



**YOLO COUNTY  
LIBRARY**

**Library Advisory Board**

**DRAFT – Meeting Minutes**

**Meeting Location:**

Wednesday, November 20, 2019

6:30 – 8:30 P.M.

Shipley Walters Center for Yolo County Archives & Library Services

226 Buckeye Street

Woodland, CA 95695

**CALL TO ORDER: 6:30 PM**

**PRESENT:**

- Anthony Wright, District 2
- Holly Bishop, District 4
- Rosie Ledesma, District
- Margaret Bailey, City of Winters
- Sharon Hallberg, Chair, City of Davis
- Mark Fink, County Librarian & Chief Archivist
- Sharon Tani, Assistant County Librarian

**1. INTRODUCTIONS: Roll call of Library Advisory Board members**

- a. Absent: Stephanie Chavez (District 1), Diane Adams (District 3)
- b. Vacant Seat: City of West Sacramento

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

- a. None

**3. APPROVAL OF LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES FROM JUNE 12, 2019 AND AUGUST 14, 2019**

- a. For June 12, 2019 Minutes: Anthony Wright moved. Margaret Bailey seconded. Holly Bishop and Rosie Ledesma abstained. Motion passed.

- b. For August 14, 2019 Minutes: Holly Bishop moved. Sharon Hallberg seconded. Anthony Wright abstained. Motion passed.

#### 4. SPECIAL PRESENTATION

- a. **Strategic Planning Public Survey Responses:** The Library has received almost 2,400 public survey responses, including submissions in Spanish, Russian and Chinese. The survey opened on October 8, 2019 and ended on November 15, 2019. As a preview of the results, Mark Fink presented one survey question, “How would you describe the library in three words?”, and a tally of the top handwritten or typed words submitted in the comments field. “Welcoming” was submitted 150 times (7.70% of all entries), “Friendly” was submitted 142 times (7.29% of all entries) and “Helpful” was entered 134 times (6.88% of all entries). As a next step, the Library seeks to hire an independent contractor to conduct an analysis from the data. Fuller results and details will be forthcoming.

In the meantime, Board members inquired about their community member referrals and initial trends that have emerged from interviewee responses. Mark Fink responded that all referrals were invited to an interview, though some had schedule conflicts or didn’t respond. Issues such as homelessness, traffic congestion, disparity of income levels within the County and positioning the Library as a community hub for information dissemination arose in many interview discussions. Others would like more technology and user-centered spaces in the Library and more interactive, fun, colorful and themed displays like those in Target stores.

Opportunities for community partnerships also resulted from these interviews, such as a series of literacy/social services/life skills classes for CalWorks families in West Sacramento starting December 2019 that will be taught and coordinated by the Yolo County Health and Human Services Agency (HHS) team and their affiliates at the Turner Library with assistance from our Family Literacy Coordinator. The Library has also been discussing event partnerships with the Davis Police Department, in conjunction with Supervisor Don Saylor, and has met with West Sacramento’s Homerun Program team to explore areas where we can connect our efforts with their existing programs to support youth towards achieving education milestones from preschool through college.

#### 5. COUNTY LIBRARIAN’S REPORT

- a. **Stephens-Davis Branch Library patron complaint update:** A library patron made a complaint that children at the library were seen playing violent video games on public computers. The Library reviewed the layout of the Children’s Room at the Stephens Davis Library and responded by moving reading materials for younger children to another Children’s Room space, purchasing privacy screens for all Children’s Room computers, posting Internet Safety guidelines and providing a list of children-friendly gaming sites. The patron was notified of the actions taken to remedy the matter and was satisfied with the modifications.

- b. **eBook and eAudiobook purchasing update:** Macmillan and Blackstone publishers embargoed Library purchases on their new e-book and e-audiobook titles, respectively, which restricts libraries from purchasing multiple copies of materials and limits access to library users during specific timeframes. Yolo County Library was the first library in California to officially boycott both publishers for a 6-month period, which started on November 1, 2019. Mark Fink has been engaging other neighboring libraries to support the boycott. The Library is also part of a 41-library consortium, called NorthNet, and the consortium is considering a similar boycott.

The Library's position is that these embargoes limit access to material and raises prices on these items so that they may become out of reach for libraries over time. The goal of this boycott is for both publishers to remove their embargoes.

Michael Blackwell, who has been involved in previous eBook initiatives, is scheduled to attend NorthNet's January meeting in order to further discussions surrounding this national controversy. Many Yolo County community members have responded to the Library's action with words of support for the boycott.

- c. **FY 2018-19 and FY 2019-20 Goals, Status Update:** Postponed to the next meeting.
- d. **Archives/Central Services:** Central Services has been renamed the Shipley Walters Center for Yolo County Archives and Library Services. A ceremony for the newly remodeled Yolo County Archives and Building Dedication was held on Friday, September 27, 2019 from 10 AM - Noon. Over 100 people attended the well-received event. In addition, the Archives received County grant funding for a large-format scanner, which arrived today. The procurement of a digital asset management system will also be finalized soon.
- e. **Arthur F. Turner Community Library:** A 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration was held at the library on Thursday, November 7, 2019 from 5-7 PM. Community members and Friends of the Library attended and enjoyed cake as well as a performance by the Ohana Hawaiian Dance Group. Oscar Villegas and two City Council members spoke at the event.

On a separate note, the AFT library has been experiencing ongoing challenges with people overtaking, sleeping and littering around the staff entrance. The Library is working with the County's General Services Dept. to install a security gate in this area to ameliorate this challenge.

- f. **Winters Community Library:** A 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration was held at the library on Thursday, November 14, 2018 from 5-7 PM. A resolution of this anniversary was presented by Supervisor Don Saylor's office and the event included cake, children's craft activities, a

Mariachi Band and a special presentation by all past and present Librarians employed at this branch since it opened in 2009.

- g. **Esparto Regional Library:** A 20th Anniversary celebration will be held at the library on Thursday, December 5, 2019 from 5-7 PM. Supervisor Chamberlain has confirmed that he will attend. Some of the Founding Friends have also been invited. The event will include cakes, presentations, activities and music.
- h. **Davis Education and Community Center:** Holly Bishop attended a community meeting held to gather community input and discuss building plans. Walnut Park in South Davis is the proposed site for this 15,000 sq. ft. structure that is estimated to cost \$15 million. The plans include two large community rooms. The city is receptive to this project, though the school district is not fully on board. As a next step, each party will bring the staff report and architectural renderings back to their constituents and reconvene in late January to assess community support. The Library's concern is that a large facility that is open for more than 2 days of the week will need funding for staffing, which the County currently doesn't have. Deliberations will continue and Board Members offered to attend future meeting and lend support to each other.
- i. **Yolo Branch Library:** The projected date to break ground for the new library is August 2020. The County is applying for a Community Development Block Grant to fund construction. A salvage plan is being developed, and surplus items are being identified to be offered through the County's online surplus portal before the building is demolished. Demolition is scheduled for early 2020.
- j. **Clarksburg Branch Library:** There has been renewed interest in obtaining broadband access for the Clarksburg region. The California State Library hired a broadband expert for related projects and this consultant visited the Library recently.
- k. **Human Resources and Operations**
  - i. Recruitment in progress - Library Associate, Mary L. Stephens Davis Branch Library
  - ii. Recruitment in progress – Early Learning Coordinator/Librarian, Mary L. Stephens Davis Branch Library
  - iii. Recruitment in progress – Library Associate, Shipley Walters Center for Yolo County Archives and Library Services

## 6. YOLO COUNTY LIBRARY FOUNDATION REPORT

- a. The Library Foundation established three funding priorities at their last meeting: Early Literacy, Reading for All Ages and English Language Learning. For its first project, the Foundation funded a three-year subscription to Beanstack, an online registration program which will help readers track their progress, receive book recommendations,

earn digital badges and qualify for prizes during our Summer Reading and Winter Reading programs. They also met with Steven Weiss of the Weiss Group, a strategy and management consultancy, who provided tips about fundraising as a Library Foundation. The Foundation is planning an event in West Sacramento to bring awareness to the community about their work to support the Yolo County Library. In addition, they are recruiting members for an Advisory Committee.

## 7. OLD BUSINESS

- a. None.

## 8. NEW BUSINESS

- a. **LAB meeting time:** Diane Adams proposed an earlier meeting start time. Anthony Wright said if the location was close to Sacramento, he could meet earlier, but if it requires an hour drive, he probably can't attend earlier than 6 PM. Rosie said the earliest she can attend is 6 PM. Most members enjoy meeting at different locations and would prefer to continue alternating meeting sites rather than convening at one location all the time. This item will be further discussed at the next meeting when more Board members are present.

## 9. LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

- a. **Rosie Ledesma** passed around the Salvage and Reinterpretation Plan from WMB Architects which included a representative list of potential items that could be repurposed, saved as an artifact or replicated/reinterpreted in the new Yolo Branch Library building. Rosie also mentioned a presentation she attended that used Individual Education Plans (IEPs) as a support tool for families with special needs children and was encouraged to reach to Sue Billings to further explore this idea at Yolo.
- b. **Holly Bishop** reported the Davis Friends revenue for October and mentioned her participation in a local podcast about the enjoyment of reading with wine and beer. She is advocating reform for library financing and shared with the Board her research on Ted Talks and her inspiring visit to Boston. She also is considering reaching out to Teen Librarian Katrina Laws-Ewald to learn more about our Teen Advisory Board.
- c. **Anthony Wright** did not have any updates for this month but mentioned that he attended the AFT Anniversary Celebration and tweeted about the event on Twitter. He will email some of these posted images to Sharon Tani for the Library's to have on file.
- d. **Margaret Bailey** reported that the Winters Friends will be providing \$15,000 to purchase more bilingual materials for the collection. During their November meeting they elected new board members who will begin in January 2020. She also reported that they had a successful Annual Friends Dinner that featured a compelling presentation by an author who wrote book about the emerging culture of violence in America.

- e. **Mark Fink** invited the Board to attend the Library Staff Holiday Party on Monday, December 9, 2019 from 9-11 AM at the Davis Library.

**10. BOARD OF SUPERVISORS REPRESENTATIVES: Opportunities to comment**

**11. ACTION ITEMS**

**12. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 PM

**Next Meeting:**

Wednesday, December 11th from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. (holiday potluck)  
ShIPLEY Walters Center for Yolo County Archives & Library Services  
226 Buckeye Street  
Woodland, CA 95695