

City of Corona

*City Council Chambers
400 S. Vicentia Ave.
Corona, CA 92882*

Library Board of Trustees Minutes - Final

Tuesday, April 23, 2024

City Council Chambers - 5:30 PM



**Jami Merchant, Chair
Aisha Kennerly, Vice Chair
Shirley Towler-Hayes, Trustee
Cherise Leonard, Trustee
Ruth Heineman, Trustee**

CALL TO ORDER

Chair, Jami Merchant, called the meeting to order at 5:31 PM.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Vietnam Veteran, Johnnie Griffiths.

RECOGNITIONS/PRESENTATIONS - Johnnie & Elly Griffiths

Mayor, Tom Richins; Director, Community Services, Donna Finch; Library Manager, Daniell Whittington; Blue Star Moms, Karen Alexander; and the Library Board of Trustees presented Johnnie and Elly Griffiths a recognition and flowers for their service with Vets Connect at the Library and all that they have done for the Veteran's community.

ROLL CALL

Present 5 - Vice Chair Aisha Kennerly, Chair Jami Merchant, Trustee Shirley Towler-Hayes, Trustee Cherise Leonard, and Trustee Ruth Heineman

MEETING MINUTES

1. [24-0320](#) Approval of the minutes of the regular board meeting held on November 28, 2023

A motion was made by Vice Chair Kennerly, seconded by Trustee Leonard, that the Minutes be accepted. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 3 - Vice Chair Kennerly, Chair Merchant, and Trustee Leonard

Abstain: 2 - Trustee Towler-Hayes, and Trustee Heineman

2. [24-0321](#) Approval of the minutes of the regular board meeting held on January 23, 2024

A motion was made by Vice Chair Kennerly, seconded by Trustee Towler-Hayes, that the Minutes be accepted. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 3 - Vice Chair Kennerly, Chair Merchant, and Trustee Towler-Hayes

Abstain: 2 - Trustee Leonard, and Trustee Heineman

3. [24-0322](#) Approval of the minutes of the regular board meeting held on March 26, 2024

A motion was made by Trustee Towler-Hayes, seconded by Vice Chair Kennerly, that the Minutes be accepted. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Vice Chair Kennerly, Chair Merchant, Trustee Towler-Hayes, and Trustee Heineman

Abstain: 1 - Trustee Leonard

CONSENT CALENDAR

4. [24-0323](#) Board Graph, Stats, Calendar, and Flyers

A motion was made by Trustee Leonard, seconded by Trustee Heineman, that this Consent Calendar be accepted. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Vice Chair Kennerly, Chair Merchant, Trustee Towler-Hayes, Trustee Leonard, and Trustee Heineman

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

None.

YOUTH UPDATE

Zita and Sharon Tam reported on the Teen Advisory Council (TAC). They have been whole heartedly working on DIA. They shared an Activity Booklet that was designed by one of their members. They will win prizes and badges when they complete the booklet. This year is the last year of Diversity in Action day. Please join us on Saturday, April 27 from 1:00 - 4:00 pm in the Frances Aldama Martinez Community Room.

Chair, Jami Merchant, thanked them for coming and said that they will be happy to attend.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

5. [24-0324](#) Library Report April 2024

Director, Donna Finch, introduced Library Manager, Daniell Whittington and the Library report.

Daniell presented the Library report. She reported on an eResource that we have available, Pronunciator, a language learning service for all ages. They teach language skills, 315 languages including 60 of the world's most popular. This service is available for free via your library card.

We recently finished National Library Week, April 1st - April 6th. We had great participation throughout the week. The events were highly attended.

Upcoming Events are: Dungeons & Dragons, April 25th; DIA, Diversity in Action, April 27th; Free Comic Book Day, May 4th; and Destress with Donuts, May 22nd & 23rd.

Heritage Room Update. Construction started in mid-March. Spring Financial Workshop overview, Council direction to expand hours, and hire 2 part-time Library Assistants. We have migrated to a new Heritage online website - ContentDM.

March Top Titles - Fiction. Pokemon Adventures (Pokemon Adventures, Vol. 1-), Kusaka - 66 checkouts. Top Titles - Non-Fiction. Primary Phonics set 1, Makar - 26 checkouts. Top eBook Titles. Deep Down, Child - 10 checkouts.

Library Calendar Events for May - We have a StoryWalk featuring the book, Splat the Cat. Some of our offerings will be closed in late May due to the Memorial Day holiday.

Strategic Plan Updates. The Strategic Plan Survey will be open until May 8th. It has been promoted on websites, social media, flyers, etc. The Trustees' focus group will be May 8th at 1:30pm. We have 1100 survey responses so far. She thanked the Communications Department for all the work they did to promote the survey. She shared one of the videos they used for promotion.

Upcoming Items. May 7th - 8th will be the Strategic Plan Focus Groups. May 27th the Corona Library is closed for Memorial Day. May 28th is the next Library Board of Trustees' Meeting. June 3rd Summer At

Your Library Begins and lasts until July 26th.

Trustee, Heineman, asked Daniell about the Parks Passes for checkout. Daniell said we have California State Park Passes available for checkout with your library card for up to 8 weeks. Some are included in an explorer back pack. This is sponsored by the California State Library.

Trustee, Leonard, asked about the 2 Library Assistants that the Library will be able to hire for the Heritage Room. Will they have special hiring requirements for working with a special collection. Daniell said that they will have more than an average level of skills. We would like to onboard them quickly so they know how to handle the items and can teach others as well.

6. [24-0325](#) Friends of the Library Report

Trustee, Shirley Towler-Hayes, read the Friends of the Library report. They had 250 people at Ladder and Linguine and raised approximately \$19,000. They attended the first Boxed Car Race Day on March 29th for 3rd graders. Approximately 650 books were given out to children. They attended the Day of the Child event on April 20th and another 250 books were given out to children. The author luncheon on the same day was sold out. 18 friends, Trustees, and Library Staff will be attending Serving with a Purpose on May 22nd. They will Co-Sponsor Summer At Your Library on June 3rd - July 26th culminating with a children's author afternoon. Our new board will be installed on July 16th with annual meeting and dinner. The summer will culminate with our attendance at all of the Summer Street Festivals. We hope to see you all at some of these events. Terri Siegert Jagers, Friends Vice President

7. [24-0327](#) National Library Week Report

Librarian, Casey Lee, gave a report on National Library Week. The theme for National Library Week was Ready, Set, Library! There were 8 activities throughout the week. Starting with Literacy & Sensory with 67 attendees. S.T.E.A.M. in Motion event with 22 attendees. Stuffy Storytime had 27 attendees. Movie Matinee had 80 attendees. Corona's Racing History had 27 attendees. Mario Kart Tournament with 22 attendees. Our Guided StoryWalk was cancelled due to rain. We had an Arabic Bilingual Storytime with 22 attendees. We also had additional passive activities: "Pit Stop" activities including I Spy and a racing game, and Interactive Racing display where patrons voted for their favorite color. With 388 votes, blue took first place followed in second by pink. She shared a video on the National Library Week activities.

Chair, Jami Merchant, mentioned that she attended the Literacy & Sensory event. It was a great turnout and the feedback was very positive.

TRUSTEE COMMUNICATIONS

Trustee, Leonard - This past weekend was the Friends Historical Fiction Author Event. They were all authors of American Heritage and 3 of the authors wrote about past presidents. One of the authors wrote about Woodrow Wilson's wife, Edith Wilson running the White House after his stroke. One of the other authors wrote about Arabella Huntington, the namesake of the Huntington Library. It was a great turnout and appreciate the Library for letting them use the room.

Trustee, Heineman - Attended Day of the Child and was glad to see the Friends there. She likes to see the Library out in the community so that people know that the Library has a variety of activities such as National Library Week. The Friends gave out 250 books and they had books for all ages.

Trustee, Towler-Hayes - Attended the Friends Author Event. She thanked Daniell for the staff that helped set up. The event sold out in 10 days. She made friends with one of the authors that wrote about Booker T. Washington's Daughter and her friendship with the Roosevelt's Daughter.

Chair, Merchant - She thanked the Friends for going to Day of the Child and the Boxed Car Races. They

passed out almost 1000 books. She also attended the Literacy and Sensory event.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:10 PM.

Katherine Backus
Meeting Recorder

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Agendas for all Library Board of Trustees' meetings are posted at least 72 hours prior to the meeting in the breezeway display case at City Hall. A complete agenda packet is available for public inspection during business hours at the Corona Public Library. Any materials relating to an item on the agenda which are distributed to all, or majority of all, members of the Library Board of Trustees after the posting of the agenda will also be available at the same time for public inspection during business hours at the Corona Public Library.

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MEETING IS BEING RECORDED