

Minutes — Sonoma County Library — Healdsburg Library Advisory Board
Wednesday, December 11, 2024, 5:00 PM

Location: Healdsburg Community Center – Room 9
1557 Healdsburg Avenue, Healdsburg, CA 95448

1. Call to Order & Introductions. The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. Present were LAB Chair Barbara Rosen; LAB Members Caroline Gonzalez, Margaret McPeake, Heather O'Neill, and Christian Sullberg; Healdsburg City Councilmember Chris Herrod; President of the Friends of the Healdsburg Library Tracy Logan; Healdsburg Library Commissioner Andy Elkind; SCL Division Manager, Public Services, Sarah Vantrease; and Healdsburg Library Branch Manager Jon Haupt.

2. Approval of Minutes of the Previous Meeting. The previous minutes were approved.

3. Public Appearances. There were no public appearances.

4. Presentations

4.1 Corazón Healdsburg – Caroline Gonzalez. Caroline presented to the Board about the mission, vision, staff, and activities of Corazón Healdsburg. Caroline serves as the coordinator of Early Childhood services at Corazón. Corazón serves everyone from birth onward; Caroline spoke of the First Gen program, a college assistance program for which Bianca serves as the manager; this four-year program is for the whole family, in which students and their families receive an ongoing orientation to college life.

The program is comprehensive to the extent that students currently enrolled in college are assisted further when they are having any trouble, feeling sick, etc. 100% of students in the program go to a 4-year college. Through the program, Corazón also provides panels and workshops for parents and students—letting go for parents, what to do when it's your first time on an airplane, where to get your baggage, etc.

For young children and families, they do a lot of connecting people with so many partners and resources — lactation, food distribution, CHP safety for car seats, Dolly Parton Library, etc. There is a new support group for parents, which had its first meeting with 40 parents and 20 kids in child care. New parenthood can be isolating and the idea is that the parents will end up running their own support group. The dads are showing up too which is inspiring. The first meeting was post-election and there was a lot to talk about.

Corazón works closely with the Pasitos child-parent support groups as well, which provides preparation for preschool and kindergarten, with concepts around circle time, homework, how to walk in a line, raising hands, etc. These programs help children feel secure and confident/safe in a new school environment.

Corazón provides child care programs along with events. This program is far more than babysitting – there is a curriculum, with enrichment as well – they will work on skills and make them fun, such as how to write letters of the alphabet.

Caroline manages the Libros y raíces program (books and roots), a bilingual literacy program connected with art programs. This program is intended to help people in our

community fall in love with reading and see how amazing it is. There will be a new session starting in the Spring.

For adults, there are also many other programs, including ESL, GED, computer classes, and gardening. There are so many programs that involve community engagement and partnerships, such as the Pachanga in the Plaza with the City of Healdsburg, Día de Muertos which is the biggest event of the year, the Promotoras health workers who are leaders in the neighborhoods (helping people learn about blood pressure, sugar levels and diabetes, COVID, outreach about vaccines, how to keep healthy).

The group talked about ways that the library can help Corazón with its work in the community. The Comité is a group of leaders in the community that come together and talk about what the community wants, like focus groups – “We hear what they want, and what they want, we create.” Corazón listens to see where the gaps are and try to fill them. Healdsburg Library has sent a representative in the past (Fredy) and will try to become involved again in the future. The library can also send handouts for when we can’t be there. Caroline and the others have a long history of working with Charity Anderson, Healdsburg Children’s Librarian and this January and February we are co-sponsoring programs for the Innovation Fund program, Take Time To Read. Another possibility might be for the library to come to Pasitos to do a quick 15 minute presentation.

Corazón’s designated service area includes Windsor, the Healdsburg area and Cloverdale. The funding comes through donors and grants—including First 5, etc.

5. Discussion Items

5.1 Library Modernization Project Update. Jon shared that he and Sarah were able to join a walkthrough earlier this fall to take a peek at how things were going. It was good to check in on the changing walls, flooring, and new windows as well as take a look at restructured staff spaces and restrooms. The construction appears to be on schedule and we are still hoping to be back in the building in May 2025.

5.2 Reports from LAB Members. There were no separate reports from other LAB members.

5. Reports to the LAB.

5.1 Library Director’s Report. Sarah Vantrease submitted a written report.

5.2 Commissioner’s Report. Commissioner Elkind submitted a written report.

5.3 Branch Manager’s Report. Jon Haupt submitted a written report.

5.4 Friends’ Reports. Tracy Logan submitted a written report.

5.5 City Council Liaison Report. Chris Herrod presented a report at the meeting.

Like most other cities in California, Healdsburg is moving to a district-based Council election system. A Council Meeting on Monday, December 16 will address the system with a long demographer presentation. Likely there will be 4 or 5 districts, each area will have a representative, and citizens will only vote on their own district election. The decision will take effect immediately, but no seats will likely be available until 2026, in which two seats will be up for election.

6. Other items. There was a short discussion about a presentation for the next meeting. It was suggested that the Wine Library Association be approached about a possible presentation at a future meeting. In addition, Alliance Medical Center, Healdsburg Community Services, Healdsburg 2040, a group working to expand or develop the Community Center, or the Arts council (down the road once they are fully established) might be good options. Jon will send out information about who is lined up to present.

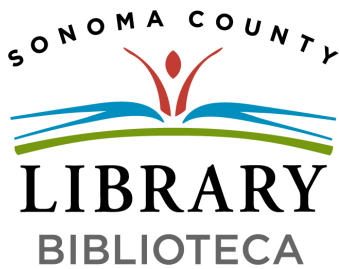
It was suggested that we could agendize a topic for discussing what we've heard about that meeting (for example, hearing from Corazón at this meeting) and what the action steps for the library are. In addition, further discussion about ways for LAB members to be a liaison for the library was suggested, as well as other ways the LAB can gather information about how to support the community for kids and families (as an example). The overall goal is to make sure the LAB are advising and not just information gathering.

7. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Upcoming Meetings

The meetings of the Healdsburg LAB for 2025 will be held: March 12, June 11, September 10, and December 10. All Meetings take place on the Second Wednesday and begin at 5:00 PM.

Library News December 2024



"A good library will never be too neat, or too dusty, because somebody will always be in it, taking books off the shelves and staying up late reading them."

— Lemony Snicket

MEDIA ALERTS PAGE 3

Our mission is to bring information, ideas, and people together to build a stronger community

FROM THE DIRECTOR



**Sonoma County
Library Director
Erika Thibault**

Library Funding Supported

As the final votes from the November 5, 2024 general election are tallied, it is clear that Measure W, the ballot measure to renew a 1/8 sales tax, has been passed by voters.

By approving Measure W, Sonoma County

residents affirmed that they are committed to a future where the Sonoma County Library can continue providing the high level of service that they have come to know and love.

Winning this ballot measure demonstrates that Sonoma County Library has kept its promises to the voters, by offering seven-day service, providing quality programming

for children, teens, and adults, expanding access to our collections both in-person and through our BiblioBus outreach service and our extensive digital collections, and our talented and friendly staff who welcome you into the library each and every day.



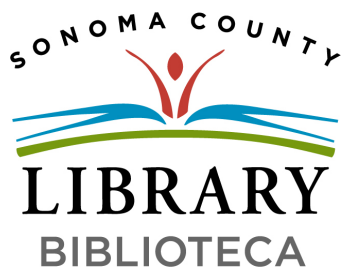
As a library director, I wake up every morning grateful to live and work in a place that supports intellectual freedom and a vibrant and economically healthy library.

As I talk to library directors both in California and around the country, I know that many libraries are struggling, sometimes due to economic or cultural factors.

Let's continue to work together for a brighter future for Sonoma County, where we can collaborate, dream big, and advocate for what we believe in.

A banner for "Free Books (to borrow or stream) Libros Gratuitos (en préstamo ó transmisión directa)". The banner has a purple background with a green horizontal stripe. On the left is a large green bow. On the right is a stack of colorful books tied with a rope. The text "Free Books" is in large white letters, with "(to borrow or stream)" in smaller white letters below it. "Libros Gratuitos" is in large white letters, with "(en préstamo ó transmisión directa)" in smaller white letters below it.

Noticias de la Biblioteca diciembre 2024



“Una buena biblioteca nunca estará demasiado ordenada, ni demasiado polvorienta, porque siempre habrá alguien ahí, retirando libros de las estanterías y quedándose hasta tarde para leerlos.”

— Lemony Snickett

Nuestra misión es reunir información, ideas y personas para crear una comunidad más fuerte

DE LA DIRECTORA



Directora de la Biblioteca del Condado de Sonoma
Erika Thibault

Apoyo a la financiación de bibliotecas

A medida que se van contando los votos finales de las elecciones generales del 5 de noviembre de 2024, es evidente que la Medida W, la medida electoral para renovar un impuesto sobre las ventas de 1/8 ha sido aprobada por los votantes.

Al aprobar la Medida W, los residentes del Condado

de Sonoma reafirmaron su compromiso con un futuro en el que la biblioteca del Condado de Sonoma podrá continuar proporcionando el alto nivel de servicio que han llegado a conocer y apreciar.

Haber ganado esta medida electoral demuestra que la Biblioteca del Condado de Sonoma ha cumplido con sus promesas a los

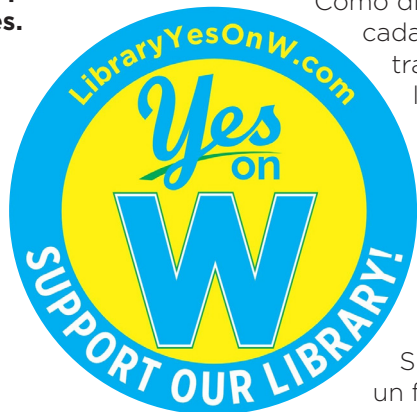
votantes de ofrecerles servicio los siete días de la semana, programación de calidad y mayor acceso a nuestras colecciones digitales, en persona, y por medio del BiblioBus.

Por supuesto, no podríamos lograrlo sin nuestro talentoso y amable personal que les da la bienvenida a la biblioteca todos los días.

Como directora de la biblioteca, me levanto cada mañana agradecida de vivir y trabajar en un lugar que da apoyo a la libertad intelectual y a una biblioteca vibrante y económicamente sana.

Cuando hablo con directores de bibliotecas tanto de California como de todo el país, me doy cuenta de que muchas bibliotecas atraviesan dificultades, a veces por factores económicos o culturales.

Sigamos trabajando juntos por un futuro mejor para el Condado de Sonoma en el que podamos colaborar, soñar a lo grande y defender aquello en lo que creemos.



Free Books
(to borrow or stream)
Libros Gratuitos
(en préstamo ó transmisión directa)



Library News December 2024

OUR PATRONS SAY ...

From library patrons:

"The audiobook I wanted to listen to was available. Borrowing it through the app was quick, easy and the book was fantastic! I will be recommending the library's audiobook collection to everyone."

"Resources are top notch and they have some of the friendliest staff around."

"Staff very helpful. procedures efficient. Clientele encouraging. saved a lot of money with not having to buy the books I want to read."

"Sonoma County Library does a wonderful job serving its patrons and the community."

"Great diversity of materials, friendly and helpful staff, online access."

FROM THE COMMISSION CHAIR



**Library Commission
Chair Deborah Doyle**

As the holidays unfold, we have reason to celebrate.

Many thanks go to those who worked so hard to successfully renew Sonoma County Library's tiny sales tax. Sonoma County itself is poised for continued economic growth this year, yet not all will benefit.

The State of California has a significant deficit and there is uncertainty nationally about libraries and intellectual freedom. Let's be grateful that our local libraries, supported by voters, will continue to provide information to all for free. As California State Librarian Greg Lucas says: "In tough, belt-tightening times, a library is the best bargain in town."

Happy holidays!

Deborah Doyle
Chair, Sonoma County Library Commission
Free people read freely!

BiblioBus celebrates three years of service



Sonoma County Library's BiblioBus recently celebrated its third birthday. This mobile library makes regularly-scheduled community stops at schools, senior residences, low-income housing complexes, and rural communities—all to build community connections and to meet patrons where they are. Patrons can browse, return, or check out books and videos; use complimentary WiFi; ask a librarian for recommendations; and much more. To learn more, visit sonomalibrary.org/bibliobus.



The Sonoma County Library Commission

Deborah Doyle, Town of Windsor, Commission Chair
Brooke Greene, City of Cloverdale, Commission Vice-Chair
David Cahill, City of Santa Rosa
Andy Elkind, City of Healdsburg
Fred Engbarth, City of Sebastopol
Eve Goldberg, County of Sonoma
Paul Heavenridge, City of Petaluma
Sarah Laggos, City of Santa Rosa / County of Sonoma
Barbara Mackenzie, City of Rohnert Park
Tina Poles, City of Cotati
City of Sonoma; vacant
Erika Thibault, Library Director

Noticias de la Biblioteca diciembre 2024

NUESTROS USUARIOS DICEN:

De nuestros usuarios de la biblioteca:

"El audiolibro que quería escuchar estaba disponible. Pedirlo prestado por la aplicación fue rápido, fácil y el libro estuvo fantástico. Recomendaré la colección de audiolibros de la biblioteca a todos."

"Los recursos son de lo mejor y tienen personal de lo más amable."

"El personal es muy servicial. Los procedimientos son eficaces. La clientela alentadora. Ahorré mucho dinero al no tener que comprar los libros que quiero leer."

"La Biblioteca del Condado de Sonoma hace un buen trabajo asistiendo a los usuarios y a la comunidad."

"Gran diversidad de materiales, personal amable y servicial, acceso en línea."

DE LA PRESIDENTA DE LA COMISIÓN



**Presidenta de la
comisión de Bibliotecas
Deborah Doyle**

A la espera de las fiestas, tenemos motivos para celebrar.

Muchas gracias a todos los que trabajaron arduamente para renovar con éxito el pequeño impuesto sobre las ventas de la Biblioteca del Condado de Sonoma. El propio condado de Sonoma se está preparando para un continuo crecimiento económico este año, aunque no todos se beneficiarán.

El Estado de California tiene un déficit significativo y existe incertidumbre a nivel nacional sobre las bibliotecas y la libertad intelectual. Agradecemos que nuestras bibliotecas locales, apoyadas por los votantes, sigan proporcionando información a todos de forma gratuita. Como dice el bibliotecario del Estado de California, Greg Lucas, "En tiempos difíciles, una biblioteca es lo mejor de la ciudad."

Felices Fiestas!

Deborah Doyle

Presidenta de la comisión

¡Las personas libres leen en libertad!

El BiblioBus celebra tres años de servicio



El BiblioBus de la Biblioteca del Condado de Sonoma celebró recientemente su tercer cumpleaños. Esta biblioteca móvil hace paradas programadas regularmente en escuelas, residencias para adultos mayores, complejos de viviendas de bajos ingresos y comunidades rurales, con el fin de crear conexiones con la comunidad y atender a los usuarios en su entorno. Los usuarios pueden navegar el internet, regresar o sacar libros y videos prestados; usar el wifi gratis; pedir recomendaciones a profesionales de la biblioteca y mucho más. Para aprender más, visita sonomalibrary.org/bibliobus.



Comisión de Bibliotecas del Condado de Sonoma

Deborah Doyle, Windsor, Presidenta de la comisión
Brooke Greene, Cloverdale, Vicepresidenta de la comisión
David Cahill, Santa Rosa
Andy Elkind, Healdsburg
Fred Engbarth, Sebastopol
Eve Goldberg, Condado de Sonoma
Paul Heavenridge, Petaluma
Sarah Laggos, Santa Rosa / Condado de Sonoma
Barbara Mackenzie, Rohnert Park
Tina Poles, Cotati
Sonoma, puesto vacante

Library News December 2024

MEDIA ALERTS: Press inquiries communications@sonomalibrary.org

Library's annual Mock Caldecott picture book contest underway

Sonoma County Library's annual Mock Caldecott children's book contest has begun.

This fun event allows patrons to vote for their favorite illustrated children's book from nine titles selected by our children's librarians.

The real Caldecott Medal is one of the most prestigious awards in children's literature.

Each year, judges award medals based on how the book respects children's understandings, abilities, and appreciations.

Voting can be done in person at any library now through January 13, 2025. Winners will be announced on January 24, 2025.

**VOTE**
2024 BEST
PICTURE BOOK

**Mock
Caldecott**
December 1, 2024
— January 13, 2025


Aloha Everything
Kaylin Melia George


Eyes That Weave
The World's Wonders
Joanna Ho


Angela's Glacier
Jordan Scott


Home in a Lunchbox
Cherry Mo


The Mochi Makers
Sharon Fujimoto-Johnson


More Dung!
A Beetle Tale
Frank Weber


Ursula Upside Down
Corey R Tabor

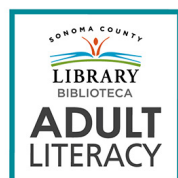

SIMONE
Viet Thanh Nguyen


The Teeny-Weeny Unicorn
Shawn Harris

Pick 2 of the books pictured
WINNERS will be announced
Friday, January 24!

The Caldecott Medal,
named for illustrator Randolph Caldecott, is awarded annually by the American Library Association's Association
for Library Service to Children to the artist of the most distinguished American picture book for children.

Know anyone who wants to improve their English? *Adult Literacy Program can help*



In 2023-2024...

**SONOMA COUNTY LIBRARY
ADULT LITERACY PROGRAMS**

helped
232 ADULTS
improve reading, writing & English skill

community volunteers gave
7,469
service hours

Ask Us.

**We
can
help!**

The Sonoma County Library's Adult Literacy Program has provided free, informal one-on-one literacy tutoring to Sonoma County residents since 1987.

Learners improve their English skills to read medicine labels, search the Internet, pay bills, read a book from the library, and more.

Adult Literacy seeks more adults who want to improve their basic reading, writing, and English-speaking skills. (Tutors are not needed at this time) For more information, call 707-544-2622.

LIBRARIES ARE FOR **EVERYONE**

Report from Jon Haupt, Branch Manager, Healdsburg Library:

- Healdsburg Library Modernization Project continues and so far is moving along successfully. It is overbudget because of higher-than-anticipated bids, but this was also predictable given the timeline. Public services staff had one in-person walkthrough this fall.
- Programming has been a success this fall, with the Innovation Fund projects Take Time To Read/Book Buddies as an especially heartwarming project. Additionally, we have started teen and tween programs at HHS, HES, and Boys & Girls Club, which is very exciting because transportation continues to be a barrier for our young adults and tweens especially.
- Our door count numbers have come out around half or a little less when compared with normal. We've managed to keep the library open with only minor exceptions, such as a leaky roof dripping on our service desk computer.
- We miss our usual location for sure, but the other tenants and landlord have been excellent to work with. We enjoy being able to pop in and talk to (and to entertain visits from) staff from City of Healdsburg Community Services, Corazón, Alliance Medical Center, as well as preschools from YWCA and City of Healdsburg (Building Blocks/Stepping Stones). We are enjoying visits from and to the preschools for storytime, etc.
- Some of our staff are temporarily reassigned to other locations, and we have also spread out our staffing schedule, both of which make it difficult to maintain our cohesiveness as a team; we have been meeting up for monthly staff meetings with all Healdsburg permanent staff, which has been lovely for staff to catch up and communicate more with each other as well as to address a variety of questions that have arisen over the months.
- There is a lot happening in December, events-wise. For more information, try Jon's [Healdsburg Tribune column](#) from the Thanksgiving issue.

Report from Tracy Logan, President, Friends of the Healdsburg Library:

The FoHL Board decided in August to suspend meetings until January 2025. On that agenda, we plan to discuss the future of our big book sales as well as the Library Lobby Bookshelf Sales. We need to figure out how to accept and process donations with a Board that is aging and smaller than in years past. We need to sell used books! Online sales, via our best outlet, The Book Forest, is another hot topic. (I am bringing some of this to the next FFPC meeting next week, including Forest Chambliss himself as our guest speaker; let's see how other Friends are handling the post pandemic times in terms of used book sales.)

The FFA Parade is also on my list!

Board members supported Measure W, contributing individually in the best ways possible.

Meanwhile, we have been behind the scenes, supporting the Book Buddies Program and providing the Honorariums, both Fall and Spring, for the high school student teachers.

Planning with Jon, we have provided a jolly staff luncheon coming this week via El Milagro.

We have our SCL webpage pared down to reflect the current smaller footprint we have with the Mini. I am continuing social media support for the Library and FoHL via our Facebook and Instagram.

I want to thank Jon for such great hosting of our meetings - and also for the fabulous Meet and Greet with Erika Thibault- and Ray Holley- last 25 November here at the Mini. Thank you! You may be Mini, but you are mighty fine!

Healdsburg LAB Meeting: December 11, 2024

Commissioner's Report

At the Commission meeting this past Wednesday, December 4, there were two items that – taken together – provide a good perspective on the Sonoma County Library's current financial situation and future financial challenges and opportunities.

The Passage of Measure W. It took a few weeks, but the vote on Measure W was finally certified. The measure passed, and the 1/8 of a cent sales tax that was approved by voters in 2017 (as Measure Y) has been extended. This is great news for the Library! Sales Tax revenue currently accounts for about 35-40% of the Library's total revenue. And this Sales Tax revenue has enabled the Library to add staff, extend hours, and provide additional resources and programs to our patrons. Thanks to all of the members of the staff, the LAB, and the Friends, who worked to secure passage of this important initiative!

Budget Adjustments to Close a Revenue Shortfall. In 2023-2024, Sales Tax revenue was lower than expected. Since July, this trend has continued, and for the 2024-2025 fiscal year our CFO anticipates that actual Sales Tax revenue will be about one million dollars less than the budgeted amount. The Commission discussed – and approved – a number of financial adjustments to close this revenue shortfall. To some extent we were able to close the gap because of higher than expected revenue from Property Tax. But it was also necessary for some Library departments to reduce their budget amounts for Services and Supplies and Extra Help. These adjustments were targeted to ensure that there will be no negative impact on service to our patrons.

What Does It Mean?

The Passage of Measure W means that for the foreseeable future the Library will have an adequate and relatively stable revenue stream. For the first time since I've been a Commissioner, we'll be able to undertake serious long-term financial planning. We'll be able to make sure that our Pension and OPEB funds are sufficient to provide long-term security to our staff. And we'll also be able to plan for the additional modernization and renovation projects that were outlined in the Facilities Master Plan.

On the other hand, the current revenue shortfall is a stark reminder that revenue does not always go up. Sales Tax revenue, in particular, can be volatile. So we will need to continue to watch all of our expenses carefully and make prudent financial decisions that balance our current operating needs with long-term stability and capital projects. I'll keep you posted!

Andy Elkind
Commissioner Appointed by the City of Healdsburg