

## DRAFT MEETING MINUTES

Sebastopol Library Advisory Board

February 22, 2023, 4:30 p.m.

Location: Sebastopol Library 7140 Bodega Avenue, Sebastopol 95472 and Zoom

Attendees: Kee Nethery, Walt Frazer, Jennifer Peterson Hunter, Mary Shiff, Una Hall, Jack Beiswenger, Isabella Ruder-Zilber, Fred Engbarth (Commissioner), Stephen Zollman (City Liaison), Sue Fujita (Friends of Sebastopol Library), Barbara Maes (Library Administration), Mathew Rose (Branch Manager), Craig Palmer (Fund Development Manager)

1. Called to Order at 4:30 pm
2. Introductions were made.
3. Agenda was approved.
4. Minutes from November, 2022, were approved.
5. Announcements: None.
6. Public Comment on non-agendized items. Public comment is limited to three (3) minutes per topic, unless otherwise noted: None.
7. Discussion Items:
  - a. Library Advisory Board Budget subcommittee
    - i. Discussion on hold until next meeting.
  - b. Security Cameras at the Sebastopol Library
    - i. Discussion of security cameras: Library has been planning for cameras for over a year, budget approval was made in 2022 for 2022-2023 fiscal year and will install only exterior cameras. Justification is BLM flag burning, but timeline and justification don't match. Reports of libraries removing cameras due to chilling effects on civil liberties and library use. Discussion of whether they are on only when library is closed, for how long the feed is kept, whether motion sensor. Feed is subject to public records; if someone wanted to weaponize the footage against unsheltered, something that is very possible with the recent City election debates, it could be. Comments of the role of the tenants putting security cameras to monitor the landlord's area of responsibility. Comments that crime does take place in Sebastopol, and that surveillance is ubiquitous these days. LAB members to seek input from community for further discussion.

- c. Library Interior Posting
  - i. Review of previous discussions on the topic. Not on upcoming agenda for commission, so option to take time to craft motion was exercised.
- d. Discuss Library 2023-2024 Budget
  - i. Discussion of participatory budgets, and public input on spending of public moneys. Desire to be part of the process, but as reviewers drafts and makers of suggestions on drafts.
- e. Donor Recognition Day
  - i. Presentation from Craig Palmer on the Donor Recognition Day to take place on April 20.
- f. Patron Comments
  - i. Discussion of plexi glass at service desks. Could it be taken down? Has been requested, but needs to be system-wide (?!).

## 8. Reports:

- a. Commissioner's Report: Encourages viewing of the commission meeting. Returning to in-person or hybrid meetings. Hoping the idea of live streaming to each branch to encourage broader participation. Information on budgets will be forwarded. Posting policy was discussed.
- b. Admin Report: Erika Thibault was named as the Library Director. Recruitment for Deputy Director taking place. Budget planning is taking place. Returning from leave and excited to get back up to speed.
- c. City Liaison Report: The City is also in budget mode and is looking at a deficit. A meeting to discuss ways to increase revenue through the local businesses is planned for 3/17. Likely cause of deficit is slowed sales tax income, recession, and slowing real estate market.
- d. Youth Report: Jack reviewed survey questions he plans to distribute at Analy High School. Isabella reported on the community service requirements of Credo High School and how the library is a reliable resource for such service.
- e. Sebastopol Regional Library Report: In addition to the Report sent, Mathew highlighted new staff members who joined the team: Isabella and Esther, both shelvers. Math for Fun and Reading for fun were shared as replacements for homework help, a pivot that has already seen success.

The art hanging system was shared, as was the upcoming furniture replacement. The Apple Blossom Parade and Festival plans to date were shared as were updates on the Paint Out Hate project. Comment: All outdoor paint ends up in the storm drain eventually – what is the environmental impact of the Paint Out Hate project?

- f. Friends of the Library Report: Results of the sale at the end of January were reported. Next book sale taking place in May. Board members are being sought.
  - g. LANTERN Report: Lantern has voted to disband its non-profit status. The importance and needs of the new library building have not diminished, and advocacy efforts will continue, just not as a 501(c)3. Alignment with Library Foundation for fundraising.
9. Agenda Items for Next Meeting: March 29, 2023, 4:30 pm at Sebastopol Library, 7140 Bodega Avenue, Sebastopol, CA 95472
- a. Security Cameras
  - b. Library Displays
  - c. Paint Out Hate project
10. Additional Public Comment: None
11. Adjourn: 5:45 pm