

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL LIBRARY BOARD MEETING
TUESDAY- -MARCH 13, 2024- -5:00 P.M.

Library Board President Stickler convened the meeting at 5:00 p.m.

Roll Call – Present: President Stickler, Vice President Amarasiriwardena, Board Member Battle, and Board Member Kanji

Absent: Board Member Gibbons

The meeting was adjourned to Closed Session to consider:

PUBLIC EMPLOYEE APPOINTMENT/HIRING

Title/description of position(s) to be filled: Library Director

Following the Closed Session, the meeting was reconvened, and the Library Board President announced that Staff provided information to the Board, and the Board provided feedback.

Adjournment

There being no further business, President Strickler adjourned the meeting at 6:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marlon Romero
Acting Library Director

The agenda for this meeting was posted in accordance with the Sunshine Ordinance.



**MINUTES OF THE
ALAMEDA FREE LIBRARY BOARD MEETING
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13, 2024**

The regular meeting of the Alameda Free Library Board was called to order at 6:04 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Sara Strickler, President
Thushan Amarasiriwardena, Vice President
Anita Battle, Board Member
Dimple Kanji, Board Member

Absent: Debbie Gibbons, Board Member

Staff: Marlon Romero, Acting Library Director
Lori Amaya, Recording Secretary

NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

CONSENT CALENDAR

An asterisk indicates items so enacted or approved on the Consent Calendar

- *A. Report from the Acting Library Director Highlighting Activities for the Months of January and February, 2024.
- *B. Draft Minutes of the Regular Library Board Meeting of January 10, 2024.
- *C. Modified Library Services Report for the Months of December, 2023 and January, 2024.
- *D. Financial Report Reflecting FY23/24 Expenditures by Fund for January and February, 2024.
- *E. Bills for Ratification for the Months of January and February, 2024.

Acting Director Romero reported on library activities during January and February, 2024.

Board Member Battle moved to accept the Consent Calendar. Board Member Kanji seconded the motion, which passed with a 4-0 vote.

REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS

A. Current and On-Going Library Activities

Acting Director Romero updated the Board on the current and ongoing library activities since the last board meeting.

B. Notice of Extended Suspension Policy Approval

The Notice of Extended Suspension Form was presented to the Board for approval. Vice President Amarasiriwardena moved to approve the form and Board Member Battle seconded the motion, which passed with a 4-0 vote.

C. Library Card Application Policy Update and Approval

The Library Card Application Form was presented to the Board for approval. Board Member Kanji moved to approve the form and President Strickler seconded the motion, which passed with a 4-0 vote.

D. Alameda Poet Laureate Selection Committee

Acting Director Romero asked for a Board Member to join the selection committee for the new Poet Laureate as the current term expires in June. The selection committee consists of the Library Director, a member of the Library Board, and a member of the Alameda Island Poets. Board Member Kanji volunteered to be on the Poet Laureate Selection Committee.

E. Friends of the Library (M. Romero)

This weekend is the Used Book Sale in the Stafford Room of the Main Library. The Friends are looking to hire an Executive Director. Currently all fundraising events are volunteer run.

F. Patron Suggestions/Comments (Speak-Outs) and Library Director's Response

A patron suggested that there should be trash, recycle, and compost bins for paper scraps. Acting Director Romero shared that the Café has compost bins and that there are recycle bins all throughout the library for paper scraps. The patron did not leave any contact info for a response, but a response will be written and filed.

A patron said the library restrooms are in bad shape, otherwise it's a lovely library. There have been plumbing issues, and there is a regular patron that vandalizes the restrooms. Acting Director Romero showed the manager of the library's janitorial service, and they will try different solutions. The patron did not leave any contact info for a response, but a response will be written and filed.

BOARD COMMUNICATIONS

Vice President Amarasiriwardena commented that he used a study room and he noticed the writing on the table. Acting Director Romero responded that he has contacted Public Works for options to cover the tables. President Strickler shared that she had family members visiting from out of town that wanted to do some puzzles. When she came to check out puzzles, she didn't have her library card or ID, but the staff member helping her was very accommodating. When her aunt came back to check out more puzzles and sign up for a library card, the staff member helping her was also accommodating. Board Member Kanji said she enjoyed the Amulet author program and asked which other authors are planned because her child would like to give suggestions.

STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

None.

NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marlon Romero, Acting Library Director and
Secretary to the Alameda Free Library Board