**Sonoma County Library**

**LAB Members & Year Term Ends**

**Chair – Beverly Seyfert (2026)**

**Vice Chair – Mario Castillo (2024)**

**Secretary – Roy Tennant (2025)**

**Tobiyah Holmes (2025**

**Aparna Sinha (2026)**

**Brian Hopewell (2024)**

**Joanne Brown (2027)**

**Adriel Velazquez, Youth Member – (2024)**

**City of Sonoma Liaison – Patricia Farrar-Rivas**

**Friends of the Library Liaison – Cathy Coleman**

**SONOMA VALLEY LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD**

**Thursday, February 8, 2024, 4:00-5:00 PM**

The LAB meets the following months: February, April,

June, August, October & December

**Minutes**

**Sonoma Valley LAB Meeting**

**February 8, 2024 @ 4:00 PM**

**Sonoma Valley Regional Library**

**755 West Napa Street**

**Sonoma, California**

Present: Beverly Seyfert (Chair), Roy Tennant (Secretary), Tom Hauser (Library Commissioner), Sabine Salek (Branch Manager), Mario Castillo (Vice President), Patricia Farrar-Rivas (City Council), Tobiyah Holmes, Barbara Maes (Public Services Division Manager), Brian Hopewell, Aparna Sinha, Adriel Velazquez (Youth Representative)

Not present: Joanne Brown

AGENDA for February 8, 2024

1. CALL TO ORDER:  4:06pm
2. REPORTS

Reports and updates on library governance, management, programs, services, and support group activities as well as relevant City Council activities. All items are for discussion only.

2.1.   Friends of Sonoma Library (FOSL) Report – Cathy Coleman

There was an energetic discussion about tables that were moved into the Friends’ sheds without their knowledge, so they have requested better communication between the FOSL and library staff. It’s clear that the Friends need more space to support the book sales. This issue needs to be addressed in two ways: better communication and more space. The evening book donation time was very successful.

2.2.   Commissioner Report – Tom Hauser

At the last commission meeting they started discussing the sales tax renewal for this year. The LAB may be asked for assistance.

2.3.   Library Director or Designee Report – Barbara Maes, Public Services Division Manager

February is Library Lovers Month, so the library is asking users what they love about the library. Feb. 19th is Presidents Day and the library will be closed. The library had 4.2 million checkouts in 2023, the highest in seven years. Increased physical circulation by 24%. Library hours have been expanded to now have the most open hours ever: 56 hrs/week average per branch. The fire department said that the closets in the library public room could not store the tables, which led the library putting them into the FOSL sheds and created a problem for book sale needs. The library building leases the facility from the City, so any solution to the lack of building space would require collaboration with the City.

2.4.   Branch Manager Report – Sabine Salek

See Branch Manager’s report below.

2.5.   City Council Liaison Report – Patricia Farrar-Rivas

The Council have set their priorities for 2023-24 (to June 30th) Key areas: Housing, Unification of the valley (aka Annexation of El Verano and the Springs by the City), economic development and revenue stewardship, climate mitigation and adaptation, park and recreation and community services (is it possible to have a parks and recreation department?). Sonoma Clean Power Board has a grid-savvy rewards program which when you are using your power in an equitable way you can get financial rewards or direct it to a non-profit.

1. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE October 12, 2023 Meeting.

Brian moved that the minutes be approved, Mario seconded. The minutes were approved.

4.     PUBLIC APPEARANCES OR LETTERS

An opportunity for members of the public to address the Library Advisory Board; times are limited at the Chair's discretion.

There were no members of the public present, and no comments passed on by board members from the public.

1. DISCUSSION ITEMS

5.1 2024 All LAB Meeting

Lisa Davison has planned a combined meeting for early next year with all the LABs. What topics would like to see discussed at this meeting? JPA states, “All LABs are encouraged to hold one combined meeting at least once a year to address system-wide library service and related issues.”

LAB members suggested the following:

* Interested to see how the library and the LABS can be more transparent with how public funding is being used?
* What are LABS doing in terms of outreach?
* What is the LAB and Library understanding about progress in literacy across demographics? Are there best practices?
* What are the other LAB meeting schedules so we have opportunities to visit other LAB meetings?
* What cultural programs are LABS doing?
* What are some LAB successes and failures?
* What are LABS doing with outreach to youth?
  1. Highlights of branch programs, outreach, and facilities projects in 2023.

Sabine shared statistics on the year’s programs, which overall seemed to increase since the beginning of the year.

* 1. Community assessment for 2024 – discussion and goal-setting for the LAB.

Deferred to next meeting.

* 1. Updates from LAB members on current projects

Deferred to next meeting.

1. ACTION ITEMS

The meeting adjourned at 5:07pm

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: THURSDAY, April 11, 2024

TIME OF NEXT MEETING: 4:00 P.M.

**Manager’s Report – Sonoma Valley Regional Library**

**FOSVL and LAB Meetings**

**February 8, 2024**

**February Displays at the Library**

* Adults and all ages: National Library Lovers Month – fill out a heart and tell us why you love the library, then take a chocolate kiss (or a button).
* Adults: Unwrap the Love of a Good Book – check out a wrapped book.
* Teen Room: Black History month – books by African American authors
* Children’s area: Black History Month “Guess Who?” game
* Children’s area: Lunar New Year Scavenger Hunt

**Hours:**

* + - Monday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, 10am-6pm
    - Sundays from 1pm to 5pm
    - Tuesday & Wednesday 10am-8pm
    - Curbside service is still available upon request.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Month** | **Check-outs** | **In-library patron visits** | **Bibliobox holds** |
| September 2023 | 14,972 | 8,323 | 521 |
| October 2023 | 15,166 | 8,823 | 435 |
| November 2023 | 15,327 | 8,138 | 481 |
| December 2023 | 15,316 | 8,354 | 488 |
| January 2024 | 16,673 | 9,543 | 472 |

**Staff Changes**

No changes to report

**Upcoming Events** (register at <https://events.sonomalibrary.org/events/month> )

**Recurring Programs**

* Weekly Teen programs continue Wednesdays from 3:00 to 4:00 PM.
* The teen led Pokemon Club continues to meet on Sundays from 2:30 to 4:00 PM for ages 10 to 17.
* The teen K-Pop club meets once a month on second Friday of every month at 4:30 PM.
* The Sonoma Valley Build Club (Legos!) meets on the first and third Tuesday of every month from 3:30-4:30 PM.
* The Teen/Tween Builders Club meets on the second Tuesday of every month at 6:00 PM.
* Family story-times Thursdays at 11 AM, and Tuesdays at 11 AM, led by Kim Dargeou.
* Patrons may make half-hour One-on-One Tech Help appointments on Tuesday afternoons between 3 and 5pm and Thursday mornings between 10am and 12 noon.

**Book Clubs**

* The next Mystery book club meeting is on Thursday March 7th at 4:00pm. We will discuss *Silver Nitrate* by Silvia Moreno-Garcia.
* The Sonoma Reads! Book Discussion Group will meet on Thursday February 22nd at 2PM to discuss *Violeta* by Isabel Allende.

**AARP Tax Aid**

The AARP will offer their tax aid program in the library again this year. The program will be held on the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Fridays of February, March, and the second Friday in April. They require advance reservation – patrons may come in or call and staff make the appointments.

**Additional Branch Programs**

The February calendar will be emailed to SVFOL and the LAB and will also available at the Meeting.

**Virtual and System-wide Events**

* February 27 at 6PM – The Read BIPOC Book Club will discuss *Zami*  by Audre Lord.
* February 14th at 6PM – The Virtual Queer Book Club will discuss *Punch Me Up to the Gods: A Memoir* by Brian Broome.
* Asian Art Museum Lectures – On February 17th at 11am the museum will present a lecture entitled “Lunar New Year.”

**Outreach**

The Bibliobus will make monthly stops at La Luz Center every third Wednesday from January through April. The Bibliobus Librarian is Briana Herrod and she will be accompanied by another county librarian.

**Study Pod**

Patrons have been using the pod for tutoring appointments, virtual meetings, and as a quiet study space. Patrons may reserve it for one hour and may stay for a second hour if no one else has requested it. Library literacy tutors may reserve the space up to a month in advance for two hours at a time.

**Pardon our Dust**

More changes are coming to our main library floor. We expect installation of a new Credenza behind the service desk on February 26, and the bookshelf that is currently in that location will be moved to the children’s section to replace the large spinning racks that used to hold our Juvenile paperbacks. While we wait for new shelving to be installed in our Adult Non-Fiction area, we will have books on carts (this may take one more month).