



**SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
SANTA MONICA PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD**

**PICO BRANCH PUBLIC LIBRARY
2201 PICO BLVD
SANTA MONICA, CA 90405
ANNEX MEETING ROOM**

**THURSDAY, MAY 9, 2024
MEETING BEGINS AT 6:00 P.M.**

Call to Order

Chair Meister called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Roll Call

The following persons were recorded in attendance by the Recording Secretary:
List in order called during the meeting.

Present: Boardmember Lucien Plauzoles, Chair Judith Meister, Boardmember Antonio Spears, Boardmember Dana Newman and Boardmember Jason Lin.

Absent: None

Also present: Erica Cuyugan, Director of Library Services
Priscilla Bouvet, Executive Admin. Assistant
Nancy Bender, Librarian III – Branch Services
Melissa Ortiz, Friends volunteer

1. Public Input

Member of the public, Lucy Stone, spoke regarding Ocean Park Branch Library's restricted hours of operation and would like to see it open more than two days per week. Sharing that as a senior, it provides a place to visit.

Member of the public, Sam Kim, spoke regarding the Main Library's hours of operation, Workspace area service desk area phone call disruptions and concern for the library feeling like a shelter.

2. Special Agenda Items

a. Secretary's Report

i. Erica Cuyugan, Director of Library Services

The following components of the Secretary's Report were highlighted:

- April 20th Inaugural poetry workshop with Poet Laureate Anne Carmack
- May is Asian American & Pacific Islander (AAPI) Heritage, Mental Health Awareness, and Jewish American Heritage Month
- Fierce Friday teen author event
- Arts & Literacy Festival
- Librarian PSA on Jimmy Kimmel Live
- Ocean Park Open House
- Gardening Workshop

b. Pico Branch updates

i. Nancy, Bender, Librarian III – Branch Services

Branch updates included: New ESL services coming to Fairview Branch Library, Ocean Park Branch Open Houses, and Pico 10th Anniversary event. Staff continue to explore ideas for activating the branches with programs and services.

At Pico Branch, staff have been working to extend the teen area by providing more seating. The last few months, Pico has hosted some great programs such as the Human Library, bird watching programming and tax preparation services.

- 3. Consent Calendar:** All items will be considered and approved in one motion unless removed by a member for discussion.
- a. Staff recommends approval of the following Library Board meeting minutes:
 - i. February 8, 2024
 - ii. March 14, 2024

MOTION

Plauzoles moved and Lin seconded a motion to approve the minutes for the February 21, 2024 and March 14, 2024 Library Board meetings. The motion was approved by the following vote:

AYES: Plauzoles, Meister, Newman, Spears and Lin

NOES: None

ABSTAINING: None

4. Public Input On Remaining Agenda Items

Member of the public, Lucy Stone, inquired to funding used to giveaway books at community events. Bender shared that all funding for book distributions are through the Friends of the Santa Monica Public Library.

5. Library Board Member Discussion Items

- a. Discussion of next steps to support the Friends of the Santa Monica Public Library
 - i. Erica Cuyugan, Director of Library Services
Cuyugan highlighted the importance and focus in activating Friends volunteers, going out into the community to explore local business donations, working together to build a space to hold events for future fundraising opportunities, and exploring co-designing and community mapping. Friends Volunteer, Melissa Ortiz, shared her current work with building the Friends website and desire to help advocate.
- b. Discussion of expiring term for Lu Plauzoles and vacancy
 - i. Judith Meister, Chair

Meister encouraged board members to reach out to individuals interested in serving as a board member, as Lu's vacancy is expected to be filled during annual appointments in June.
- c. Long-term agenda planning
 - i. Judith Meister, Chair

The following long-term agenda planning topics were discussed:

- Council liaisons to the board.
- Working with local businesses and community outreach
- Exploring a library ambassador role

Adjournment

Boardmember Plauzoles adjourned the meeting at 7:20 pm.

Attest:

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Erica Cuyugan

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Erica Cuyugan

Secretary

Approved:

Signed by:

Judith Meister

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Judith Meister

Chair



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