

Minutes — Sonoma County Library — Healdsburg Library Advisory Board
Wednesday, March 9, 2022, 5:30 PM — via Zoom Teleconference

1. Call to Order & Introductions (5:30–5:35). The meeting was called to order at 5:31. There were no needed additions to the agenda. Present: LAB members Becky Simons, Paul Grill, Barbara Rosen, Carolyn Harrison, and Tom Colbert; Friends of Healdsburg Library President Tracy Logan, SCL Healdsburg Branch Manager Jon Haupt, SCL Public Services Division Manager Sarah Vantrease, and Library Commissioner Andy Elkind.

2. Approval of Minutes of the Previous Meeting (5:35–5:40). The minutes were approved.

3. Public Appearances (5:40–5:45). There were no public appearances.

4. Discussion Items

4.1 LAB Outreach — Ideas, funds, etc. (5:45–6:00). The group talked about outreach to various organizations that might be helpful for finding a new board member – Corazón, Chamber, Rotary, AAUW, Kiwanis, Reach for Home. In terms of library outreach, the idea was floated to perhaps partner a LAB member with staff for a BiblioBus or BiblioBike visit. Possible locations noted were the farmer’s market, the Plaza, Healdsburg Community Center, Corazón, again Reach for Home—dinner for unsheltered every Sunday, possible popups. The group discussed the importance of reaching out to underserved communities, and the BiblioBus’s clear mission along that line. The group also discussed activities at such events and the role of a LAB member. Staff would likely be providing programs, creating library cards, providing giveaways and telling people about library services; LAB members could offer a great opportunity to talk with the public about their needs and what the library could provide in the community. School events are another place that could potentially be a good match.

5. Reports

5.1 Library Director’s Report (6:00–6:05). Sarah offered a report on behalf of the Library Director. Admin is working to prepare the balanced budget recommendation for Commission at April workshop. The April workshop will be a closed meeting but anyone can read the packet and watch the recording afterward. Looking at next steps for this phase of the pandemic, given what we know now; we are looking to how to bring back more in-person programming and how to serve patrons in and out of the building. We have taken a voluntary approach with library staff providing in-person programming but getting back to normal expectations for programming for the benefit of the community. Have been following state and local guidelines with regard to masks, which means that we now only recommend masks for vaccinated patrons; the change is definitely less stressful for both patrons and staff.

5.2 Commissioner’s Report (6:05–6:10). Andy offered a report from the Commission. As Chair of the Finance Committee, that has been Andy’s particular area of concern of late. SCL’s new CFO, Myrna, is an excellent addition to the team. All three of the recent Administration hires—Erika, Myrna and Craig—have been very important additions. Right now, the questions are around how this year’s budget will address the key takeaways from the Reimagining Plan. SCL has finished with the audited financial reports for 19-20 and 20-21; they were behind

because of our lack of a CFO; we have received good, unqualified opinions from auditors. Bartel Associates has been working as well on our situation with Pension and OPEB—the bottom line is both are doing very well. Measure Y and General Fund are working well. Report from Group 4 Architecture – Facilities are in good shape, kudos to SCL Facilities and branch staff. The signs look relatively good for a refresh at the Healdsburg branch in the next year. Estimates for this year, for revenues, are pretty close or possibly a bit above our estimates for the year and looking positive for 2022–23.

5.3 Branch Manager’s Report (6:10–6:15). Jon offered a branch-level report. Two storytimes in the park along with the BiblioBike have been wildly successful this Spring. One was related to the Great Backyard Bird Count. The other, a regular spring storytime. Around 90 attendees came to the latter. Thanks to the Friends of the Healdsburg Library for the bike and also the PA system that we use to be heard in an open space like that. It has been working very well. We are hosting AARP Tax-Aide for tax help again this year, with a new pandemic-appropriate protocol with appointments and short face-to-face meetings. We are exploring a potential Eagle Scout project with a young Scout, SCL Facilities, and the City to determine what might be feasible for him to work on. We are adjusting to some staffing changes and looking forward to more fun events the rest of 2022.

5.4 Friends’ Reports (6:15–6:20). Submitted by email, many thanks!

5.5 City Council Liaison Report (6:20–6:25). No report given at this meeting.

6. Other items (6:25–6:30). There were no other items.

7. Adjournment (6:30). The meeting was adjourned at 6:37 p.m.

Upcoming Meetings

The meetings of the Healdsburg LAB for 2022 will be: March 9, June 8, September 14, and December 14. All Meetings take place on the Second Wednesday and begin at 5:30 PM.