

**ALAMEDA COUNTY LIBRARY**

**ALAMEDA COUNTY LIBRARY ADVISORY COMMISSION  
MEETING SUMMARY ACTION MINUTES**

**January 12, 2022**

**Hybrid Meeting, Irvington Library**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by the chairperson, Michael Baldwin, at 7:04 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:**

Michael Baldwin  
Subru Bhat  
Karen Bridges  
Cheryl Hoffmann  
Sherry Hu  
Teresa Keng  
Sarah Wilson  
Tyler Dragoni

**Members Absent:**

Pat Gacoscos  
Maria "Sucy" Collazo  
Ge'nell Gary

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Kelly Abreu – Resident of Fremont – spoke briefly on the Brown Act and commented that the Library should partner with schools as social spaces for school children. Mr. Abreu encourages the Library to try to serve as a remedy to the lack of kid-friendly social spaces.

Rebecca Stanek-Rykoff – Resident of Castro Valley – extended thanks to the Library for making this meeting hybrid and asked the Library to consider making some of the locations, including Castro Valley and San Lorenzo, COVID testing sites. There is a large need for this service, especially in the unincorporated areas.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

1. Approval of Minutes of October 6, 2021

Commissioner Karen Bridges moved and Commissioner Subru Bhat seconded for the approval of minutes from October 6, 2021. The minutes were approved by unanimous vote.

**DISCUSSION CALENDAR**

2. ACLAC Retreat Follow Up & Next Steps

The Commissioners discussed the drafts of the ACLAC Mission and Vision Statements. Commissioner Cheryl Hoffmann suggested a few grammatical edits to the statements.

### 3. Finance Presentation: Annual Budget

County Librarian Cindy Chadwick introduced Financial Services Officer Darshan Chattha who presented the County's annual budget process and how it relates to the Library's budget.

Commissioner Baldwin asked if the city contracts were for supplemental services in the Library budget. Chattha confirmed that it is supplemental and covers additional hours that the city wants services.

Commissioner Bhat asked about the status of Union City Library. Chattha commented that we do not have enough information right now. Chadwick added that the Library has a great relationship with the City. We are keeping in touch with the City Manager and monitoring the financial situation closely.

Commissioner Bridges asked if the Library is receiving additional funds for Newark right now. Chadwick answered that we currently are not. The Library is still closed on Sundays, but that is something that we may start working on soon as there is interest in having that happen.

Commissioner Baldwin asked if there have been any contracts from the County for the unincorporated hours for additional hours. Chadwick and Chattha said there have not been contracts like that in the past. Chattha added that the Library opened a new location in the Cherryland Community Center, and REACH Ashland Youth Center several years ago, with no additional funding from the cities or County.

Public comment by Kelly Abreu – Mr. Abreu recommended rounding off the numbers on public-facing budget presentations so that they can be easier to understand for members of the public.

### 4. Tour of Irvington Library

Chadwick introduced Division Director of Fremont Libraries Brian Edwards and Coordinator of Innovation and Cultivation Chris Kyauk who gave a brief overview of the services offered at Irvington Library followed by a tour of the facility.

Edwards noted that there is a small children-focused collection in the old meeting room which is open to the public. Kyauk added that the robotics field has been popular among the high school students in the area.

### 5. County Librarian's Report

County Librarian Cindy Chadwick talked about Diante Craig, a former staff member at San Lorenzo Library, who tragically passed away in 2020. To honor his memory, the Library is partnering with the local community to establish Diante's Den, public bookshelves in barbershops in the Eden Area. The Library is excited to be unveiling the first Diante's Den in a few weeks. Commissioner Hoffmann thanks the Library and its support of this memorial.

Chadwick spoke about hopes for the Library to serve as pop-up COVID testing sites or Points of Distribution (PODs). This is hot news right now with public libraries and we could participate as a PCR test site, similar to the POD vaccination sites we did in Castro Valley and Union City in 2020, or as a Point of Distribution for the rapid test. Chadwick added that we are in touch with the County's Public Health Department. Though there is nothing firm yet on that front, they know that we are available and willing to serve.

Congratulations to the Commissioners who have been reappointed for another term: Michael Baldwin, Cheryl Hoffmann, Tyler Dragoni, Subru Bhat, and Sarah Wilson. On behalf of the Library, Chadwick thanked the Commissioners for their service and continued support.

## 6. Commissioners' Updates and Reports

Commissioner Baldwin shared that the new seed library at Castro Valley has been popular.

Commissioner Hoffmann complemented the staff working on the Listen Inn program. She shared that many of her friends who have called in always enjoyed it and had only good things to say about it.

Commissioner Tyler Dragoni thanked Chadwick for adding the local history book The Rise and Fall of Hayward's Route 238 Bypass to the collection. This book, by Sherman Lewis, is a narrative history about the failed 238 bypass just north of Union City and Fremont.

Commissioner Bridges invited the Commissioners to Newark's open house highlighting the Jean Ficklin Story Time Room, tentatively scheduled for April 9<sup>th</sup>.

## 7. Next Meeting Date/Place

Date: April 7, 2022  
Place: Hybrid Meeting, Physical Location TBD  
Time: 7:00 pm

## Adjournment

Commissioner Teresa Keng moved, and Commissioner Bhat seconded, for adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 8:28 p.m.