

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
TORRANCE LIBRARY COMMISSION**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Torrance Library Commission convened in a regular session at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, November 9, 2015 at Katy Geissert Civic Center Library.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Gerber, Hausmann, Perkins,
Ravine, Sargent, and Chairperson Ross.

Absent: None.

Also Present: City Librarian Theyer, Principal Librarian
Wierzbicki, Senior Librarian Coates, and
Senior Librarian Deleget.

3. FLAG SALUTE

Commissioner Ravine led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING

MOTION: Commissioner Sargent, seconded by Commissioner Perkins, moved to accept and file the report of the City Clerk on the posting of the agenda; a roll call vote reflected unanimous approval.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

5A. MINUTES OF OCTOBER 12, 2015

MOTION: Commissioner Gerber moved to approve the Library Commission meeting minutes of October 12, 2015 as presented. Commissioner Hausmann seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected unanimous approval.

6. NEW BUSINESS

6A. FRIENDS OF THE TORRANCE LIBRARY

No report.

6B. TORRANCE YOUTH COUNCIL

Youth Council members Oniqa Urmi and Diane Kim introduced themselves. They stated that the Youth Council would be helping at the Turkey Trot on Thanksgiving Day and announced a Winter Boutique at Wilson Park on December 6.

6C. SENIOR SERVICES PRESENTATION

Senior Librarian Coates and Senior Librarian Deleget distributed “Library Resource Guide for Seniors” and provided a slide presentation on senior services at Torrance Public Library. They reported that a recent study found that older Americans are the least likely to use libraries and have concerns that include mobility, dexterity, mental acuity, vision, and depression, noting that the Library needed to consider these concerns when selecting services for seniors.

Senior Librarian Deleget stated that the Library offers a large selection of large print materials at Katy Geissert and branches. Senior Librarian Coates noted that large print books help maintain and build vocabulary, provide mental stimulation, and allow seniors to continue to read if traditional text becomes cumbersome and difficult to navigate. Senior Librarian Deleget described the Library’s collection of audiobooks that are available on CD and MP3 CD, and Senior Librarian Coates showed Playaways that not only assist the visually impaired but also assist readers who have dexterity issues.

Senior Librarian Coates described the Words on Wheels volunteer program for homebound patrons that services almost 100 patrons. He stated that their collection of e-books allow patrons to download books remotely from their homes. Senior Librarian Deleget shared information about special events and community connections to promote socialization that include book discussion groups, craft programs, and the “Seniors Don’t be Skammed” and G.E.T. programs.

Senior Librarian Deleget passed around contents of the 60’s Brain Boosting Bag, one of several kits that are now available for check out. . She stated that the bags have memory stimulating devices and encourage social nostalgia in older communities. She noted that Librarians have made special visits to the Bartlett Center and numerous nursing homes to showcase the kits

City Librarian Theyer stated that she began ordering Playaways when she was afraid the Library would lose funding for the Braille Talking Books program. She noted that they found that Playaways are not only beneficial for blind patrons but also for commuters and walkers.

6D. CLA CONFERENCE DEBRIEF

Commissioner Sargent distributed programs from the California Library Association Conference on November 5-8 in Pasadena as well as the CLA Year-Round Advocacy Calendar and her written report about her attendance. She showed Stephanie Vance’s book Citizens in Action that she won at a pre-conference workshop “Lessons in Influence from Washington D.C.” She reported that she particularly enjoyed the workshop Conversation with Jonathan Gold, the Los Angeles Times restaurant critic.

Commissioner Ravine stated that he found the pre-conference workshop with Stephanie Vance to be informative and that she emphasized the importance of researching the person you are going to talk to. He noted that the Dillons, CLA lobbyists, outlined how the State budget was developed.

6E. SOCIAL SERVICES COMMISSION LIAISON

City Librarian Theyer announced that City Council has established a new Social Services Commission that will support the needs of veterans, homeless, special needs children, and intellectually challenged adults. She stated that the Commission will meet on the fourth Thursday of the month starting in January or February 2016. She asked Commissioners to consider if they want to appoint a Library Commission liaison to the Social Services Commission to attend meetings and report back to the Commission. Commissioners Gerber, Perkins, and Chairperson Ross expressed interest in being the liaison. Chairperson Ross raised the possibility of rotating the assignments and further action was deferred to a future meeting.

MOTION: Commissioner Perkins moved to appoint a Library Commission liaison to the Social Services Commission. Commissioner Haussmann seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected unanimous approval.

7. **OLD BUSINESS** - None.

8. MONTHLY DIVISION REPORT

City Librarian Theyer noted that her Monthly Division Report and CLA Legislative Priorities 2016 were included in agenda materials. She reported that the grand reopening for McMaster has been postponed to January 2016 but that she expects the bulk of the parking lot to be accessible before then.

9. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

9A. Commissioner Haussmann stated that she attended the Pumpkin Light Craft program at North Torrance Library.

9B. Commissioner Gerber recommended Torrance Theatre Company's "Coney Island Christmas."

9C. Commissioner Sargent stated that she attended the Friends' book sale, the Library's presentation of classical guitarist Michael Nigro, and the Torrance Adult School Site Council meeting.

9D. Commissioner Ravine stated that he attended the Del Amo Mall opening and will be going to an ExxonMobil Citizen Advisory Board meeting on November 17.

9E. Commissioner Perkins stated that she enjoyed the Arts Council of Torrance meeting, Friends' book sale, Rose Float's Halloween Ball, and Excellence in Arts Awards ceremony.

9F. Chairperson Ross stated that he attended soccer recertification classes.

10. ITEMS FOR NEXT LIBRARY COMMISSION MEETING

Items for the December 14, 2015 Library Commission meeting agenda were listed and include: Friends, Youth Council, Monthly Division Report, Social Services Commission, CLA Conference, staff recognition, joint meeting with City Council, Day in the District, and CPLA membership.

11. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: At 8:05 p.m., Commissioner Sargent moved to adjourn the meeting to December 14, 2015, at 7:00 p.m. at Katy Geissert Civic Center Library. Commissioner Gerber seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected unanimous approval.

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Approved as submitted December 14, 2015 s/ Rebecca Poirier, City Clerk
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