



BERKELEY PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES

REGULAR MEETING
February 1, 2017

AGENDA
5:00 PM

Tarea Hall Pittman South Branch
1901 RUSSELL STREET

I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS

- A. **Call to Order**
- B. **Public Comments**
- C. **Comments from Library Unions:**
 - i. SEIU, LOCAL 1021 (Community Services and PTRLA Units)
 - ii. Public Employees Union, LOCAL 1
 - iii. SEIU, LOCAL 1021 (Maintenance and Clerical Units)
- D. **Comments from Board of Library Trustees**

II. CONSENT CALENDAR

The Board will consider removal and addition of items to the Consent Calendar prior to voting on the Consent Calendar. All items remaining on the Consent Calendar will be approved in one motion.

- A. **Approve minutes of January 4, 2017 Special Meeting**
Recommendation: Approve the minutes of the January 4, 2017, Special Meeting of the Board of Library Trustees.
- B. **Approve minutes of January 4, 2017 Regular Meeting**
Recommendation: Approve the minutes of the January 4, 2017, Regular Meeting of the Board of Library Trustees.
- C. **Gifts – Dennis Dang, Administrative and Finance Manager**
Recommendation: Adopt a resolution authorizing the Director of Library Services to accept and appropriate gift funds in the amount of \$4,630.
- D. **2017 Annual Authors Dinner Event**
Recommendation: Adopt a Resolution approving the arrangements in preparation for the 15th annual Authors Dinner to be held on Saturday, February 11, 2017 at the Central Library.
- E. **California State Library FY 2017 Grant Funds for California Library Literacy Services (CLLS) Program**
Recommendation: Adopt a resolution authorizing the Director of Library Services to accept and appropriate in full the FY 2017 CLLS grant fund award of \$61,534.
- F. **Amendment: Contract No. 9200, One Workplace L. Ferrari, LLC**
Recommendation: Adopt a resolution authorizing the Director of Library Services to amend Contract No. 9200 with One Workplace L. Ferrari, LLC in an incremental amount of \$15,000 for the procurement of furniture, delivery, and installation services for staff furniture at the Central Library for an amended not-to-exceed value of \$405,000.

III. ACTION CALENDAR

- A. **Trustee interviews and recommendation to City Council for trustee appointment effective March 24, 2017**
Recommendation: Trustees will conduct interviews during this meeting of candidates for the upcoming vacancy on the Board of Library Trustees in order for the Trustees to make a recommendation to the City Council. Packets of the candidate applications will be available for review by the public at the meeting. Following discussion of candidates interviewed, vote by the Board on which one to recommend, and direct staff to send name of recommended candidate to the City Council for appointment.



MINUTES

Berkeley Public Library - Board of Library Trustees Special Meeting Wednesday, January 4, 2017, 5:30 PM

TAREA HALL PITTMAN SOUTH BRANCH – 1901 RUSSELL STREET

Board of Library Trustees:

Chair Julie Holcomb	Winston Burton
Vice Chair Jim Novosel	Abigail Franklin
	Sophie Hahn

I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS

A copy of the agenda packet can be found at <http://www.berkeleypubliclibrary.org/about/board-library-trustees>

A. Call to Order: 5:30 PM

Present: Trustees Burton, Franklin, Holcomb, Hahn and Novosel.

Absent: None.

Also Present: Heidi Dolamore, Director of Library Services; Eve Franklin, Administrative Secretary.

B. Public Comments: 0 speakers.

Adjourned to Closed Session: 5:31 PM

II. CLOSED SESSION

A. Public Employee Performance Evaluation (Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957)

Title of position being evaluated: Director of Library Services

Called to Order for open session at 6:25 PM.

III. OPEN SESSION

A. Public Reports of actions taken pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.1.

No action taken.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned at 6:26 PM.

This is to certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the special meeting of January 4, 2017 as approved by the Board of Library Trustees

//s// _____

Heidi Dolamore, Director of Library Services, acting as secretary to BOLT



MINUTES

Berkeley Public Library - Board of Library Trustees Regular Meeting Wednesday, January 4, 2017 6:30 PM

TAREA HALL PITTMAN SOUTH BRANCH – 1901 RUSSELL STREET

Board of Library Trustees:

Chair Julie Holcomb	Winston Burton
Vice Chair Jim Novosel	Abigail Franklin
	Sophie Hahn

I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS

A copy of the agenda packet can be found at <http://www.berkeleypubliclibrary.org/about/board-library-trustees>

1. Call to Order: 6:35 PM

Present: Trustees Burton, Franklin, Hahn, Holcomb and Novosel.

Absent: None.

Also Present: Heidi Dolamore, Director of Library Services; Jay Dickinson, Circulation Services Manager; Rachel MacNeilly, Collection Services Manager; July Cole, Associate Human Resources Analyst; Eve Franklin, Administrative Secretary.

2. Public Comments: 3 speakers.

3. Comments from Library Unions:

1. SEIU, LOCAL 1021 (Community Services and PTRLA Units) – 1 speaker.
2. Public Employees Union, LOCAL 1 – 0 speakers
3. SEIU, LOCAL 1021 (Maintenance and Clerical Units) – 0 speakers

4. Comments from Board of Library Trustees

1. Trustee Burton – Spoke regarding restart of Joint Labor Management meetings and Tarea Hall Pittman sign status.
2. Trustee Franklin – Spoke regarding Foundation and Authors Dinner honoring Linda Schact.
3. President Holcomb – Spoke regarding Foundation.
4. Trustee Novosel – Spoke regarding Friends and Foundation.
5. Trustee Hahn – Spoke regarding Foundation

II. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. Approve minutes of November 9, 2016 Regular Meeting

From: Director of Library Services

Recommendation: Adopt a resolution to approve the minutes of the November 9, 2016 Regular Meeting of the Board of Library Trustees.

Financial Implications: None.

Contact: Heidi Dolamore, Director of Library Services

Action: Adopted Resolution # R17-002

Action: M/S/C Trustee Burton / Trustee Novosel to approve minutes of November 9, 2016 Regular Meeting.

Vote: Ayes: Trustees Burton, Holcomb, and Novosel. Noes: None. Absent: None. Abstentions: Trustees Franklin and Hahn.

B. Approve minutes of December 14, 2016 Regular Meeting

From: Director of Library Services

Recommendation: Adopt a resolution to approve the minutes of the December 14, 2016 Regular Meeting of the Board of Library Trustees.

Financial Implications: None.

Contact: Heidi Dolamore, Director of Library Services

Action: Adopted Resolution # R17-003

Action: M/S/C Trustee Burton / Trustee Franklin to approve minutes of December 14, 2016 Regular Meeting.

Vote: Ayes: Trustees Burton, Franklin, Hahn, Holcomb, and Novosel. Noes: None. Absent: None.

Abstentions: None.

III. ACTION CALENDAR

A. Contract: Valley Power Systems, Inc.

From: Senior Building Maintenance Supervisor

Recommendation: Adopt a resolution authorizing the Director of Library Services to enter into a contract in an amount not to exceed \$170,000 with Valley Power Systems, Inc. for the provision and installation of a rooftop generator at the Central Library for the projected period from January 9, 2017 through June 30, 2017.

Financial Implications: None.

Contact: Walter Johnson, Senior Building Maintenance Supervisor

Action: M/S/C Trustee Franklin / Trustee Novosel to adopt Resolution # R17-004.

Vote: Ayes: Trustees Burton, Franklin, Hahn, Holcomb, and Novosel. Noes: None. Absent: None.

Abstentions: None.

B. Contract Amendment: Unique Management Services, Inc.

From: Circulation services Manager

Recommendation: Adopt a resolution authorizing the Director of Library Services to amend Contract No. 8638 with Unique Management Services, Inc. for the provision of collection agency services for library fees and fines in an incremental amount of \$4,000 for a contracted not-to-exceed amount of \$64,000.

Financial Implications: None.

Contact: Jay Dickinson, Circulation services Manager

Action: M/S/C Trustee Franklin / Trustee Novosel to adopt Resolution # R17-005.

Vote: Ayes: Trustees Burton, Franklin, Hahn, Holcomb, and Novosel. Noes: None. Absent: None.

Abstentions: None.

C. President and Vice President Elections – Heidi Dolamore, Director of Library Services

From: Director of Library Services

Recommendation: Adopt a resolution to appoint President and Vice-President for the remainder of 2016 and through the time of election in 2017.

Financial Implications: None.

Contact: Heidi Dolamore, Director of Library Services

Action: postponed to February

IV. PRESENTATION CALENDAR

A. Technology – Alicia Abramson, Information Technology Manager provided a presentation. (Attachment 1)

B. YouthWorks – July Cole, Human Resources Analyst provided a presentation. (Attachment 2)

V. INFORMATION CALENDAR

A. Monthly Library Director's Report

Heidi Dolamore will bring a detailed report for the February meeting regarding Tarea Hall Pittman signage

From: Director of Library Services

Contact: Heidi Dolamore, Director of Library Services

Action: Received

B. Library Events

From: Director of Library Services

Contact: Heidi Dolamore, Director of Library Services

Action: Received

VI. AGENDA BUILDING

- Trustee Interview
- President/Vice President Election
- Tarea Hall Pittman Signage

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned at 7:55 PM.

This is to certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the regular meeting of January 4, 2017 as approved by the Board of Library Trustees

//s// _____

Heidi Dolamore, Director of Library Services, acting as secretary to BOLT

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Technology Presentation
2. Youth Works Presentation



Library Information Technology

Providing community access to technology, the internet, digital content and apps

Who Are We?



[Alicia Abramson](#)

Manager, Library Information Technology
IT | Central | City of Berkeley



[Marcus Bell](#)

Information Systems Specialist
IT | Central | City of Berkeley



[Ilan Eyman](#)

IT Librarian
IT | Central | City of Berkeley



[Vlad Kaplun](#)

Information Systems Specialist
IT | Central | City of Berkeley



[Valerie Nelson](#)

Information Systems Specialist
IT | Central | City of Berkeley

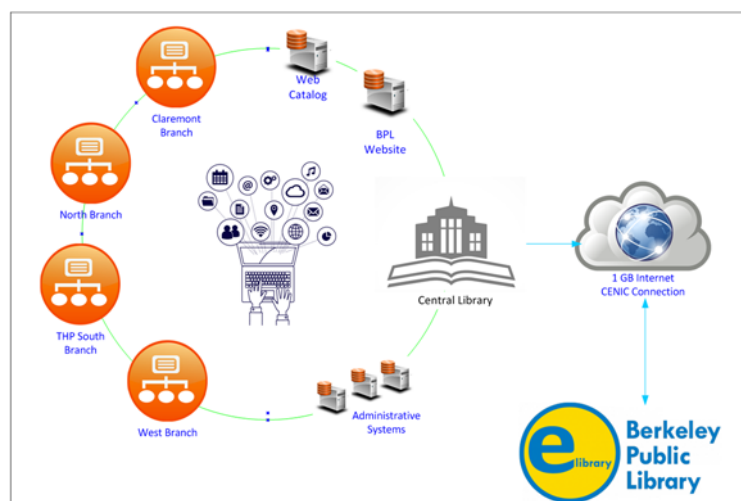
What do we do?

Library Information Technology Staff are Responsible For:

- ✓ Technology Infrastructure across all locations
- ✓ Free Public Access computers and laptops
- ✓ Online Web Catalog and Circulation system
- ✓ Free Public Access Wi-Fi
- ✓ Library Website and Staff Intranet

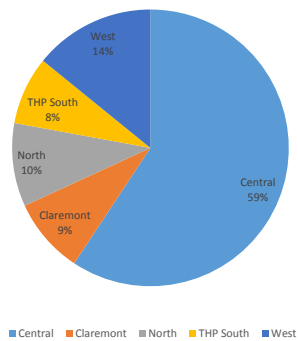
And, we provide staff support and training & respond to public suggestions

Library Information Technology Landscape

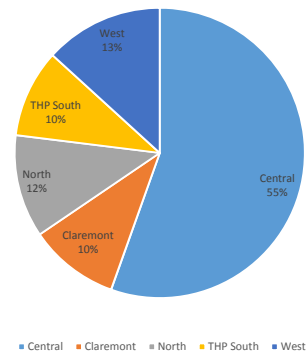


Public Access Computers A Snapshot

153 Public Access Computers
35th out of 186 CA Libraries*



161,870 Public PC Sessions
January 1, 2016 - December 20, 2016



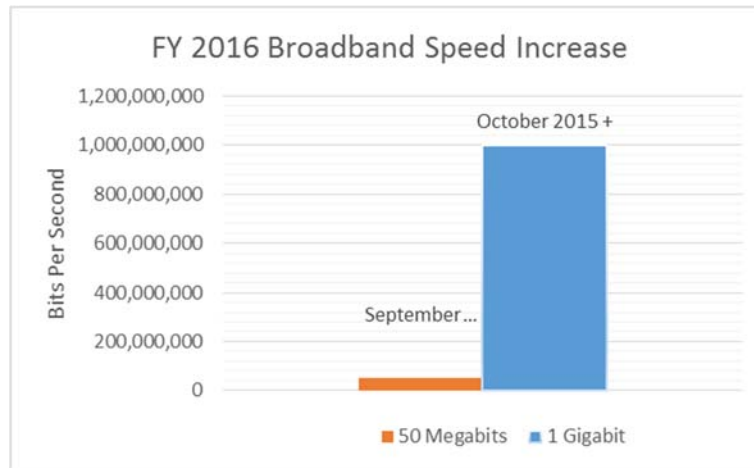
* CALIFORNIA STATE LIBRARY SURVEY 2014

Public Access Computing in Action



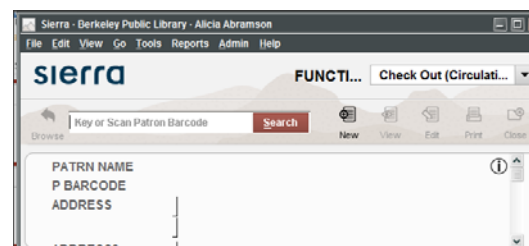
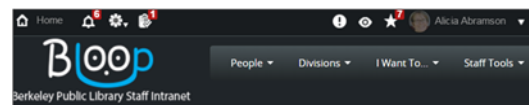
Achievements Fiscal Years 2016 & 2017

Strategic Plan Activity 9A



Achievements—Continued

- ✓ Implemented Staff Intranet (Strategic Plan Activity 3B)
- ✓ Upgraded Circulation & Catalog system—Sierra
- ✓ Ongoing PC & Server upgrades and replacements



What's Next? 2017 and Beyond

Planned projects

- ✓ Participate in the Library's Edge Project
- ✓ Upgrade Central Library Audiovisual systems
- ✓ Participate in the City of Berkeley's Skype Web conferencing Pilot & other Citywide initiatives
- ✓ Continue 3-4 year PC and server replacement cycle

Future Exploration

- ✓ Improve Mobile Access to Library Services
- ✓ Increase privacy training and tools for patrons
- ✓ Provide access to Library programs via streaming, online video and audio
- ✓ More collaborative technology workspaces
- ✓ Makerspaces, Technology Learning Labs, and improved access to digital content creation tools



Berkeley Public Library and YouthWorks

Together Building Our Community



Presenter: July Cole, Associate Human Resources Analyst
January 2017



YouthWorks

What's it about?

- City of Berkeley year round youth employment program
- Open to Berkeley residents between 14 and 25 years old
- Job opportunities in a variety of industries
- Temporary part-time work
- Employment preparation

Purpose?

- Expose youth to career options and opportunities
- Divert youth activities
- Support youth with interpersonal relationships at home and community



Berkeley Public Library Connection

- Active partner for over twenty years
- Summer and Winter job sessions
- 2016 sessions 9 youth employed
- Youth work at multiple library locations and divisions
- Training and development
- Feedback and support from supervisors
- Opportunity for a career path:
- Library Page
- Library Aide



YouthWorks Participant Experience

- YouthWorks lead me to getting this awesome job! – Danielle M., Library Aide
- I first heard about the YouthWorks program through Berkeley High School, where I was currently a Junior at the time. YouthWorks helped me find my first job and here I am 5 years later still currently working in the Library field for the City of Berkeley and I love it! - Brianna B., Library Aide
- YouthWorks was my first job. They help get you in the mindset of what it means to work and opens up other job opportunities that have benefited me. – Mecca F., Library Page



- Through YouthWorks, I started working with the City of Berkeley during the summer 2005. It is still one of the best work experiences I've ever had. The moment I got my first check and made my first major purchase, an iPod mini, at the age of 15, gave me a sense of responsibility and empowerment. It introduced me to the working world and all the benefits that come from being a City employee. Every job has attributed to my growth and successfully got me a permanent and benefited position. I can't rave enough about this program and Fish for giving me a strong foundation and solid work ethic! – Chinyere K., Library Aide



YouthWorks Value

- Giving young people the opportunity to work provides them real world experience and really start the motor for learning the virtues of a job, time management, and commitment. With increasing technological advances, we aim to help the youth develop soft skills as they grow into adulthood and on to become professionals. - Jose Rios, Community Services Specialist (YouthWorks)
- Young people are given an opportunity to have a real workplace experience. We find it rewarding to be teachers and to be apart of that process. – Sam C., Russell K. & Vijay N., Supervising Library Assistants



Want more information, please visit:
YouthWorks <http://www.ci.berkeley.ca.us/youthworks/>
or
Berkeley Public Library <https://www.berkeleypubliclibrary.org/>



CONSENT CALENDAR

February 1, 2017

To: Board of Library Trustees

From: Dennis Dang, Administrative and Fiscal Services Manager

Subject: Accept and Appropriate Gift Funds in Support of Berkeley Public Library Programs and Materials

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a resolution authorizing the Director of Library Services to accept gift funds in the amount of \$4,630.

INTRODUCTION

The California Library Literacy Services (CLLS) is a program of the California State Library whose mission is to enable Californians of all ages to reach their literacy goals and use library services effectively. CLLS is an important funding source for the Library's Berkeley READS literacy service, a CLLS program participant since 1987.

FISCAL IMPACTS

The acceptance of these gift funds will have no negative impact on the Library budget. Upon board acceptance, the funds will be deposited into Fund 306 (Gifts Fund) or into Fund 307 (Foundation Fund) in fiscal year 2017. The funds will be appropriated to the fiscal year 2018 expenditure budget.

BACKGROUND

The Board of Library Trustees authorizes the acceptance and appropriation of grants, gifts, donations, and monetary awards designated for use by the Library, as part of the regular budget management process, including revenue recognition and budget appropriation. Since 2008, the Library has had a Gift Policy (A.R. Number 10.11) which addresses the acceptance of gifts by the Board of Library Trustees.

In all cases of gifts to the Library up to \$200,000 and not related to the Berkeley Public Library Foundation's Branch Libraries FF&E capital campaign, City Council Resolution No. 65,444-N.S. states, "*...the Council of the City of Berkeley hereby delegates to the Board of Library Trustees the authority to accept: (1) any gifts of funds, goods, or services made to the Library up to \$200,000 that do not include unduly restrictive conditions on their use...and mandates annual reporting to the Council of gifts in excess of \$1,000 in aggregate in an informational report to be presented before the Council on a regular meeting agenda.*"

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

- A gift donation for library materials was received in memory of Hyman and Lily Shapiro.
- A gift donation from M. Weaver.
- A gift donation from Direct Line Tele Response.
- A gift donation for Berkeley Reads from the Raymond Family Foundation.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

The Library regularly receives gift funding and support from the Berkeley Public Library Foundation, the Friends of the Berkeley Public Library, as well as many individuals and organizations. Donations and gifts are greatly appreciated by the Library as they allow the Library to augment and enhance the delivery of public

services in a tangible and visible manner that benefits the quality of life standards enjoyed by all members of the Berkeley community.

By accepting and appropriating the funds awarded the Library will be able to honor the intent and wishes of the donor.

Attachments

1. Resolution

BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES

RESOLUTION NO: R17-__

TO ACCEPT AND APPROPRIATE GIFT FUNDS

WHEREAS, the Berkeley Public Library regularly receives gifts from the Berkeley Public Library Foundation and the Friends of the Berkeley Public Library, as well as many individuals and groups; and

WHEREAS, following passage of the Open Government Ordinance by the City Council, the City Council by passage of Resolution No. 65,444-N.S. delegated to the Library Board of Trustees the authority to accept any gifts of funds, goods, or services made to the Library up to \$200,000 that do not include unduly restrictive conditions on their use; and

WHEREAS, the Library has a Gift Policy (A.R. Number 10.11), which addresses the acceptance of gifts by the Board of Library Trustees and includes a requirement for annual reporting to the City Council for any gift received over \$1,000 in aggregate; and

WHEREAS, has received donated funds in the amount \$4,630 to fund Library programs and materials; and

WHEREAS, the Library wishes to accept these funds in FY 2017 and appropriate these funds to fiscal year 2018; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Library Trustees of the City of Berkeley hereby authorizes the Director of Library Services to accept FY 2017 gift funds in the sum of \$4,630, and to appropriate these funds to the expenditure budget in fiscal year 2018 for Library programs and materials.

ADOPTED by the Board of Library Trustees of the City of Berkeley during a regular meeting held on February 1, 2017 by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTENTIONS:

Julie Holcomb, President

Heidi Dolamore, Director of Library Services
Serving as Secretary to the Board of Library Trustees



CONSENT CALENDAR

February 1, 2017

To: Board of Library Trustees

From: Sarah Dentan, Acting Deputy Director of Library Services

Subject: 2017 Annual Authors Dinner Event

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution approving the arrangements in preparation for the 15th annual Authors Dinner to be held on Saturday, February 11, 2017 at the Central Library.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

There is no fiscal impact from this report.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

The 15th annual Authors Dinner is scheduled for Saturday, February 11, 2017 with a gala reception beginning at 6 pm, followed by a Silent Auction and dinner. The Foundation is expecting approximately 320 guests, and 30 noted authors are scheduled to attend. In preparation for this event, the following arrangements need Board approval:

1. Close the Central Library at 5:00 pm on Saturday, February 11, 2017. Public computers will shut down at 4:50 pm.
2. Arrange for Library staff to assist with cleanup of the Central Library between 5:00 and 6:00 pm.
3. Close the Historic Reference Room, the Teen Room, the Historic Lobby, the second floor Reading Room, and the Berkeley History Room all day on Saturday, February 11, 2017.
4. Arrange for maintenance staff to be available for resetting lights and various other set-up efforts.

BACKGROUND

For the past fourteen years in February, the Berkeley Public Library Foundation has held an annual Authors Dinner at the Central Library. The event generates much excitement throughout the community and is an important fundraising event for the Library Foundation.

FUTURE ACTION

No future action is required.

CONTACT PERSON

Sarah Dentan, Acting Deputy Director, Library Administration, 510-981-6195

Attachments:

1: Resolution

BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES

RESOLUTION NO: R17-____

APPROVAL OF THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE 2017 15th ANNUAL AUTHORS DINNER EVENT TO BE HELD ON SATURDAY FEBRUARY 11, 2017 AT THE CENTRAL LIBRARY

WHEREAS, over the past 14 years the Berkeley Public Library Foundation has held annual Authors Dinners at the Central Library; and

WHEREAS, over the past 14 years the Berkeley Public Library Foundation has held annual Authors Dinners at the Central Library; and

WHEREAS, this event is an important fundraising event for the Library Foundation; and

WHEREAS, the 15th annual Authors Dinner is scheduled for Saturday, February 11, 2017; and

WHEREAS, in preparation for the event, specific arrangements must be approved by the Board of Library Trustees.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Library Trustees of the City of Berkeley to approve the following arrangements in preparation for the eleventh annual Authors Dinner:

1. Close the Central Library at 5:00 pm on Saturday, February 11, 2017.
2. Shut down the Central Library's public computers at 4:50 pm on Saturday, February 11, 2017.
3. Arrange for Library staff to assist with cleanup of the Central Library between 5:00 and 6:00 pm on Saturday, February 11, 2017.
4. Close the Historic Reference Room, the Teen Room, the Historic Lobby, the second floor Reading Room, and the Berkeley History Room all day on Saturday, February 11, 2017.
5. Arrange for maintenance staff to be available for resetting lights and various other set-up efforts.

ADOPTED by the Board of Library Trustees of the City of Berkeley at a regular meeting held on February 1, 2017 by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTENTIONS:

Julie Holcomb, President

Heidi Dolamore, Director of Library Services
Serving as Secretary to the Board of Library Trustees



CONSENT CALENDAR

February 1, 2017

To: Board of Library Trustees

From: Dennis Dang, Administrative and Fiscal Services Manager

Subject: California State Library FY 2017 Grant Funds for California Library Literacy Services (CLLS) Program

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a resolution authorizing the Director of Library Services to accept and appropriate in full the FY 2017 CLLS grant fund award of \$61,534.

INTRODUCTION

The California Library Literacy Services (CLLS) is a program of the California State Library whose mission is to enable Californians of all ages to reach their literacy goals and use library services effectively. CLLS is an important funding source for the Library's Berkeley READS literacy service, a CLLS program participant since 1987.

FISCAL IMPACTS

The annual CLLS grant has typically been provided in three parts: 1) a baseline amount applicable to the fiscal year's approved CLLS programs, including Adult Literacy and Families for Literacy – programs reflecting both the commitment and importance to the City of Berkeley and the State of California that all Californians attain their literacy goals and possess the capability to effectively use library services, and parts 2 and 3) a CLLS formula amount based on a per capita amount per adult learner served at BPL in the previous fiscal year, and a match on local funds raised and expended for adult literacy services reflecting the commitment to a continuing state/local partnership and an incentive for increased local support for adult literacy.

For FY 2017, the Library was awarded \$61,534 in CLLS grant funding of which \$18,000 was accorded to Baseline Adult Literacy Services and \$43,534 for per capita per adult learner and local matching funds.

BACKGROUND

The Berkeley READS program was seeded in 1987 with CLLS funding and has continuously received this grant following a fiscal year schedule through to fiscal year 2017. The program's Library staffing consists of a 1.0 FTE Library Literacy Program Coordinator, a 1.0 FTE Library Specialist I (Literacy Program Assistant) and a 0.50 PT Library Assistant funded through the Library Tax Fund. Staffing is further supplemented by additional contractual or project positions (typically funded by CLLS grant support) – estimated at 1.00 FTE in FY 2017 – dedicated to adult and family literacy that may include a mix of a Family Literacy Instructor, a Computer Lab/Drop-In Instructor, an Adult Learner-on-Staff, and a Tutor Trainer.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

- Of the Library's \$61,534 CLLS award for FY 2017, payments are made by the California State Library in two parts: an initial payment of \$18,000 accorded to Baseline Adult Literacy Services and \$43,534 for per capita per adult learner and local matching funds. The FY 2017 budgeted amounts at \$40,000 cautiously estimated revenue and expenditure based on the prior year's award. The subsequent state

budget provided for a \$2 million increase in California Library Literacy Services program funding to \$4.82 million. Full acceptance and appropriation of the FY 2017 CLLS grant award will be incorporated into the City's upcoming Annual Appropriations Ordinance #2 (AAO2) budget revision request for revenue and expenditures. The AAO2 budget revision is in accordance with California State Library program rules that the fiscal year budget be revised to reflect use of the year's awarded funds. With this vital funding support Berkeley READS will continue to build upon its community and local government relationships, pursue active client recruitment strategies, and offer instruction in a variety of modalities best suited to the individual client.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

By accepting and appropriating the funds awarded the Library will be able to honor the intent and wishes of the grantor and fulfill the identified program's objectives.

Attachments

1. Resolution

BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES

RESOLUTION NO: R17-__

TO ACCEPT AND APPROPRIATE IN FULL THE FY 2017 CALIFORNIA LIBRARY LITERACY SERVICES (CLLS) PROGRAM GRANT AWARD

WHEREAS, the California State Library administers program awards for the California Library Literacy Services (CLLS) Grant Program; and

WHEREAS, the CLLS program is an important funding source for the Berkeley READS adult and family literacy program; and

WHEREAS, the grant amount is determined by a CLLS funding formula and is available to those libraries that sustain a commitment to a continued state/local partnership and support for adult literacy; and

WHEREAS, the California State Library has determined a final FY 2017 CLLS award of \$61,534 composed of a baseline award, a per capita amount per adult learner served in the prior year, and a match on local funds raised and expended for adult learning services; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Library Trustees of the City of Berkeley hereby authorizes the Director of Library Services to receive, accept, and appropriate in full the FY 2017 awarded funds amounting to \$61,534 extended by the California Library Literacy Services Grant Program to the Berkeley Public Library.

ADOPTED by the Board of Library Trustees of the City of Berkeley during a regular meeting held on February 1, 2017 by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTENTIONS:

Julie Holcomb, President

Heidi Dolamore, Director of Library Services
Serving as Secretary to the Board of Library Trustees



CONSENT CALENDAR

February 1, 2017

To: Board of Library Trustees

From: Dennis Dang, Administrative and Fiscal Services Manager

Subject: Amendment: Contract No. 9200, One Workplace L. Ferrari, LLC

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a resolution authorizing the Director of Library Services to amend Contract No. 9200 with One Workplace L. Ferrari, LLC in an incremental amount of \$15,000 for the procurement of furniture, delivery, and installation services for staff furniture at the Central Library for an amended not-to-exceed value of \$405,000.

SUMMARY

A room on the 5th floor of Central that was being used as storage space has been repurposed as a staff meeting room and requires appropriate furnishings. The office for the Director of Library Services has relocated from office #B-311 to #B-310 and the incoming Deputy Director of Library Services will be assigned #B-311. Office #B-310 was converted to a meeting room upon the Director's retirement in October 2014 and is currently partially furnished for use as an office. Upon completion of this purchase, this contract will be allowed to expire.

FISCAL IMPACTS

The incremental expenditure increase of \$15,000 is included in the FY 2017 Library Tax Fund (Fund 301) expenditures budget and will be expensed through budget code **301-9101-450.70-43/71-43**.

BACKGROUND

Contract No. 9200 with One Workplace L. Ferrari, LLC originates from the issuance of Request for Proposals Specification No. 13-10717 released on December 17, 2012 seeking branch library furniture procurement and installation services for the South Branch Library. On May 14, 2013, to ensure design consistency across the branches, Contract No. 9200 was amended under authority of BOLT Resolution: R13-027 to include staff furnishings for the West Branch Library. A further contract amendment, solicited by Request for Proposals Specification No. 14-10770 released on July 12, 2013, was executed and dated September 19, 2013 with authorization pursuant to BOLT Resolution: R13-051 for public area furnishings at the West Branch Library. At the conclusion of this Foundation funded (Fund 307) furnishings, fixtures and equipment (FF&E) program for the four branch libraries the Library commenced the effort to update staff furnishings in the Central Library that date to the Measure S Central Library Project completed in 2002. Consequently, on November 13, 2013 the board approved BOLT Resolution: R13-069 extending the purchase of furnishings and services to the Central Library, followed by BOLT Resolution: R14-078 increasing the contract's authorized not-to-exceed value to \$350,000. A further increase was authorized by BOLT Resolution: R15-115 on July 1, 2015 increasing the contract's not-to-exceed value to \$390,000 to complete installations in the Technical Services and Information Technology divisions.

In an earlier separate Request for Proposals (Specification No. 11-10601) dating to August 9, 2011, One Workplace had been selected and contracted for furniture procurement and installation for the North and Claremont branch libraries under Contract No. 8831. These previous purchases, similar to the South and West

branch purchases, were effected using Measure FF capital campaign FF&E Gifts Fund (Fund 307) monies raised and administered by the Berkeley Public Library Foundation.

The total contract value inclusive of the requested amendment specified herein exceeds the spending limit of \$100,000 for the purchase of goods allowed to the Director of Library Services as enunciated in the Library's Purchasing Manual; consequently, this request is subject to the authorization of the Board of Library Trustees.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

In 2014, former Director of Library Services Donna Corbeil relocated from office #B-310 to the adjacent vacant office #B-311 in response to staff requests for additional staff meeting space. Office #B-310 was then converted to a conference room. Around the same time, an isolated staff work area on the 5th floor was consolidated with the 2nd floor work area. Subsequently, the 5th floor room was used for storage. Conversion of the 5th floor area to a staff meeting room introduces an additional meeting room closer to where public services are provided, and with recent hirings allows the Library to reconvert office #B-310 to the Director's office and assign an adjacent office to the Deputy Director. The Director's office is frequently used as a meeting room, and it is anticipated the Deputy's office will also be used in this manner.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

One Work Place was the selected vendor in separate Request for Proposals conducted for the branch libraries project, and offers the most cost-effective and expedient furniture purchasing program at governmental rates for the range of purchases required by the Library.

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

To leave the office spaces as currently configured reduces the overall meeting space available to staff, and retains the current configuration with the Deputy Director's office located away from the Director's office. Doing so would not present the most advantageous use of the physical office spaces in regards to the current management structure and meeting room needs.

Attachments

1. Resolution

BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES

RESOLUTION NO: R17-__

AMENDMENT: CONTRACT NO. 9200, ONE WORKPLACE L. FERRARI, LLC

WHEREAS, One Workplace has been the selected vendor in three request for proposals (Specification No. 14-10770, Specification No. 13-10717, and Specification No. 11-10606) and has demonstrated its ability to offer a cost-effective and expedient furniture purchasing program for the range of purchases required by the Library; and

WHEREAS, the Library contracted with One Workplace for furniture procurement and installation services at all branch locations during the Measure FF Branch Libraries Improvement Program; and

WHEREAS, the Library strives to ensure that staff be provided workstations that offer a safe and productive work environment; and

WHEREAS, the Library has identified the bulk of staff furnishings dating to the time of the 2002 Measure S Central Library major renovation and seismic retrofit project as requiring replacement; and

WHEREAS, the board approved BOLT Resolution: R13-069, BOLT Resolution: R14-078, and BOLT Resolution: R15-115 authorizing the purchase of new furnishings for Administration Finance, Collections Development, Public Relations, and Branch Management in the Central Library; and

WHEREAS, the Library seeks to reconvert office #B-310 to use for the Director of Library Services and convert the 5th floor room to a staff meeting room; and

WHEREAS, the value of Contract No. 9200 with One Workplace L. Ferrari, LLC exceeds the spending limit of \$100,000 for the purchase of goods allowed to the Director of Library Services and is subject to board approval.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Library Trustees of the City of Berkeley grants the Director of Library Services the authority to amend Contract No. 9200 with One Workplace L. Ferrari, LLC in an incremental amount of \$15,000 for the procurement of furniture, delivery, and installation services for the Central Library for an amended not-to-exceed value of \$405,000.

ADOPTED by the Board of Library Trustees of the City of Berkeley during a regular meeting held on February 1, 2017 by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTENTIONS:

Julie Holcomb, President

Heidi Dolamore, Director of Library Services
Serving as Secretary to the Board of Library Trustees



ACTION CALENDAR

February 1, 2017

To: Board of Library Trustees

From: Heidi Dolamore, Director of Library Services

Subject: Trustee interviews and recommendation to City Council on appointment of Trustee to serve a four-year term commencing March 24, 2017, to fill vacancy left by the ending of Winston Burton's second term.

RECOMMENDATION

Interview applicants, discuss candidates, and adopt a resolution naming the recommended candidate to the City Council for appointment.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

There is no fiscal impact from this report.

BACKGROUND

The Board of Library Trustees consists of five members appointed by the City Council upon recommendation of the Board of Library Trustees. Board members are appointed for terms of four years, shall not serve more than eight consecutive years, serve without compensation, and must be Berkeley residents.

Trustee Burton's second four-year term will end on March 23, 2017. To ensure a replacement is selected and confirmed by City Council prior to this date, the process to fill this vacancy began in November. Applications were accepted from November 1 through January 13. In addition to advertisement on the City and Library websites, the vacancy was publicized via the following: Berkeleyside, Berkeley Times, Berkeley Post, Friends newsletter, Foundation newsletter, and posted flyers.

The current boards and commission page of the City's website provides general information on commission vacancies and specific information for the Board of Library Trustees, including BOLT Application, Supplemental Questionnaire, meeting times, minutes and a link to the Library's website.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

The Library received 10 applications for the upcoming vacancy. In addition to review of the written application, BOLT will have the opportunity to interview each candidate for 10 minutes at the February 1 meeting. To ensure the interviews are conducted in a fair and consistent manner, BOLT should agree upon the interview questions prior to conducting interviews. The following questions are proposed:

1. What interests you most about the Library?
2. What do you see as the Library's mission and why is its mission meaningful to you?
3. What will you contribute to the board?
4. What is the most critical issue facing libraries in the future?

The interview questions can be agreed upon informally or via a motion.

Interviews are scheduled as follows and will commence at the stated time or at the conclusion of the prior interview, whichever occurs first.

BERKELEY PUBLIC LIBRARY

CONSENT OR ACTION CALENDAR REPORT

Discussion and recommendation to the City Council on appointment of trustee to serve a four-year term commencing March 24, 2017, to fill vacancy left by the ending of Winston Burton's second term.

Page 2

5:30 p.m. – Chang
5:40 p.m. – Dale
5:50 p.m. – Davenport
6:00 p.m. – Goldstein-Erickson
6:10 p.m. – Heglin
6:20 p.m. – Hunt
6:30 p.m. – Jones
6:40 p.m. – Perkins
6:50 p.m. – Selawsky
7:00 p.m. – Simard
7:10 p.m. – Zamost

Following the interviews, BOLT will engage in a brief informal discussion of the candidates, followed by a motion to recommend a candidate, discussion of the motion, and vote on the motion. Once a motion is made to recommend a candidate, the motion must be resolved before entertaining a new motion. Thus, if the initial recommendation is not affirmed by a majority of Trustees, the process of proposing a motion will continue until a majority decision is affirmed.

BOLT's recommendation will be referred to City Council. A majority vote of all the members of the City Council is required to appoint a member to the board.

The new Trustee's appointment will begin on March 24 and the Trustee will attend their first regular meeting in April.

CONTACT PERSON

Heidi Dolamore, Director of Library Services, Administration, 510-981-6195

Attachments:

- 1: Resolution
- 2: Supplemental Questionnaires

BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES

RESOLUTION NO: R17-____

RECOMMENDATION TO THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BERKELEY REGARDING THE PREFERRED CANDIDATE TO FILL THE UPCOMING VACANCY ON MARCH 24, 2017 ON THE BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES

WHEREAS, Trustee Burton's second four year term will end on March 23, 2017; and

WHEREAS, during the November 09, 2017 meeting of the Board of Library Trustees, the Board instructed staff to begin solicitation for applications to fill the upcoming vacancy and issue public announcements; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Library Trustees directed staff to place paid advertisements in local publications and use other means to promote the vacancy; and

WHEREAS, the City Clerk's Office of the City of Berkeley received ten (10) applications from interested parties; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Library Trustees interviewed ten of the applicants during the regular meeting on February 1, 2017; and

WHEREAS, the Board recommends Council set the conditions for this appointment as a 4-year term with the effective dates of March 24, 2017 to March 23, 2021.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Library Trustees of the City of Berkeley recommends to the City Council of the City of Berkeley that the preferred candidate, _____, be appointed to the Board of Library Trustees beginning March 24, 2017.

ADOPTED by the Board of Library Trustees of the City of Berkeley during a regular meeting held on February 1, 2017.

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTENTIONS:

Julie Holcomb, President

Heidi Dolamore, Director of Library Services
Serving as Secretary to the Board of Library Trustee



SUPPLEMENTAL QUESTIONNAIRE
FOR THE
BERKELEY BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES

In addition to filling out the "Application for Appointment to Berkeley Boards and Commissions", candidates are requested to provide additional information to assist the Board of Library Trustees in their process to recommend names to the City Council.

1. Describe your interest in serving as a Library Trustee.

On a personal level, I am an avid public library user. I have lived in several states and had probably more than 30 library cards. Before I became a librarian I delivered library books in Western MA to more than 100 libraries. I have always felt welcome in libraries, enjoy the materials, and being in the spaces. In library school, I studied to be a children's public librarian. For my first librarian job I fell into a position at a private Quaker school outside of Philadelphia and currently work as a private middle school librarian, but I will always be interested in public librarianship and would like to help make thoughtful decisions based on the needs of the community and my vast experience as a public library patron.

2. What qualities do you consider necessary for an effective Trustee, and how do you demonstrate those qualities?

Knowledge of the library's mission, operations, and patron usage are important in planning the direction of the library. Dedication, responsibility, and effective communication are also important, which I have demonstrated over time in my library positions. I have balanced budgets, managed volunteers, taught instructional classes, and led several school wide events, many of which have been innovative including the annual Edible Books Festival. Flexibility, creativity, and being a team player are also useful traits which I believe I've reliably demonstrated at my jobs, taking on new initiatives and events, and covering for and assisting colleagues in areas which may not be related to my position as librarian.

3. Provide examples of current or previous community service and leadership roles.

Last year a colleague and I started the Middle School Diversity Council (MSDC) for our students. We meet weekly and discuss issues about race and equity, and last year led a school wide interactive school wide survey event. This year I led a group to bring One Drop of Love, a one woman show exploring the intersections of race, class, and gender to our school. It was several months of planning and the first time the creator, Fanshen Cox DiGiovanni, had ever performed for a middle school audience. I helped design the curriculum to prepare students for the performance. I've volunteered for The Prison Books Project, Project Homeless Connect, Meals on Wheels, Habitat for Humanity, America Reads, and many more organizations.

4. What do you see as the Library's role in the community now and in the future?

I think the public library's role in the community is as vital as ever, and expanding. It is a beloved third space that is, and should remain open to all, including patrons who are homeless or disenfranchised. It is increasingly important for providing access to the internet and computers and community services, as well as traditional services such as research assistance and materials lending (books, dvds, audiobooks, music, etc.). Ideally, in my opinion it should be the central hub and heart of the community.

*Please return this form and the Application for Appointment to Berkeley Boards and Commissions
to the Office of the City Clerk*

Conor Dale

1. Describe your interest in serving as a Library Trustee:

Since moving back to Berkeley in 2012, the Library has been a regular source of joy and tranquility in my life. I vividly recall having to travel to Los Angeles in 2014 to deal with a family health crisis. As I was in the process of getting ready to leave, I learned that the newest book in one of my favorite fantasy fiction series was ready for pickup at the Library's North Berkeley branch, and checked the book out before leaving for the airport. While the next seven days of my life was far from a pleasant experience, I was occasionally able to leave the stresses, fears, and worries of my day to day life behind while I became completely engrossed in the novel from the Library.

I have enjoyed the Library for years, and want to try to give something back by making sure the Library is a strong and vibrant intuition for myself, my family, and the larger community. I believe the best way for me to do this is to join the Board.

2. What qualities do you consider necessary for an effective Trustee, and how do you demonstrate those qualities?

I regularly interact with and represent the boards of directors for nonprofit and corporate entities. I have found that the ultimate duty of a board member is to make informed and good faith judgments on a variety of topics on which Board members have little direct knowledge. Given the variety of issues addressed in a normal board meeting - running from budgets, contracts, to personnel decisions - the ultimate responsibility of a board member or trustee is to be as prepared and informed as possible regarding the topics on which you will be voting. Ultimately, I believe that the willingness to work hard and devote sufficient time and mental energy to prepare for meetings is the most important quality for any board member.

I have always found that working hard is not an issue, particularly when I care about the work itself or its results. While my professional knowledge of the topics that the Board of Trustees appears to regularly address is useful, my passion for the Library and willingness to work hard will be my strongest attributes as a potential trustee.

3. Provide examples of current or previous community service and leadership roles.

In my past, I have engaged in community service by volunteering and organizing events for my local community center and serving in leadership roles in my local Parish Youth Council. Leadership roles in my current professional life include organizing and leading a group of attorneys devoted to reporting on updates to California law to clients and the larger community.

4. What do you see as the Library's role in the community now and in the future?

In his 2012 book *Coming Apart*, scholar Charles Murray argued that one of the most effective ways to protect communities and combat inequality was to build and maintain vibrant local institutions that provide stability and fellowship. I see the Library as the crown jewel of the Berkeley community - not only does it maintain a large and well-curated collection of books, it provides (and competently advertises) other extremely valuable services such as tax preparation classes and the tool library. Notably, the tools provided by the tool library helped my neighbors start their own business in downtown Berkeley.

I would like to make sure that the Library continues to provide now and in the future not only books but the other services that are a rock for this community.



SUPPLEMENTAL QUESTIONNAIRE
FOR THE
BERKELEY BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES

CITY OF BERKELEY
CITY CLERK DEPT

2017 JAN 10 AM 11:42

In addition to filling out the "Application for Appointment to Berkeley Boards and Commissions", candidates are requested to provide additional information to assist the Board of Library Trustees in their process to recommend names to the City Council.

1. Describe your interest in serving as a Library Trustee.

My interest in serving as a Library Trustee is the natural outgrowth of both my professional and retirement activities. I worked as a professional librarian from 1969 until my retirement in 2004. I worked in a variety of city and county libraries, in jails and in bookmobiles, and supervised both the Castro Valley Library in the Alameda County Library System, and the West Branch Library here in Berkeley. At the Central Library I was the manager in charge of both the Reference and Art & Music departments and later manager of all four branches. I loved the work, was a passionate librarian, and was a strong advocate for dynamic, progressive libraries and library services.

Since retiring, I have served as president of the Friends of the Library and the secretary of the Board of the Library Foundation. Working with the Friends and the Foundation has strengthened my community connections. I'd like to bring my professional knowledge, my community knowledge, and my personal enthusiasm for libraries to the Board of Library Trustees.

2. What qualities do you consider necessary for an effective Trustee and how do you demonstrate those qualities?

An effective BOLT member should show leadership, have excellent communication skills, and should see "issues" as practical problems to be rationally solved. I have taken on increased leadership roles as I've progressed through my professional life and in my Friends and Foundation work. I am a calm, quiet, patient communicator—able to listen, able to "hear" to the heart of the matter, and able to articulate my views clearly. I feel that library issues, library policies, and library values are incredibly important and should be discussed passionately and rationally, without personal attack. I have demonstrated my communication skills in my library supervisory work with staff and managers, as president of the Friends of the Library, as an Executive Committee member of the Foundation, and in my daily life with current and former library staff. I am seen in the community as an effective advocate for the Berkeley Public Library.

3. Provide examples of current or previous community service and leadership roles.

Board member of the Friends of the Library; then President, 2004-2010.

Berkeley Public Library Foundation, Board Member, Secretary, Executive Committee Member, 2010-2016.

Honored by the City of Berkeley's Commission on the Status of Women with a Lifetime Achievement Award in 2012 as a supporter and champion of the Berkeley Public Library.

CITY OF BERKELEY
CITY CLERK DEPT

2017 JAN 10 AM 11:43

4. What do you see as the Library's role in the community now and in the future?

The library is the democratic center of the community, providing a wide range of information and services to all while maintaining the individual's right to privacy.

The Library's primary role in the community is to provide all of its members with access to books, periodicals, CDs, DVDs, digital items and all other library materials. Library collections should reflect the wide variety of thought and opinion in all areas. Access should be provided equally to all without regard to age, ethnicity, sexual orientation, or economic circumstance.

Its second role is to provide reference services, reader's advisory services, and library programming based on needs decided by the community. Exceptional libraries create information in the community by preserving information important to that community (materials on the Free Speech Movement), by preserving the community's history (in history files, in organizing local history collections), and by featuring and preserving the work of local authors, musicians, and artists.



SUPPLEMENTAL QUESTIONNAIRE
FOR THE
BERKELEY BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES

In addition to filling out the "Application for Appointment to Berkeley Boards and Commissions", candidates are requested to provide additional information to assist the Board of Library Trustees in their process to recommend names to the City Council.

1. Describe your interest in serving as a Library Trustee.

As both a user of public libraries since childhood and a school teacher librarian for 44 years, I believe libraries are the great equalizers for citizens. Libraries provide access to information, technology and reading for all purposes. I would like to help the Berkeley Public Library maintain and strengthen its position in our city.

2. What qualities do you consider necessary for an effective Trustee, and how do you demonstrate those qualities?

A library trustee must consider the needs of the patrons and staff in order to ensure the organization operates efficiently. Resources and programs that meet the goals of each department to serve its constituents of every age and level will support the library as an essential pillar of the community.

3. Provide examples of current or previous community service and leadership roles.

As a teacher librarian in the Bay Area in 3 different school districts and at every grade level, I have served students and teachers for their curricular needs. In addition I have collaborated with the public librarians in each city to be sure we are aware of each other's programs and communicate them to our students. I served two terms as the Vice President for Governmental and Legal Affairs for the California School Library Association, leading advocacy efforts at both local and state levels. During my term we worked with legislators to develop model standards for school libraries, which were approved by the California state Department of Education. We also educated legislators on the value of making online subscription databases available to students.

4. What do you see as the Library's role in the community now and in the future?

Technology had become the main source of information for a majority of our citizens. Having access to that information has grown in importance for our city and country to have a well-informed electorate. In addition, literacy skills are crucial for both recreational and work-related purposes. Public libraries must continue to provide these services.

*Please return this form and the **Application for Appointment to Berkeley Boards and Commissions**
to the Office of the City Clerk*

ROWALD HEGLIN
Supplemental Questionnaire
Board of Library Trustees

Question 1

Just as books have a "slow fuse" in relation to their impact on our lives, the librarians have an impact often underestimated in our lives and especially in the context of present day media. I have loved the librarians in my life and am concerned about the continuation of their role in the future in balance with now print information.

RONALD HEGLIN
Supplementary Questionnaire
Board of Library Trustees

Question 2

An effective Trustee should be able to be open to all communities that use the library and to be able to imagine new programs for existing users as well as potential users. The Trustee must have the ability to work in a commission setting and ^{with} the various communities that support the library. The Trustee should be knowledgeable, thorough, and cooperative.

RONALD HEGLIN
Supplemental Questionnaire
Board of Library Trustees

Question 3

I have worked in government as an Urban Planner and have an experienced view of how public facilities can serve the public. I have extensive experience working with community groups and institutional commissions.

As an artist I am a registered (ATR) ART THERAPIST with experience in the field of Mental Health.

RONALD HEGLIN
Supplemental Questionnaire
Board of Library Trustees

Question 4

The public library is part of the "commons" and the "commons" should expand and not shrink.

The Berkeley community has been generous in supporting the library system. The public must know and appreciate the present services the library provides.

However, the context in which knowledge and information exist is changing and there are various groups of clients who have special needs or clients who need to be identified. Part of the future role of the library will be to address new information technologies while maintaining the historical and present grandeur of the library tradition that we all share.



**SUPPLEMENTAL QUESTIONNAIRE
FOR THE
BERKELEY BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES**

In addition to filling out the "Application for Appointment to Berkeley Boards and Commissions", candidates are requested to provide additional information to assist the Board of Library Trustees in their process to recommend names to the City Council.

1. Describe your interest in serving as a Library Trustee.

While in high school I visited the Berkeley main branch library two to three times a week after school to do research for papers, perused new materials and explored my interests in various areas such as: art history, poetry, archaeology, American Indian and African cultures. Now I visit the West Berkeley branch. Everyone should have access to resources that promote literacy, especially children and youth from all socio-economic backgrounds. Professionally, I've managed local, national and international non-profit organizations. I have been a staff member of a union; and I managed a unionized workforce with clarity, fairness and accountability. I have the ability to build consensus across different viewpoints and develop mutual respect with colleagues.

2. What qualities do you consider necessary for an effective Trustee, and how do you demonstrate those qualities?

I listen to others, ask questions and gather salient information before making responsible policy decisions. It is important to develop reasonable policies and procedures that move the organization forward in a fast ever-changing environment. I feel that an effective trustee is a good listener, has the ability to work with others to develop policies that make sense. Library trustees should ensure that library staff, programs and resources reflect the city's diverse population, promote literacy through various ways and encourage life-long learning. A good trustee shares insights and experiences that help staff see beyond their own viewpoints. I strive to be objective, fair, balanced and supportive of staff at all levels.

3. Provide examples of current or previous community service and leadership roles.

Alameda County Leadership Academy: 2004 - 2005
Appointed by Alameda County Supervisor Keith Carson: Alameda County Advisory Commission on Aging 2006-2010
Elected Commissioner to Berkeley Rent Stabilization Board: 2012 - 2016 & Chair of Eviction Section 8 Committee 2016
Advisor/Trainer with Advisory Board, West Oakland Senior Center: 2015 - Contract
Berkeley Poll Worker, Alameda County Registrar of Voters: 2008 - Present
Alumni Council Member, Head Royce School: 2010 - Present

4. What do you see as the Library's role in the community now and in the future?

A public library should be a place for citizens of all ages to seek and receive information from written, oral and technological formats. Libraries need to provide various learning activities for newborns to seniors. Libraries should be community centers for citizens to explore new ideas; have resources in various languages support assimilation of immigrants, encourage bilingual education for residents and stimulate a love for learning. Our city has the best U.S. public university with an international reputation, so we need to have first rate resources that reflect an international community with a rich diversity of thought and forms of information that reach and enrich various learning styles and literacy needs of community residents.

*Please return this form and the Application for Appointment to Berkeley Boards and Commissions
to the Office of the City Clerk*



SUPPLEMENTAL QUESTIONNAIRE
FOR THE
BERKELEY BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES

In addition to filling out the "Application for Appointment to Berkeley Boards and Commissions", candidates are requested to provide additional information to assist the Board of Library Trustees in their process to recommend names to the City Council.


1. Describe your interest in serving as a Library Trustee.

I believe this is a natural progression for me as a person who regularly utilizes the library to engage community members. I think I can help in the area of outreach and whatever areas my skills can be utilized.

2. What qualities do you consider necessary for an effective Trustee, and how do you demonstrate those qualities?

First and foremost, I believe that one has to have a desire to engage and work with people from differing backgrounds and levels of life experiences. My life work both professionally and in my community work has prepared me for this and any role for which I pursue. I have held leadership positions at the State level in community based organizations and in my profession in law enforcement.

3. Provide examples of current or previous community service and leadership roles.

This year I was elected to serve on the Board of the Correctional Officers Retired Chapter Board; I am the Past State Vice President of the Black Correctional Officer's Association, I am the Past Vice President of the Sacramento Chapter of the Black Women Organized for Political Action, I am the Past School Site Council President for Leroy Green Middle School (Sacramento), I have various awards and certifications in safety trainings and leadership; I founded and operate a non profit for youth-serving 11-24 year olds with a mission to empower them to succeed in life by providing the tools, skills, and knowledge to transition from middle school, high school, and on to college. I facilitate life skill training seminars to empower youth and adults. 

4. What do you see as the Library's role in the community now and in the future?

Starting as a young age, I gravitated to my community libraries to escape things that were going wrong in my home. I developed a love of reading. The library was a place for me to do homework, and get lost in other worlds through books. There are many roles of a library, including a place to engage community members and encourage a love of words.

*Please return this form and the Application for Appointment to Berkeley Boards and Commissions
to the Office of the City Clerk*

Attached Supplemental Questionnaire for the Berkeley Board of Library Trustees

Libby Hadzima Perkins (Libby)



1. Describe your interest in serving as a Library Trustee.

I've been an avid library user and reader my whole life and am deeply connect to the mission of libraries. I've been a Berkeley resident for the past 5 years but most of this time has been spent as a graduate student at UC Berkeley. As a student, I had easily available access to the UC library system (which I regularly used) but had limited exposure to the Berkeley Public Library system. Since graduating a year and a half ago, I've been blown away at how much the Berkeley Public Library has to offer. I look forward to walking up to the North Branch library on Saturday mornings to pick up the books I've put on hold for my upcoming book club or heading over to the tool lending library to begin my next repair project on our house.

In an era where information is readily available online, I fear that communities will dismiss the importance of libraries as essential social institutions. As a young working professional, I have been looking for a way to contribute locally to Berkeley as my family and I settle in Berkeley. I would like to dedicate time to serving as a fiduciary and steward of this important social institution and believe that my skill set would make me well-qualified to do so. There are a lot of ways that I can contribute to Berkeley but I believe in the library's mission, want to support this important institution and want to help shape how libraries evolve their services and role in an era of rapidly changing technology.

2. What qualities do you consider necessary for an effective Trustee, and how do you demonstrate those qualities?

I believe the following qualifies are necessary for an effective Trustee:

- ***An ability to understand the role of policy, to develop policy, to think through the policy-making process and to define the appropriate level of decision-making authority.*** As a lawyer by training, I understand and appreciate, at a high level, how policy is developed and implemented. I have been involved in policymaking over the course of my career from developing environmental policy for my state congressperson to studying renewable energy policy in my early career and while in law school. Currently I work at Cooley LLP, a large law firm in San Francisco, where I advise startup companies and entrepreneurs grow their businesses. In particular, I work regularly with corporate boards helping them to implement corporate governance practices, which involves determining whether decisions should be made at the board or officer level). This understanding and experience in evaluating where decisions should be made in an organization is key in developing effective policies. As a board member at Girls, Inc. of the Island City, I developed policies for the board around corporate giving and gift management.
- ***Strong facility with financial information to oversee budget and planning processes.*** I have a strong financial background having working in investment roles in renewable energy investing and portfolio management. Specifically, I previously worked at Cambridge Associates where I consulted with leading nonprofits and institutions in managing their endowments for long term planning (my clients' assets totaled \$4.8B but varied largely in size

from >\$1B+ endowments to smaller multi-million dollar portfolios). I also have a finance background through my MBA from the Haas School of Business and currently am regularly involved in reviewing financial information for my startup and public company clients.

- ***Willingness to hear multiple viewpoints and an ability to represent the community.*** This is hard to summarize on paper but I deeply respect and value the opinion of others. As a lawyer by training, I have been trained in how to advocate for the interests of others. As a corporate transactional lawyer, I advocate for my client's interests but I am in the business of getting deals done. This requires deep listening skills and an ability to alter my stances as I learn to incorporate new information. My temperament is certainly more of a mediator than a litigator.
- ***Energy and enthusiasm to support the mission.*** Mentioned above but I am deeply committed to the mission of libraries as institutions. As noted below – I've studied how U.S. copyright law supports the mission of U.S. libraries and through my advocacy work in international contexts I've grown to deeply appreciate the U.S. library system as a vehicle for knowledge dissemination. Finally, as a young working professional in the early stages of a demanding career, it is hard to find the time for civic engagement but my demographic needs to be more civically engaged to bring new ideas to our social institutions. I am committed to finding time to meet the legal responsibility of being a trustee of this important public institution.
- ***Practical board experience.*** While a graduate student at UC Berkeley, I served on two different local East Bay boards through the Haas School of Business's Board Fellows Program. Through this program I served two one-year appointments on local boards (Playworks in Oakland and Girls, Inc. of the Island City) where I integrated into the existing board, participated in all board meetings, had a board mentor and took on a discrete project for the organization. This experience gave me valuable exposure to board governance, processes and politics. As one of the rare joint JD/MBA alumni from UC Berkeley, I bring a blend of business and policy experience. Finally, my husband is a high school math teacher in Richmond, CA and we are committed to the mission of education (and I have learned a lot about education vicariously through him).

3. Provide examples of current or previous community service and leadership roles.

The following are several examples of my community and leadership experience:

- Active pro bono corporate practice at Cooley LLP. This has involved representing low income entrepreneurs and giving presentations on business law to low income entrepreneurs through the Lawyers Committee for Human Rights Legal Services for Entrepreneurs Program (including one recent one at the Berkeley Public Library!).
- Involvement in the social enterprise law community where I work with other lawyers at leading law firms to develop corporate structures for social enterprises.
- Former law clinic student at the Berkeley Law Samuelson Law, Technology and Public Policy Clinic – the country's leading clinical program on technology law and the public interest. While a student at the Samuelson Clinic, I represented the American Library Association (ALA) and the Association of Research Libraries (ARL) to develop advocacy materials highlighting how flexibility of the fair use doctrine under U.S. copyright law aids U.S. libraries fulfill their public missions. I presented my findings at the World Intellectual Property

Organization (WIPO) conference in Geneva and Global Congress on IP and the Public Interest in Brazil.

- Former law clinic student at the East Bay Community Law Foundation's Clean Slate Program where I represented low income East Bay residents in cleaning up their criminal records to apply for jobs and housing.
- Former board member – Girls Inc. of the Island City (through the Board Fellows Program).
- Former board member – Playworks (through the Board Fellows Program).
- Co-organizer of the Women in Leadership Conference at UC Berkeley Haas School of Business – a conference of 500+ women in their early professional careers focused on leadership.

4. What do you see as the Library's role in the community now and in the future?

The Library's role today is critical as a social institution for many members of our community. Every time I visit a Berkeley Library I am struck by the variety of services the Library provides Berkeley residents. I see people using the library as remote offices while they look for employment or study for upcoming entrance exams to college or graduate schools. I see people using the Library as career and professional services organizations and taking advantage of the range of seminars and professional services available. For our homeless population, the Library is a sanctuary where they can escape the weather and access resources to address the challenges of homelessness. For our Berkeley parents, the Library can be a source of new friends, family time together and even babysitting. For our new homeowners, the Tool Lending Library provides the gateway into the adventures of home repair. To me, beyond simply access to content, the Library serves an essential role as a physical space for knowledge gathering, sharing and community building.

There is some skeptical out there (especially in the Bay Area I feel) about how effectively public institutions can deliver services. Some have the view that the private sector is better at delivering these services. Why do we need public transportation when we have Uber? Why do we need libraries when we have Amazon? However, I disagree. I see a tremendous opportunity to leverage the power of technology with the physical assets of libraries to build stronger communities and access to knowledge. In a world where in-person social dialogue is on the decline (just read Robert Putnam's *Bowling Alone!*), the branch library system has a great infrastructure already in place to leverage technology to serve its mission. As a Trustee, I'd be interested in exploring with the library management how Berkeley could use technologies like NextDoor and BiblioCommons to better achieve the Library's mission. The Library's role is no different now than it has been in the past or will be in the future as the mission has likely always been the same. It's how we achieve that mission that will change and I'd like to contribute my experience to ensuring that the Library continues to achieve its mission.



Attachment 2

John T. Selawsky
Jwebksy

SUPPLEMENTAL QUESTIONNAIRE
FOR THE
BERKELEY BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES

In addition to filling out the "Application for Appointment to Berkeley Boards and Commissions", candidates are requested to provide additional information to assist the Board of Library Trustees in their process to recommend names to the City Council.

1. Describe your interest in serving as a Library Trustee.

I am a regular user of our libraries (Downtown primarily) and consider them models for any library system. I have actively participated and helped in past Library bond measure campaigns. I would love to be part of something that I both cherish and use.

2. What qualities do you consider necessary for an effective Trustee, and how do you demonstrate those qualities?

Independence, curiosity, an open mind.
The ability to read, understand, and deconstruct budgets and personnel issues.
As School Board member I was chair of budget committee; same on Rent Board.

3. Provide examples of current or previous community service and leadership roles.

See the application: School Board, Rent Board, Steering Committee Berkeley Tenants Union, former member Peoples' Park Advisory Committee, former Co-chair Ashby Port Community Task Force, former Co-chair BSIEP committee, former Chair CEAC

4. What do you see as the Library's role in the community now and in the future?

The library plays a vital role: internet access for those who need it (addressing the Digital Divide); educational and entertainment forums, performances, and classes; meeting spaces for community groups; and of course hard copy and electronic media and material. Our libraries also serve as refuges for reading, contemplation, and study. These all will be

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even more important in the coming years.



SUPPLEMENTAL QUESTIONNAIRE
FOR THE
BERKELEY BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES

In addition to filling out the "Application for Appointment to Berkeley Boards and Commissions", candidates are requested to provide additional information to assist the Board of Library Trustees in their process to recommend names to the City Council.

1. Describe your interest in serving as a Library Trustee.

I want to be a Trustee so I can create understanding between members of the public, library employees, and the Board. After learning about the controversy surrounding the management of BPL, it became clear to me that a multifaceted view of library management would strengthen the Board. My experience as a librarian and as a patron of libraries gives me an ideal background to bridge the gap between these groups and the Board. In addition, I'm very fond of Berkeley and would like to contribute to the community in a way that utilizes my experience and education.

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2. What qualities do you consider necessary for an effective Trustee, and how do you demonstrate those qualities?

A Trustee must listen to and communicate with library employees and the public; I have honed my communication skills providing customer service, working on teams, and teaching information literacy classes. Strong problem solving and analysis skills are needed to create plans and evaluate the Library's performance; I am accustomed to making decisions within constraints in my career and in volunteer positions. Finally, Trustees must be ethical. As a librarian, I adhere to the American Library Association's code of ethics and since I am relatively new to Berkeley, I do not have existing Berkeley political ties or biases.

3. Provide examples of current or previous community service and leadership roles.

I have been a leader in two different community arts festivals, Zine Fest Houston and San Francisco Zine Fest. I increased both the number of attendees and exhibitors through rigorous promotion and outreach during my two years as the Zine Fest Houston director. I joined the San Francisco Zine Fest organizing team in 2015. In 2016, I led operations management during the fest, built a customer management website to make the application, acceptance, and payment process smoother, and facilitated organizer team meetings.

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4. What do you see as the Library's role in the community now and in the future?

The Library's primary role is to serve the information needs of the public and be a community space; I do not see this role changing in the future. As a public service, the Library must pay especially close attention to the information needs of those with the least access to information. As a community space, the Library must be welcoming to all and encourage community interaction and engagement. It is necessary for the Library to be as dynamic as the public it serves to reflect the public, including those who have yet to use the library.

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to the Office of the City Clerk*



SUPPLEMENTAL QUESTIONNAIRE FOR THE BERKELEY BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES

In addition to filling out the "Application for Appointment to Berkeley Boards and Commissions", candidates are requested to provide additional information to assist the Board of Library Trustees in their process to recommend names to the City Council.

1. Describe your interest in serving as a Library Trustee.

As a mother of young children and an educator, both my personal and professional lives are richly improved by the Library. The Library is a gathering point -- it is a vibrant institution in which people come together, information is disseminated, and a love for community and literacy can blossom. There is a fascinating dichotomy in the future of public libraries -- as a traditional institution with a rich and storied history, but with a fluidity and flexibility to adjust and make space for the needs of the present and the future. I would very much love to bring my passion for education and literacy and my understanding of the informationally-charged world in which we live to the Board of Library Trustees.

2. What qualities do you consider necessary for an effective Trustee, and how do you demonstrate those qualities?

I believe a Trustee must be collaborative, committed to the community she serves, inherently value questioning and inquiry, be open to the perspectives and questions of others, and demonstrate a relentless passion for the institution she represents. Berkeley is my home and the community in which we are raising our children. I value the diverse needs of this community and effecting positive change is a value for which I strive to model and to teach. In my classroom, collaboration, inquiry, and empathy-building are the foundations of my teaching philosophy. Furthermore, literacy is my life's work. With my students and my own children, cultivating a love for reading is part of my daily existence.

3. Provide examples of current or previous community service and leadership roles.

I teach Developmental Literacy to credential and Master's candidates working toward their California Multiple-Subject teaching credentials. I also serve as an instructional coach to several of these aspiring teachers in grades K-8. Before I taught adults, I taught elementary students in Junior Kindergarten, Kindergarten, and Grade Two. I am a teacher-leader and have spent years bringing balanced literacy, constructivist thinking, 21st Century learning principles, and digital citizenship to children and adults alike. I also spent several years serving on the board of Los Ayudantes, a non-profit aimed at providing tutoring and literacy support to help Redwood City schools build English literacy skills and U.S. cultural awareness.

4. What do you see as the Library's role in the community now and in the future?

Author, actor, and activist Theodore Bikel said, "You don't really need modernity in order to exist totally and fully. You need a mixture of modernity and tradition." I believe the library is at this intersection. An institution richly steeped in tradition that connects us to the past, yet vibrant and vital, reshaping itself to meet the needs of an information-drive world. The Library must be a gathering place, for community and information. Its physical space must continue to allow for this, while its virtual space must grow and become more robust. My daughters ask to go to the Library; it is time we spend together that we all love very much. At its core, the Library must continue to be the place that instills in each new generation a love of reading and a sense of belonging.

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to the Office of the City Clerk*



ACTION CALENDAR

February 1, 2017

To: Board of Library Trustees
From: Heidi Dolamore, Director of Library Services
Subject: Election of Board President and Vice-President

INTRODUCTION

The Board will nominate and elect Trustees to sit as President and Vice-President for the term beginning February 2, 2017 and ending following the next election, scheduled for the first meeting of the Board in October 2017.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

This report will have no fiscal impacts.

BACKGROUND

The election of a President and Vice-President is essential to the conduct of business by the Board of Library Trustees (BOLT). The President serves as chair and presiding officer at meetings of the Board.

Elections, as with all business of the Board, are conducted according to parliamentary procedure derived from Robert's Rules of Order. It is the role of the Board Secretary (the Library Director) to serve as parliamentarian and provide professional input and guidance to support BOLT in the process of making complex decisions. Professional input is essential to optimize the quality and effectiveness of decisions while reducing or preventing legal, financial, and other risks for the Library.

BOLT is fortunate to have Trustees who are passionate about the Library. It is clear that Trustees value diversity of opinions and are interested in making knowledge-based decisions. Principled and thoughtful decision-making benefits from cohesion and a sense of community among Trustees, reflecting an appropriate balance between inclusiveness and democratic participation on the one hand, and efficiency and forward movement on the other. BOLT must be able to address significant and occasionally contentious issues with a collaborative approach, resisting impatient responses and maintaining a safe meeting environment.

The intent of parliamentary procedure is to aid BOLT in focusing on issues of substance; procedure itself should not be a distraction nor the focus of debate. Productive discussion should focus on issues of substance—the “what” and the “why”—and less on the “how” and semantics. BOLT discussions typically remain at a policy level rather than addressing detailed operational issues.

Voting must be conducted in a manner that promotes transparency and accountability to the public. However, it should not dilute the focus on collective outcomes. Decisions are informed by input from individual Trustees; BOLT's actions reflect the collective result of that input. BOLT's accountability is to the public as a whole, not any single constituency, and BOLT's role is to serve in the best interest of the Library.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

On or about the first meeting of October of each year, an open nominations process is followed for annual election of the offices of President and Vice-President for the Board of Library Trustees.

Officer elections last occurred in November 2015, at which time Trustee Holcomb was elected President and Trustee Novosel Vice-President. At the November 9, 2016, meeting of BOLT, Trustee Holcomb was nominated to serve as President and Trustee Novosel was nominated to serve as Vice-President for 2016-2017; in both instances the vote was 2 ayes and 1 abstention. The City of Berkeley Commissioners Manual states: "The number of affirmative votes needed to pass a motion is the same number which constitutes a quorum—a majority of actual appointees. The City of Berkeley requires a majority of the 'membership' rather than a majority of those present at the meeting to take action or pass a motion." 3 votes constitute a quorum of BOLT. As 3 ayes are required to take action, no action was taken.

At the January 4, 2017, meeting of BOLT, nominations for President were heard, however no vote was taken.

Process

It is the practice of BOLT to take nominations from the floor to allow all Trustees the opportunity to nominate others as well as themselves. Under this procedure, the chair calls for nominations from BOLT Trustees. No second is required. Nominations continue "until every member wishing to nominate has had an opportunity to do so. In no event may a member nominate more persons than there are places to fill."

Robert's Rules of Order affirms that a deliberative assembly should adopt and prescribe in its bylaws an elections procedure best suited to its purposes and needs. "In the absence of a rule establishing the method of voting, the rule that is established by custom, if any, should be followed, unless the assembly, by adoption of...[a] motion, agrees to do otherwise." A motion to fix the method of voting may be introduced prior to the election or while the election is pending. "In practice, the method of taking a vote usually can be agreed upon informally."

According to Robert's Rules of Order, voting can occur via any of the following accepted methods:

"When only one nominee is put up and the bylaws do not require a ballot, the chair can take a voice vote, or can declare that the nominee is elected, thus effecting the election by unanimous consent." In cases where there is more than one nominee, a voice vote "gives undue advantage to earlier nominees, and accordingly, a voice vote is not a generally suitable method..." In this instance, "some form of election by ballot is generally appropriate..."

The election of officers is a public process, with the result announced at the conclusion of voting. The upcoming term will commence February 2, 2017.

FUTURE ACTION

As BOLT does not currently have bylaws, it is recommended that BOLT add the development of bylaws to its FY2017-2018 work plan.

CONTACT PERSON

Heidi Dolamore, Director of Library Services, Library, 510-981-6195

Attachments:

1. Resolution

BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES

RESOLUTION NO: R17-____

APPOINTMENT OF A TRUSTEE TO SIT AS PRESIDENT AND A TRUSTEE TO SIT AS VICE-PRESIDENT FOR THE BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES

WHEREAS, each year the Board of Library Trustees must appoint a President and Vice-President to sit in those capacities for the following year; and

WHEREAS, the Board wishes to establish a consistent practice for this process to be followed in the current term and in the future, such that at the first meeting in October of each year, an open nominations process will occur, to be followed by election of Library Trustee President and Vice-President for a one-year term to the Board of Library Trustees; and

WHEREAS, nominations will be taken from the floor, thereby allowing all of the Trustees the opportunity to nominate others as well as themselves; and

WHEREAS, the election of officers is a public process, with the vote announced at the conclusion of voting and the term commencing January 5, 2017.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Library Trustees of the City of Berkeley appoints _____ to sit as President beginning February 2, 2017, through the time of the next election, and appoints _____ to sit as Vice-President for the same period.

ADOPTED by the Board of Library Trustees of the City of Berkeley at a regular meeting held on February 1, 2017 by the following vote:

_____ as President:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTENTIONS:

_____ as Vice President:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTENTIONS:

Julie Holcomb, President

Heidi Dolamore, Director of Library Services
Serving as Secretary to the Board of Library Trustee



INFORMATION REPORTS

February 1, 2017

To: Board of Library Trustees
From: Heidi W. Dolamore, Director of Library Services
Date: January 25, 2016
Subject: February 2017 monthly report from Director of Library Services

DEPUTY DIRECTOR RECRUITMENT

Elliot Warren selected as Deputy Director effective February 14, 2017.

TAREA HALL PITTMAN SOUTH BRANCH

Due to the complexity of the issue, further research is needed; a status report is planned for March.

PROGRAMS, SERVICES, & OPERATIONS

- 108 staff participated in the employee engagement survey
- Senior Librarian Erica Glenn served on the selection jury for this year's Caldecott Medal, awarded to *Radiant Child: The Story of Young Artist Jean-Michel Basquiat*, illustrated and written by Javaka Steptoe, recognized as the most distinguished American picture book for children published in the last year
- Staff attended ALA Midwinter Meeting in Atlanta, GA
- Joint labor management meeting reconvened on January 12 with future meetings held monthly
- First meeting of Berkeley Public Library Foundation Council held on January 9, featuring a talk by the Director on *The Role of the Library in Changing Times*
- Library Council identified 6 month work plan priorities: customer service, staff training and development, public focus, technology assessment, safety, STEM, literacy and achievement gap, understanding city demographics
- 4x2 committee reconvened on January 11 with future meetings planned quarterly
- Cornerstones of Science: draft STEM Development Plan presented to Advisory Panel for review on January 30, 2017
- Edge Initiative assessment survey completed
- The Central Children's Room is currently home to six tadpoles that visitors can observe as they develop into full grown fire-bellied toads (they have already begun to develop hind legs); the tadpoles, progeny of the full-grown toads in the Central Children's Room, are temporarily on loan from the East Bay Vivarium
- During the first week of January, the Library hosted more than 200 attendees at three branches as part of the *Lookout! Bookout!* series planned in conjunction with 924 Gilman and *Lookout! Records*, planned in connection with the 30th anniversary of 924 Gilman

ALA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The Library has budgeted for one Trustee to attend the ALA Annual conference held in Chicago June 23-26, 2017. In order to take advantage of discounted early registration rates, please inform the Director of your selection no later than March 1, 2017. Library staff will coordinate registration and travel arrangements.

CONTACT PERSON

Heidi Dolamore, Director of Library Services, 510-981-6195

Attachments:

1: Director's remarks to Library Foundation Council



Remarks to Berkeley Public Library Foundation Council

Heidi Dolamore, Director of Library Services

January 9, 2017

Public libraries: A path for navigating a ‘post-truth’ world

Tonight, I’ve been invited to speak on the role of the library in a changing world. To answer that question, I had to first ask myself, what’s changing?

To find an answer, I looked to the editors of Oxford Dictionaries. They noticed a change last year, a change in our use of a particular word—a 2,000% increase in the use of that word in just one year. That earned the word the notable, or perhaps notorious designation of word of the year.

That word, of course, the 2016 word of the year, is *post-truth*. *Post-truth* is defined as “relating to or denoting circumstances in which objective facts are less influential in shaping public opinion than appeals to emotion and personal belief.”

The word itself has been around for a few decades. The first instance of *post-truth* being used with this meaning ascribed can be traced to a 1992 essay by the late Serbian-American playwright Steve Tesich in the magazine *The Nation*. Let me reacquaint you with its debut: “We, as a free people, have freely decided that we want to live in some post-truth world.”

Strange, and of particular interest to me, is this association between *post-truth* and freedom. So I put the question to you. Do we? Do we wish to live in a *post-truth* world?

The juxtaposition of freedom and truth reminds me of a passage from *Through the Looking Glass*, featuring the wise words of Humpty Dumpty.

Humpty Dumpty says to Alice:

‘...There’s glory for you!’

‘I don’t know what you mean by “glory,”’ Alice said.

Humpty Dumpty smiled contemptuously. ‘Of course you don’t—till I tell you.

I meant “there’s a nice knock-down argument for you!”’

‘But “glory” doesn’t mean “a nice knock-down argument,”’ Alice objected.

‘When I use a word,’ Humpty Dumpty said in rather a scornful tone, ‘it means just what I choose it to mean—neither more nor less.’

‘The question is,’ said Alice, ‘whether you can make words mean so many different things.’

‘The question is,’ said Humpty Dumpty, ‘which is to be master—that’s all.’

There are two concepts here that I'd like us to consider in relation to the library: the first is meaning, and the second is mastery. Let's take meaning first.

The American Library Association's Committee on Literacy defines literacy as follows: "Literacy is the ability to identify, understand, interpret, create, communicate and compute...Literacy involves a continuum of learning in enabling individuals to achieve their goals, to develop their knowledge and potential, and to participate fully in their community and wider society."

Put another way, literacy is the ability to find and create meaning.

As a champion of literacy, the library has a profound role in the search for and creation of meaning. The library is a place where any and all sides of a question may be explored. This is the foundation of intellectual freedom—the right of every individual to both seek and receive information from all points of view without restriction.

I do not believe that libraries are the destination, the end point of this quest to seek and receive information. Instead, I see libraries as paving stones that form a path along this quest, a firm surface to travel upon. Libraries democratize access to ideas and information so that people may inform themselves in their quest to find and create meaning.

The freedom to create meaning is so fundamental to our way of being that it is upheld in Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights: "Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion...to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive, and impart information and ideas..."

That leads me to our second consideration: mastery. How do we achieve mastery? Once again, I offer you an idea that I encountered in book.

Joshua Foer, in his book *Moonwalking with Einstein*, states: "To improve, we must watch ourselves fail, and learn from our mistakes." He suggests that the best way to do this, in fact, is to practice failing. So I ask you: How do we practice failing at creating meaning?

Perhaps this is our task in navigating a *post-truth* world. It comes with no small measure of risk. Ideas can be dangerous. The American Library Association's Freedom to Read statement reminds us that "Freedom itself is a dangerous way of life, but it is ours," and that "the suppression of ideas is fatal to a democratic society."

"Every silencing of a heresy, every enforcement of an orthodoxy, diminishes the toughness and resilience of our society and leaves it the less able to deal with controversy and difference."
"Freedom is no freedom if it is accorded only to the accepted and the inoffensive."

If we believe this, then to practice the failure of meaning is to begin to realize that a wider range of meaning exists. *A vastness that we struggle to comprehend*. As it happens, this is how psychologists define awe.

One of our neighbors at UC Berkeley, Dacher Keltner, along with his colleague Paul Piff at UC Irvine, wrote a piece for the *New York Times* in which they described awe as “[imbu]ing people with a different sense of themselves, one that is smaller, more humble and part of something larger.” [They say,] “Awe helps bind us to others, motivating us to act in collaborative ways that enable strong groups and cohesive communities.”

So I offer this to you: Our experiences at the public library are qualitatively different than those same activities experienced elsewhere *because they are shared with others*, because they introduce us to ideas and encounters that are part of something larger than ourselves.

To read a library book is to invite awe through shared experience. A library book holds within it a reminder that someone has gazed upon that book before you, and someone else will turn its pages after you. Think of a library book as the relay baton of our democracy.

Now I return to our original premise—the role of the library in a changing world. The role of the library, quite simply, is to inspire awe. I leave you with a few words from Walt Whitman, and invite you to think of them as a call to action in a *post-truth* world:

Do I contradict myself?
Very well then I contradict myself,
(I am large, I contain multitudes.)