



# City of Corona

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

## Minutes - Final

### Library Board of Trustees

*Shirley Towler-Hayes, Chair*  
*Connie Newhan, Vice Chair*  
*Jami Merchant, Trustee*  
*Aisha Kennerly, Trustee*  
*Meg E'amato, Trustee*

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Monday, November 29, 2021

5:30 PM

City Council Chambers - 5:30pm

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### CALL TO ORDER

Chair Towler-Hayes called the meeting to order at 5:31 pm.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chair Towler-Hayes

### ROLL CALL

**Present** 3 - Chair Shirley Towler-Hayes, Trustee Jami Merchant, and Trustee Meg E'amato

**Absent** 1 - Trustee Aisha Kennerly

### INTRODUCTION OF NEW BOARD MEMBERS

Meg E'amato, Trustee, introduced herself to the board and told them a little about herself. Anne Turner, Director of Community Services, read a bio about Aisha Kennerly, Trustee.

### MEETING MINUTES

1. [21-1035](#) Approval of the minutes of the regular board meeting held on June 28, 2021

**A motion was made by Trustee Newhan, seconded by Trustee Merchant, that the Minutes be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 3 - Chair Towler-Hayes, Newhan, and Trustee Merchant

**Absent:** 1 - Trustee Kennerly

**Abstain:** 1 - Trustee E'amato

2. [21-1036](#) Approval of the minutes of the Study Session August 14, 2021

**A motion was made by Trustee Merchant, seconded by Trustee Newhan, that the Minutes be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 3 - Chair Towler-Hayes, Newhan, and Trustee Merchant

**Absent:** 1 - Trustee Kennerly

**Abstain:** 1 - Trustee E'amato

**3.**      [21-1107](#)      Approval of the minutes of the Special Joint Meeting October 26,2021

**A motion was made by Trustee Newhan, seconded by Trustee Merchant, that the Minutes be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:**            3 - Chair Towler-Hayes, Newhan, and Trustee Merchant

**Absent:**        1 - Trustee Kennerly

**Abstain:**      1 - Trustee E'amato

## COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

None.

## YOUTH UPDATE

Rylee Townsend, Vice President of the Teen Advisory Council (TAC), provided an update. They just had our Cards for Seniors passive program at the Library on November 27th and made 160 cards for seniors that will be going in the take home meal kits provided at the Senior Center. TAC will be participating at the Holiday Lighting Ceremony with a Nightmare Before Christmas booth with some fun pine cone crafts. They will be doing their Random Acts of Kindness in February, Diversity in Action (DIA) in April, and Murder Mystery in the Summer.

Noor Kafala, Mayor's Youth Council, provided an update. They offer students the opportunity to serve their community, gain a wealth of experience in local government, and add their voice to discussions that will shape the future of our City. At the September 15th City Council Meeting, Mayor Jacque Casillas introduced the 2020-2021 Mayor's Youth Council. Since then they have had several meetings to plan the Town Hall with Mayor Casillas which is hosted by the Mayor's Youth Council. This was on October 21st and was a great opportunity for youth to share their perspective on what is happening in the City and ask questions of Mayor Casillas as well. Their next meeting is Tuesday, December 14th.

## ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

**4.**      [21-1037](#)      Library Operations Report

Abigail Lenning, Assistant Director of Community Services, presented the Corona Public Library Quarterly Performance Measures.

## DISCUSSION ITEMS

**5.**      [21-1038](#)      Assistant Director's Report

Abigail Lenning, Assistant Director of Community Services, presented the Director's Report. Ms. Lenning reported that the Library is about Life-long Learning. Life-long Learning consists of what we do to engage with our community. We do this in several ways that include: Literacy Services, Outreach Services, Maker Exchange, Heritage Room, Information Services, and Wifi & Mobile Devices. She gave an explanation of each of these services.

Anne Turner, Director of Community Services, reported on the growing Community Services Department

and how we can best serve the community. Each of our divisions has a specific mission to reach out and create spaces and places for people to connect with one another. We have looked at all the ways that people connect and you will find all of those in Community Services. Community Services consists of the following divisions: Administration, Community Assistance, Library, Parks, Building, Trails, and Recreation. She gave an explanation of what each division does for the community and the department.

Ms. Lenning went over some of the flyers that were included in the packet.

Trustee E'amato asked with equity, inclusion, and creating safe spaces have we reached out to the LGBTQ+ community? Dr. Turner explained that we have met with the LGBTQ Center of Riverside County to help with finding resources for mental health. We have also connected them with Karen Roper our Homeless Solutions Manager and for any housing navigation with City Net.

Trustee E'amato asked if we collaborate with any nonprofits in the area? Does the Library specifically do outreach with nonprofits? Dr. Turner mentioned that the Community Services Department does do outreach with nonprofits. Unity meets at our Circle City Center with representatives of most of our local nonprofits. We try not to duplicate what anyone else is trying to accomplish, but work with them. The next fiscal year we will also offer cash grants to nonprofits that are doing work that is in line with our mission that we do not have time to do.

Trustee E'amato loved the Story Walk at Mountain Gate park. Why was Mountain Gate Park chosen and can we also have it other parks where there are more low income families? Ms. Lenning said this park was chosen because of the pathways that were conducive to the project. This is just a starting off point and we will definitely be bringing it to other parks in the City.

Trustee E'amato asked what age a tutor would need to be for Adult Literacy program? Ms. Lenning will confirm the age and let her know. Ms. E'amato asked, does the Career Online High School cost money and how much is it? Ms. Lenning stated that it is \$1300 per student. The Friends of the Library donate funds for scholarships for this cost and the State Library matches to double the amount. We are always looking for donors.

Trustee E'amato asked, with the Holiday Lighting Celebration do we include all holidays in this event? Dr. Turner mentioned that there will be a Menorah present and we are always looking to promote inclusivity and how we can honor other groups.

**6. [21-1040](#) Election of Vice Chair 2022**

**A motion was made by Trustee Merchant, seconded by Trustee E'amato, that Connie Newhan be elected as Vice Chair for 2022. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 4 - Chair Towler-Hayes, Newhan, Trustee Merchant, and Trustee E'amato

**Absent:** 1 - Trustee Kennerly

**7. [21-1108](#) Review of Trustee Notebook**

Katherine Backus, Management Analyst, went over the items that are included in the Library Board of Trustee's notebook.

**8. [21-1041](#) Meeting Dates for 2022**

**A motion was made by Trustee Merchant, seconded by Trustee Newhan, that the Board of Trustees meeting dates be approved with the November meeting changed to November 29th. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 4 - Chair Towler-Hayes, Newhan, Trustee Merchant, and Trustee E'amato

**Absent:** 1 - Trustee Kennerly

**9.**      [21-1043](#)              Ordinance No. 3336 10-6-21

Abigail Lenning, Assistant Director of Community Services, went over Ordinance No. 3336 that was adopted by City Council on October 6, 2021 and how it pertains to the Library Board of Trustees. The Trustees have a copy of Ordinance No. 3336 in their notebooks.

## **TRUSTEE COMMUNICATIONS**

Jami Merchant, Trustee, wanted to welcome our two new trustees and looks forward to the great things that we are going to do.

Shirley Towler-Hayes, Chair, also wanted to welcome the two new trustees and looks forward to working together. She also wished everyone happy and safe holidays.

Meg E'amato, Trustee, wanted to say that she looks forward to working with everyone and looks forward to all of the great things that we will accomplish together. It is exciting to do this work and be a support and servant to our City.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 6:38 pm.

Katherine Backus  
Meeting Recorder

Corona City Hall Online, All the Time- [www.coronaca.gov](http://www.coronaca.gov)

#### NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC:

If you challenge any items on the agendas in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the Library Board of Trustees at or prior to this public hearing.

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.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the ADA Coordinator at (951) 736-2235. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting. [28 CFR 35.102-35.104 ADA Title II].

MEETING IS BEING RECORDED