



REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Date: 3/15/2021

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Regular Meeting Location: [Zoom.us/join](https://zoom.us/join) – ID# 971 5664 2294

A. Call To Order

Chair Hadrovic called the meeting to order at 6:37 p.m.

B. Roll Call

Present: Bunyagidj, Cohen, Erhart, Guha, Hadrovic, Leep

Absent: None

Staff: Library and Community Services Director Reinhart, Assistant Library Services Director Szegda

C. Public Comment

None.

D. Regular Business

D1. Approve minutes from the February 22, 2021 Library Commission meeting

ACTION: Motion and second (Guha/ Bunyagidj) to approve minutes from the February 22, 2021 Library Commission meeting, passed unanimously.

E. Informational Items

E1. E1. Summary of other libraries' responses to COVID-19

- Pam Jones submitted public comment by email (Attachment).

Assistant Director Szegda made the presentation.

E2. Upcoming City Council consideration of objective criteria to guide facility reopening, service restoration, and reactivation of programs and events

- Pam Jones submitted public comment by email (Attachment).

Director Reinhart made the presentation (Attachment).

E3. City Council Direction on cost recovery policy (City Council Procedure #CC-10-001), library overdue fines and recreation user fees

Director Reinhart made the presentation. E4.

MPCC project updates

Assistant Director Szegda gave brief updates.

E5. Review/Update: Library Commission agenda calendar

ACTION: By acclamation, the following items were added to the Commission's agenda calendar:

- June – Emergency policy review

F. Commissioner Reports

Chair Hadrovic reported on the two vacancies open for recruitment through April 16, 2021. The application can be found at <https://www.menlopark.org/153/Advisory-commissions-and-committees>. Commissioner Erhart reported on a new newsletter that covered events in the Belle Haven neighborhood – bellehavennews.org.

G. Adjournment

Chair Hadrovic adjourned the meeting at 7:45 p.m.

Nick Szegda, Assistant Library Services Director

Minutes approved at the 4/19/2021 Library Commission meeting

15 March 2021

Re: E1 & E2 Comments

Chairperson Hadrovic, Vice-Chair Erhart, Commissioners and Staff,

It appears we are nearing a positive resolution to the current Covid-19 pandemic. It is generally simpler to close city services than reopen in a manner that is logical, safe and equitable. This is including programming prior to required closures for the completion of the Menlo Park Community Center (MPCC). It is important to include current and laid off employees being directly involved in in the reopening, transition, all planning and the operation of programs at the MPCC.

Below are comments on Items E1. And E2.

E1. Summary of other libraries responses to COVID-19 includes a link to [California State Library Restoring In-Person Services in California Libraries](#) 29-page document that includes planning to retore in-person programs and services with a checklist. The appendices include timing, temporary policies and procedures, also include checklists. This document was created in June 2020 and maybe be revised due to the roll-out of vaccinations. The summary of other libraries responses should include the plans for our neighboring libraries in both San Mateo and Santa Clara county library systems.

E2. Upcoming City Council consideration of objective criteria... that is being presented to the City Council on March 23, 2021. The report includes relying on subjective reporting and recommendations that assumes the exact data points from public health officials in both counties will be based on equitable data. Currently resources and data provided by the County has minimally at best included accurate data for District 1 creating a baseline inequity as demonstrated by failure of the City or County to identify that a little over 50% of the covid-19 cases in Menlo Park are in Census Tract 6117. [Link](#). It is suggested to include data specific to Menlo Park.

See Strategic Direction #7. Prioritize diversity, equity, and inclusion in department services and programs and all goals provided in this section. Success of this strategic direction is dependent on the inclusion of current and laid-off employees from the community services previously provided to District 1.

Community and Library Services is strongly encouraged to begin rehiring and training previous laid off employees to prepare and implement the physical aspects for phase-in. Inclusion of the people who have served the community will provide the best evidence of a commitment to the MPCC and District 1. This is consistent with S.M.A.R.T. Goal #2.4. and all goals in Strategic Direction #5: Create meaningful staff development, engage, and team communication opportunities.

Equity and inclusion cannot be achieved without including both current, previous employees and residents most effected by past practices and the decisions made by management.

Respectfully,

Pam D. Jones, resident

City Council update

Library Commission 03.15.2021

Cost recovery policy - equity statement

(Proposed) The City of Menlo Park provides services and infrastructure that contribute to quality-of-life for all Menlo Park residents. In so doing, the City strives to balance the resources and requirements of each area of the city in an equitable manner for all residents, in all neighborhoods of the City. The City of Menlo Park prioritizes social justice in decisions that affect residents' lives: the fair, just and equitable management of all institutions serving the public directly or by contract; the fair, just and equitable distribution of public services and implementation of public policy; and the commitment to promote fairness, justice, and equity in the formation of public policy.

Fines, user fees, scholarships

- + Proposal: Eliminate library overdue fines
- + Pilot program: Citywide need-based recreation program scholarships
- + Pilot program: Eliminate resident user fees in music, dance, movement, intro to sports programs for children 0-5 years
- + Pilot program: Recreation Rx - health and wellness passes
- + Cost recovery policy - equity statement

Reactivation criteria, service restoration

- + Protecting employee health and safety is vital
- + Vaccination rates as criteria to safely reopen to indoor public access
- + “Herd immunity” - Protection for all members of the community regardless of individual ability, age, wealth, health or demographics
- + Prioritization and phase-in sequence for facility reopenings
- + Service reactivation considerations - impacts of budget cuts, critical resource needs, alternative service models
- + Public engagement strategy