



## LIBRARY ADVISORY COMMISSION

### CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair Hicks called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM.

### ROLL CALL

Present:      Commissioner      Ken Goltara  
                 Commissioner      Jeffery Meeker  
                 Vice Chair              Linda Hicks

Absent:        Chair                      Leslie LaManna (excused)  
                 Commissioner      Terry Gavitt (excused)

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America was led by Commissioner Goltara.

### APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Action:        Melvin Racelis asked if the Items under New Business could be moved around so that No. 1, Foundation Update, could be presented at the end. It was moved by Commissioner Goltara and seconded by Commissioner Meeker to approve the amended Agenda of April 17, 2023.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes:            Goltara, Hicks, Meeker  
Noes:            None  
Absent:         LaManna, Gavitt

### PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Action:        It was moved by Commissioner Meeker and seconded by Commissioner Goltara, to approve the Minutes of February 13, 2022.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Goltara, Hicks, Meeker  
Noes: None  
Absent: LaManna, Gavitt

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### 1. Sustainability Grant Projects Update by Library Specialist Kathryn Miller

- The Library received a California Sustainability Grant from the State Library in the amount of \$30,000 which will fund a new pollinator garden, a Seed Library upgrade, a tree giveaway and our annual Earth Day Celebration, which will be held this year on April 22.
- The City of Murrieta has pledged to become a Monarch Butterfly Conservation city. The Mayor's Monarch Pledge solidifies our dedication in maintaining and restoring habitat for the monarch butterfly while encouraging our citizens to do the same.
- Information was given about how the Seed Library works, why it's important, how it takes seven generations for plants to become climate-adapted, community resiliency, food solvency and it's fun.
- Bee traps have been installed on the Library roof to collect and relocate the bees to a sanctuary. Bee Leaf, USA is the company that the Library has contracted with.
- Restarting a new garden club in the City of Murrieta and will base it in the Library. Looking for help with seed sorting, maintaining the Seed Library, weeding the pollinator garden, etc.

### 2. Ranger Rap Update by Library Manager, Melvin Racelis and Parks and Recreation Manager, Lea Kolek

- Lea Kolek described the Ranger Rap collaboration between the Library and Parks and Recreation department. Four sessions will be held during the year at two different parks. Children ages 3-9 have the chance to meet the Park Rangers, participate in storytimes, activities and crafts.
- Melvin Racelis spoke about the storytimes that are set to coincide with the theme of each Ranger Rap. Another facet is a mobile library, where children can get library cards and check out materials.
- Commissioner Goltara shared the idea of bringing the Ranger Raps to the local elementary school open houses and back-to-school nights.
- Lea Kolek reported on some potential new programs. One idea is Date Night where children go to the Community Center for a four-hour program with the Park Rangers

while their parents go out on a date night. Another idea is an overnight astronomy event where the children can camp in the Carol Carson Garden of Verses.

### 3. Strategic Plan Discussion and Update by Library Manager, Melvin Racelis

- Engaging staff was the first step and all Library staff were asked to fill out a survey, followed by an all-staff meeting which will be held on April 28. The next step is a community survey, which will be posted on the Library's web page through June 4, followed by a focus group meeting with select stakeholders from the community. Mr. Racelis recommended that two commissioners represent the LAC at the focus group meeting which will be held on June 10 in the Library's Community Room from 10 AM to 12 PM. Commissioner Goltara would like to participate but unfortunately is unable to due to vacation plans. Commissioner Meeker and Vice Chair Hicks volunteered to participate and Commissioner Goltara is welcome to share his ideas with them beforehand.

### 4. Murrieta Public Library Foundation Fundraiser Update by Library Manager, Melvin Racelis

- Kevin Koon, President, was unable to attend so Melvin Racelis gave an update in his place. The Foundation raises funds for the Library's capital projects, for example, the upcoming expansion of the Children's Area and new Storytime Room. The Foundation is conducting their Stay at Home and Read a Good Book Ball throughout the month of April. Accepting donations via the website, PayPal, Venmo or a check mailed to the Foundation.

## **CONTINUED BUSINESS**

### 1. Materials Selection Policies Discussion by Library Manager, Melvin Racelis

- Two policies are under review, staff has made adjustments and we would now like to bring them forward to the LAC to provide any feedback, comments, concerns, etc. The first one is the Materials Selection Policy and Commissioner Meeker asked the question: What happens to the item in question while it is being challenged? Mr. Racelis read from the policy and responded that the item will remain on the shelf and not be sequestered during the request for reconsideration period, unless there is a need to sequester the item from injury or theft.

Action: It was moved by Commissioner Meeker and seconded by Vice Chair Hicks, to approve the Materials Selection Policy.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Goltara, Hicks, Meeker  
Noes: None  
Absent: LaManna, Gavitt

- The second policy is the Materials Selection Policy Heritage Room. No comments or questions from the Commissioners.

Action: It was moved by Vice Chair Hicks and seconded by Commissioner Meeker, to approve the Materials Selection Policy Heritage Room.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Goltara, Hicks, Meeker

Noes: None

Absent: LaManna, Gavitt

## 2. Web Page Refresh Discussion by Library Manager, Melvin Racelis

- This topic was brought up at the last meeting and the Commissioners were asked to review the current web page and report back on any suggestions for a refresh. The City has dedicated budget money next fiscal year for a redesign through the company Civic Plus. No suggestions or comments.

## INFORMATION ITEMS

### 1. Library Services Update by Library Manager, Melvin Racelis

- ◆ The Touch-A-Truck event was a great success with over 3,000 in attendance and a feature article was done by the Press-Enterprise newspaper.
- ◆ The Library is currently conducting reviews of submitted proposals for architectural design of the building expansion project.
- ◆ The current Zip Books program ends in May 2023 and the Library intends to apply for \$35,000 next fiscal year 23/24.
- ◆ The Library was awarded \$35,000 from the State Library for the second round of the Parks Pass Grant to create outdoor learning stations for children.
- ◆ The new bin sorter is expected to be installed in August 2023.
- ◆ Upcoming special programs are the Earth Day Celebration, the Seed Library Ribbon Cutting and the annual Summer Reading Challenge.
- ◆ Upcoming Library closures: May 29, 2023 for Memorial Day.
- ◆ Library Staffing Update: The Library is fully staffed according to the current roster of funded positions.
- ◆ Library Revenue through March 2023 is shown in the agenda packet.

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS  
REPORTS/COMMENTS**

None

**ADJOURNMENT**

Vice Chair Hicks adjourned the meeting at 7:02 PM.