

ALBANY LIBRARY BOARD
Meeting Minutes May 16, 2017

Albany Library, 1247 Marin Avenue, 7 p.m.

Call to Order – The meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m. by Levin.

Board Members Present:

Rosalie Gonzales
Sarah Levin
Cynthia Hegedus

Alameda County Library Staff Present:

Natalie McCall, Albany Library Manager
Ben Gomberg, Principal Librarian for Branches
Darshan Chattha, Financial Services Officer

City of Albany Staff Present:

Ronnie Davis, Staff Liaison
David Glasser, Director of Finance and Administrative Services

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – March 15, 2017 – The minutes were approved with the addition of Chadwick’s start date of 2011. (Gonzales/Hegedus)

PUBLIC COMMENTS – There were no comments from the public.

ALBANY LIBRARY REPORT –. McCall reported that the library has received much positive feedback about the Albany Reads program with high interest in continuing the program for next year. McCall also emphasized that her focus for library programs is to support reading and author visits. The Library hosted Megan Whalen Turner who is a bestselling author for teen fantasy fiction. McCall also said that library staff is looking at appropriate programming to feature the 3-D printer.

McCall introduced information about SCA3 which is California legislation that would reduce the vote threshold for library construction bonds from 2/3rd to 55%. Glasser suggested that the Board review the recommendation from the League of California Cities which advises a “watch this” but no current endorsement. The Library passed a motion unanimously (Hegedus/Levin) to support this legislation and take advocacy action as appropriate. The Board asked representatives from Alameda County Library to keep them informed about the need for action.

ALAMEDA COUNTY LIBRARY ADVISORY COMMISSION REPORT (ACLAC) – Hegedus reported that ACLAC met in April at the Castro Valley Library. Castro Valley Librarian Lyn Leone did a presentation on databases, including eBooks that are available through the Alameda County Library website.

AGREEMENT FOR LIBRARY SERVICES 2017/2018 – Glasser presented information that showed the projection of tax revenues exceeds the expenses of the contract for library services with Alameda County Library. Because the available fund balance remains in excess of \$200,000, Glasser does not recommend an adjustment to the tax rate at this time. Chattha explained that while personnel costs have increased slightly in the next fiscal year, the County is continuing to increase their contribution to library services in Albany and the contract cost for the City will remain the same in FY 2017/2018. The Board unanimously passed a motion (Hegedus/Gonzales) to recommend the City approve the contract with Alameda County Library. Davis will send a staff report to the City Council.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS – The Board requested a presentation about Albany Library Children’s Services.

Levin adjourned the meeting at 8:15 p.m.