

MINUTES
BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES OF THE POMONA PUBLIC LIBRARY
POMONA PUBLIC LIBRARY
625 SOUTH GAREY AVENUE
REGULAR MEETING
November 20, 2019
5:00 P.M.

100. OPENING

- **110. Call to Order**

Rosalia Butler called the meeting to order at 5:02 pm.

- **120. Pledge of Allegiance**

Alison Glynn led the pledge.

- **130. Roll Call**

Present Trustees:

- John Clifford (Mayor’s Appointee)
- Duane Smith (District 1) - Absent
- Bree Hsieh (District 2)
- Tom O. Rodriguez (District 3)
- Renee Barbee (District 4)
- Megan Gearhart (District 5)

Others Present: Rosalia Butler, City Clerk
Mark Gluba, Deputy City Manager
Alison Glynn, City Clerk Office Assistant

In the absence of the Chair and Vice-Chair, Alison Glynn asked the Board to nominate a temporary Chair to lead the meeting.

MOTION WAS MADE BY TRUSTEE HSIEH, SECONDED BY TRUSTEE CLIFFORD, CARRIED BY A VOTE OF THE MEMBERS PRESENT (5-0), TO DESIGNATE TRUSTEE GEARHART AS THE TEMPORARY CHAIR FOR THE NOVEMBER 20, 2019 MEETING.

200. PUBLIC COMMENT

Marianne Cintron, the co-founder of Step-by-Step Dyslexia Solutions presented Deputy City Manager Gluba with a copy of the proclamation that the company received from the City Council declaring October Dyslexia Month. She shared stories of success of

children who have excelled in her program and information about her Dunking Dyslexia app. She mentioned a potential partnership with the Pomona Public Library and asked that the Board put an item on the next agenda to explore the partnership further. Trustee Gearhart asked that the item be added to the January 15, 2020 agenda.

300. BOARD COMMUNICATIONS

On behalf of Pomona Heritage, Trustee Gearhart wanted to thank the City of Pomona, Library Board of Trustees, SOPL, Friends of the Pomona Public Library and the Library Foundation for their participation in the tour of mid-century modern Pomona on November 2, 2019.

400. LIBRARY BOARD OUTREACH

Trustee Clifford spoke on the upcoming Christmas Parade during the Holiday at the Plaza event and asked who else besides himself would be riding in the parade. Trustee Hsieh expressed interest, while the others said that they would be attending with different organizations. Trustee Clifford also mentioned the staffing of the Holiday at the Plaza booth and said that he would send out an email calling for volunteers to staff the booth.

500. CONSENT AGENDA

Note: All matters on the Consent Agenda may be approved by a single motion without separate discussion. If discussion or a separate vote on any item is desired by a Board member, that item may be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered separately.

510. Approval of the Minutes: September 18, 2019; October 16, 2019

Trustee Clifford asked for the following minor changes to the September 18, 2019 and October 16, 2019 meeting minutes:

- Section 620 of the September 18, 2019 minutes: Replace “end of year” with “end of October” in relation to the Poet Laureate applications.
- Section 700 of the September 18, 2019 minutes: Amend the “unpublished” author’s sentence to include both unpublished and published materials.
- Section 300 of the October 16, 2019 minutes: Correct the name of the speakers, Joe Blackstock and David Allen, for the Pomona Time Capsule program and add Allan Lagumbay as the moderator and host.

MOTION WAS MADE BY TRUSTEE CLIFFORD, SECONDED BY TRUSTEE HSEIH, CARRIED BY A VOTE OF THE MEMBERS PRESENT (5-0), TO APPROVE CONSENT CALENDAR ITEM 510.

600. Old Business

610. Ad hoc Committee Library Policy Review

Trustee Rodriguez indicated that the group had not met and Deputy City Manager Gluba requested to move the item to the next agenda.

620. Ad Hoc Committee Update on Pomona Authors Day/Book Signing Program

Trustee Gearhart shared a proposal compiled by the Ad Hoc Committee on the Pomona Authors Day Program. The free event, held tentatively March 28, 2020 at the library, would be available to any author in the area. She said the event would ideally happen between the hours of 1:00 and 5:00 pm and be a great networking opportunity for local authors. She also mentioned reaching out to regional publishing houses to obtain information on how to become a published author, and wants to have that information available for prospective authors. She emphasized that there would be minor impact to library staff, limited to setting up and tearing down the event. Trustee Gearhart said that the sub-committee would be taking care of all the details and that more information would be shared in the months leading up to the event. Trustee Clifford mentioned a past writer's workshop that was conducted as a part of Pomona Reads and suggested that the committee reach out to Pelekinesis Press and Inlandia, a couple of local publishers who participated in the event. He also mentioned reaching out to Jonathan Lethem, a well-known author affiliated with Claremont Colleges.

MOTION WAS MADE BY TRUSTEE CLIFFORD, SECONDED BY TRUSTEE BARBEE, CARRIED BY A VOTE OF THE MEMBERS PRESENT (5-0), TO APPROVE THE AUTHORS DAY/BOOK SIGNING PROGRAM PROPOSAL.

630. Discussion of Library Board By-Laws Revision

Deputy City Manager Gluba requested to move the item to the next agenda.

640. Mural Project Update

Ms. Glynn shared an update from Chair Smith received by email on the mural project. Chair Smith indicated that the artist, Athena Hahn, had ordered the supplies and expected to begin painting within the next couple of weeks. Trustee Hsieh asked if there would be photos taken during the painting process and Deputy City Manager Gluba said that he would reach out to the artist soon.

650. Discussion on Veteran's Services Program

Trustee Clifford shared an update on the program indicating that Chair Smith had been having meetings with the veteran volunteer organization to start the training and had started looking at the materials slated for purchase, including a desk, some signage, literature racks, and a computer. He indicated that the center will be open three days a week to serve the local veteran community. He mentioned that similar locations in the area serve

a high number of veteran's, despite having limited hours. He mentioned that Chair Smith thinks that the Pomona Library location will be able to serve a large number of local veterans in need during its open hours. He said that they were anticipating the center to go up around late-January or early-February.

660. Poet Laureate Search Update

Trustee Hsieh shared the details of the Poet Laureate program. The program, created for the development and advancement of poetry and literature in Pomona, would be an honorary 2-year term and include a stipend funded by the Library Foundation. She mentioned that the Poet Laureate Ad Hoc Committee had received seven applications and through a point system evaluation, had narrowed it down to three candidates, David 'Judah' Oliver, Gustavo Ramirez, and George Hammond, who had received similar scores. The committee determined that a vote from the Board was required to select the final candidate.

During public comment, two citizens, Orlando Solano and Miranda Sheffield, voiced their support for David 'Judah' Oliver, mentioning his demonstrated commitment to the City of Pomona. Cultural Arts Commissioner, Diana Batts, voiced her support for George Hammond. Mr. Oliver spoke for himself and listed the different community-focused projects he had undertaken over the years and how his experience would make him a good representative for the city. George Hammond spoke on his behalf, mentioning his networking skills and the partnerships he could forge for the city if chosen. Cultural Arts Chair, Joshua Swodeak, mentioned some of the important accomplishments of Mr. Oliver over the years.

Trustees Hsieh and Clifford both spoke of the virtues of the candidates and emphasized that there would be another opportunity in two years for the candidates who were not chosen for the inaugural post.

Trustee Hsieh, after sharing some of the applicants' accomplishments, revealed the criteria for the point system evaluation, which included published poetry, public presentation, training and mentoring, and commemorative poetry. She also emphasized that the first Poet Laureate would be instrumental in helping to shape and create the program.

Deputy City Manager Gluba asked the candidates who were present speak on how they would structure the first couple of years if appointed. Mr. Hammond spoke on the importance of networking and pointed to his demonstrated experience in bringing the poetry and writer's community together. Mr. Oliver mentioned being able to expand already-existing programming and partnerships using his already established local connections.

Acting Chair Gearhart moved for Trustee Hsieh to nominate one candidate for the Poet Laureate.

MOTION WAS MADE BY TRUSTEE HSIEH, SECONDED BY TRUSTEE CLIFFORD, CARRIED BY A VOTE OF THE MEMBERS PRESENT (5-0), TO NOMINATE DAVID 'JUDAH' OLIVER FOR THE POET LAUREATE APPOINTMENT.

Deputy City Manager Gluba expressed his desire to present Mr. Oliver to Council at a future Council meeting. Trustee Clifford, on behalf of the Library Foundation, expressed his excitement with the Foundation being able to contribute to literary arts and hopes to some projects involving music and other underrepresented arts in the future. Trustee Hsieh mentioned that the Foundation was looking to fund more programs in the future. Commissioner Swodeak offered accolades for everyone that helped to bring the program to fruition.

MOTION WAS MADE BY TRUSTEE HSIEH, SECONDED BY TRUSTEE CLIFFORD, CARRIED BY A VOTE OF THE MEMBERS PRESENT (5-0), TO DISSOLVE THE POET LAUREATE AD HOC COMMITTEE.

Trustee Hsieh emphasized the need to create a Poet Laureate Oversight Ad Hoc Committee. Trustees Gearhart and Barbee agreed to serve on the committee alongside Trustee Hsieh.

MOTION WAS MADE BY TRUSTEE HSIEH, SECONDED BY TRUSTEE CLIFFORD, CARRIED BY A VOTE OF THE MEMBERS PRESENT (5-0), TO CREATE A POET LAUREATE OVERSIGHT AD HOC COMMITTEE.

700. Communications to the Board (Staff Communication)

Friends of the Pomona Public Library

No communications at this time.

Pomona Public Library Foundation

Trustee Clifford announced that the Foundation would have a team in the annual Trivia Bee, hosted by the Pomona Historical Society.

Deputy City Manager Gluba shared more details on the Trivia Bee event held on January 30, 2020 at the Pomona Ebell Auditorium and sponsored by the Pomona Historical Society.

He emphasized that he would like the Library Board to have a team in the Trivia Bee. Trustees Gearhart, Barbee, and Rodriguez all agreed to form the team.

Trustee Clifford shared some information on the Mayor's Gala.

SOPPL (Support Our Pomona Public Library)

Trustee Clifford shared that SOPPL is currently working on a planter by the children's atrium and that they were assembling plants and planning to move forward with the planting soon.

Deputy City Manager

Deputy City Manager shared information on the Hope for Home ribbon cutting ceremony happening on December 6, 2019 at the Hope for Home shelter at 1400 E. Mission Boulevard. He also mentioned the upcoming Christmas Parade and offered up his mother's 1965 Mustang Convertible for the Board representatives to ride in. Trustee Clifford asked that the new Poet Laureate ride in the parade.

5800. Adjournment to Wednesday, January 15, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. in the Library Public Conference Room.

TRUSTEE GEARHART ADJOURNED THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES TO WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15, 2020 AT 5:00 P.M. IN THE LIBRARY PUBLIC CONFERENCE ROOM.


Alison Glynn, City Clerk Office Assistant

ATTEST:


Duane Smith, President, Library Board of Trustees