all.

Commissioner Kunkee mentioned that she had spoken with Councilmember Howorth and Mayor Lesser regarding putting the subject of Library hours on the September agenda and they did not know of the request. Manager Kelso explained that the request is submitted to City Council with the commission approved minutes for the meeting in

which the decision to make the request was made.

Commissioner Windes asked for clarification on the process for commission minutes being submitted to City Council for approval. Manager Kelso will speak with Linda Robb to confirm the process.

Commissioner Windes proposed a Blind Date with a Book. The concept is to offer used books wrapped in brown paper with a ribbon and cute tag lines, to people free of charge. She has spoken to Jacquelyne May, Cultural Arts Commissioner, who is holding a North Manhattan Beach Art Walk on September 23<sup>rd</sup>. Commissioner Windes proposed for the commission to host a booth for Blind Date with a Book, staffed by Commissioners Windes and Schreiner. Commissioner Casady liked the idea.

Commissioner Kunkee made a motion for the Library Commission to support Commissioners Windes and Schreiner's Blind Date with a Book booth at the North Manhattan Beach Art Walk as proposed. Commissioner Casady seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Ayes: Commissioners Casady, Kunkee, Schreiner, Windes

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Commissioners Elasowich, Scalabrini

Commissioners Windes and Schreiner will report back after the event. Manager Kelso will provide a sign for the booth.

Commissioner Kunkee requested a follow up request for Library data to enable relevant discussion of library hours. She stated that they can discuss without the data but if it is available they should request and use it. Manager Kelso will request the information again.

#### H. **STAFF ITEMS**

None

#### I. **ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Windes moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Schreiner seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Ayes: Commissioners Casady, Kunkee, Schreiner, Windes

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Commissioners Elasowich, Scalabrini

The meeting was adjourned at 7:04 PM.