

ALBANY LIBRARY BOARD
Draft Meeting Minutes November 20, 2018

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

CALL TO ORDER – The meeting was called to order at 7 p.m. by Levin.

Board Members Present:

Sarah Levin
Cynthia Hegedus
Rosalie Gonzales

Alameda County Library Staff Present:

Ben Gomberg, Principal Librarian for Branches
Ouida Charles, Acting Albany Library Manager

City of Albany Staff Present:

Ronnie Davis, Staff Liaison

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – September 24, 2018 – The minutes were approved (Hegedus/Levin).

PUBLIC COMMENTS – There were no comments from the public.

ALBANY LIBRARY STAFF CHANGES – Gomberg said that the Library has hired a new page. Interviews for the Library Manger position have concluded but the Library has not announced a new manager. The Library Lead Clerk position will be full-time but is not yet hired.

UPDATE ON STRATEGIC PLANNING PROCESS – Gomberg noted that the first phase of the Strategic Plan process which is “Discovery” has concluded. This consisted of constituent workshops, as well as online and in person surveys. Staff is now in the second phase which will consist of developing strategies for community goals and challenges. The last phase will consist of special actions. Gomberg noted that when community members were surveyed they like people who use the library be called “members.” Board members Levin and Hegedus reported on the Albany Envision workshop. They said that community members talked about what they liked about Albany and how economic factors are affecting Albany residents.

ALBANY LIBRARY REPORT – Charles shared the Albany Library Quarterly Report for July-September 2018. Highlights included a successful summer of family and adult programs including Brian Copeland presenting “Not a Genuine Black Man” as well a well attended teen program offering SAT preparation. This fall a series of afterschool programs for school age children is being offered. Charles reviewed the statistics for the period. It was noted that some items are being calculated differently than the previous year.

ALAMEDA COUNTY LIBRARY ADVISORY COMMISSION (ACLAC) – Hegedus reported on the October 3 meeting which was held at the Fremont Library. Tiona Smith gave an interesting presentation on the Alameda County Library Foundation which has raised over 12 million dollars for the Library since 1996. 76.5% of donations are from individual donors. Commissioners were treated to a tour of the Bookmobile. County Librarian Cindy Chadwick talked about legislative priorities for the year and gave an update on the Strategic Plan.

ALBANY LIBRARY BOARD WORK PLAN – Davis reviewed the 2017/2018 Work Plan. The next Work Plan will include further recommendations for the remainder of the Young Bequest. Davis also reminded current Board members that they will need to reapply if they would like to be reappointed to the Board.

Levin adjourned the meeting at 8:23 p.m.