



**Library Advisory Board
Meeting Minutes**

Meeting Location:

Wednesday, August 10, 2022
Virtual Meeting via Zoom

Call to Order: 6:02 PM

Attendance and Introductions:

- Anthony Wright, District 2
- Diane Adams, District 3
- Holly Bishop, District 4
- Sharon Hallberg, Chair, City of Davis
- Kristin Peacock, City of West Sacramento
- Mark Fink, County Librarian & Chief Archivist
- Sharon Tani, Assistant County Librarian
- Absent: Jeff TenPas, City of Winters
- Vacancies: District 1, District 5

2. Land Acknowledgement:

We acknowledge that we are on the traditional territory and homelands of the Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation. For more information, visit: <https://yochadehe.org>

3. Public Comment: None.

4. ACTION ITEM: APPROVAL OF LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES FROM JUNE 8, 2022

Anthony Wright moved. Holly Bishop seconded. Motion passed.

5. ACTION ITEM: Vote to authorize remote (teleconference/videoconference) meetings by finding, pursuant to Assembly Bill 361, that, local officials continue to recommend measures to promote social distancing as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Kristin Peacock moved. Anthony Wright seconded. Motion passed.

6. Library Grant Presentation by Elizabeth Gray, Central Services Manager

Elizabeth Gray, Central Services Manager, provided an update on recurring Library grants:

- **Adult Literacy (YoloReads):** For the past 10 years, the Library has been a recipient of this CA State Library grant. We received \$25,515 for FY 22-23 and will be doing a big recruitment for YoloReads tutors soon.
- **Family Literacy:** This grant is also through the CA State Library and we've also received \$25,515 for FY 22-23. Team members Nancy Pacheco, Leticia Flores and Stephaney Alvarado Cortes are all bilingual and have managed the program well during COVID-19.
- **ESL Classes for Caregivers:** We've had success with these classes in the past and are continuing to expand the program to more library locations. We received a grant for \$40,000 for FY 22-23 from California Library Literacy Services (CLLS). Elizabeth Gray and Edith Duran are managing and coordinating the program.
- **First 5 Yolo's Impact & Preschool Development Grant (PDGR) and Every Child Ready to Read (ECRR) Workshops:** The Library provided trainings for Friends, Family and Neighbors (FFN) this past year as the focus for this grant. We received \$30,842 for FY 22-23 for the Impact Grant and \$29,515 for Sept '21-Dec '22 for the PDGR grant. Sharon Hallberg asked about staff allocation and Elizabeth Gray responded that there is overlap between programs and staff can work simultaneously on related projects.
- **ZIP Books:** If a book is not available in the Library catalog, a patron can request that it be purchased by us from Amazon and mailed to their home address. We've been a recipient of this CA State Library grant since 2014. We've requested \$30,000 for FY 22-23. Anthony Wright inquired about the rate of ZIP books brought back to library and added to the collection. Elizabeth Gray said it depends on the material, but approximately 40% are added. Materials that aren't relevant to the collection are usually discarded or given to Friends groups for book sales.
- **Dia de los Ninos:** We received \$3,500 from the CA State Library this year and the Library Foundation contributed an additional \$1,000.
- **Career Online High School (COHS):** The Library offers Yolo County residents the opportunity to earn a high school diploma through this online program. 13 residents have completed the program and 4 students are currently enrolled. Sharon Hallberg asked again about staff time and Elizabeth said this program doesn't take up too much time but has great impact on the community. For marketing, we have posted information on the Library website, have been promoting it through the Library eNewsletter, have created a flyer for Starbucks to hand out at their café, advertised it alongside our CA Community College Outreach partnership, and have with worked with

Yolo County's Office of Education academic coaches to provide referrals since COHS is an accredited program.

- **Cultivating Race, Equity & Inclusions Initiative (CREI):** We're a recipient of this CA State Library grant to plan and implement racially equitable audits and improvements to our services, programs, and collections.
- **Lunch@the Library:** We received \$8,000 from the CA State Library to create take-and-make activity kits during COVID-19 and the Library Foundation contributed \$3,000 for giveaway books.

For one-time grants, Elizabeth Gray reported:

- **CA Community College Outreach Grant:** We receive \$2,550 each quarter if we reach out to more than 1,000 people and share information about how to enroll in local community colleges.
- **Cal Humanities NEH Grant/CA CARES Humanities Relief Grant:** We received \$22,300 for Aug '21-May '22 to support the digitization of materials for the Yolo County Archives.
- **Yolo Mobile Library:** We received \$250,000 from the CA State Library to purchase a Mercedes Sprinter Van. We plan to have this bookmobile on the road by March 2024.
- **Conversation Backpacks:** We received \$12,322 from the CA State Library to create backpack kits called, "Little Kids, Big Topics," which help parents address difficult subjects with their children.
- **#PlantWildflowers:** Our Winters Library was the recipient of an \$1,000 honorarium from Tangled Banks Studios for Jan '22-Summer '22 to create programs and resources about planting wildflowers.
- **Whitney Pinkerton Fund:** We received \$750 from the Sacramento Region Community Foundation to improve the quality of Spanish language ebooks in our Library collection.
- **High-Speed Broadband in CA Libraries:** We received a total award of \$233,547 to build a fiber connection to the Clarksburg Branch library. We also received a separate grant of \$88,502 for the replacement of network equipment.

Mark Fink commented that this presentation was intended to show where Library funding comes from and the range of projects offered by the Library, Archives and Historical Collection. He also mentioned that we're "maxxed out" on staff time and have as much as we can handle with grant projects. Anthony Wright suggested that we could also mention grants for which we'd like to apply in the future.

7. County Librarian's Report

a) Facilities

i) Yolo Branch Library update: Construction will be done by the end of August. Then approximately two weeks in September will be needed to review with the contractor. Public art, shelving, and furniture will be installed soon after and everything should be complete by November 2022. See below for grant updates.

ii) South Davis Library update: Holly Bishop stated that the Marguerite Montgomery branch is valuable to the community and that she considers it one of the best school libraries, even if they don't offer adult programs. She said that South Davis needs a library and is surprised that the solution to build one is to raise the parcel tax rate. She calculated that the existing parcel tax receives over \$2M in revenue and that Davis residents have already well-funded this entity. She doesn't think that most people will support a larger Mello Roos tax increase. Mark Fink responded that the project scope remains the same but that the higher amount accounts for increased construction costs when building starts in a few years. By November, the Library will know if we received a CA State Library grant, but the project is on hold until the funding source becomes apparent. Holly Bishop would like to be part of the communication loop and would like to know how much Davis residents have contributed to parcel tax revenue. Mark Fink looked it up and responded that it was \$2.4M in 2020. Sharon Hallberg said Mark Fink represented the Library well and influenced the Board of Supervisors to think differently about libraries and what we offer. She said that the community wants a new library but agrees that people won't be willing to contribute more funding. Anthony Wright said that if the Library and County do not receive the grant, perhaps that will persuade the Davis School Board to support the project, though there's always a long line of projects waiting for funding. See below for grant updates.

iii) Knights Landing Branch Library sign: The company who created signage for the Shipley Walters Center for Yolo County Archives and Library Services is designing a new exterior sign for the Knights Landing Branch Library.

iv) Shipley Walters Center roof update: The Library is working with General Services to develop a plan to fix the ongoing problems with the existing roof.

b) Major Grant Opportunities: The Library is waiting to hear results about 3 big grant applications:

i) Library Infrastructure Bill – Yolo County applied for two grants, one for the Yolo Branch Library and one for construction of a new South Davis Library. We expect decisions from the State Library in August or September.

ii) California Museum Grant Program

(1) Yolo County Historical Collection submitted an application for up to \$160,000 on March 11, 2022, which was not funded.

c) Publicity

i) [Yolo County Launches Voluntary Sign Campaign to Inform Residents of Current COVID-19 Risk Levels](#)

ii) [Countywide Access to Antigen Tests in Yolo County to Replace PCR Testing by Healthy Yolo Together](#)

7. Yolo County Library Foundation Report:

a) The Foundation is working on a new strategic plan. The Board met in July to begin this work, which is being facilitated by Lisa Baker.

b) Recruitment of new Board members is underway. Sharon Hallberg made an appeal to LAB members who might want to join and help fundraise and network. Mark Fink said the Foundation is a good group of people with good energy and likewise invited LAB members to join in.

8. Old Business

The Library Advisory Board statement to oppose book banning is now posted on the Library website and is included in the Library's collection development policy. The statement reiterates the Library's position on Intellectual Freedom, the Right to Read and the Right to View.

9. New Business

Diane Adams reported that the team finalized the survey that will be going out to stakeholders this week in preparation for the Forum in November 2022. Mark Fink displayed the content on screen and reviewed the questions and survey format with the Advisory Board. He posted the link in the chat window to view and complete the survey. Sharon Hallberg said it looked nice and that the content refinements make it more friendly and effective. After the survey closes, the committee will meet with consultant Susan Clark to compile and discuss the results. Zoom training will be scheduled for topic facilitators in late October. Holly Bishop also suggested that the Presidents of Friends Groups help facilitate and get involved with the event. She said Diane is doing a great job in developing the event. Sharon Hallberg is excited to show off the new library to attendees.

10. Library Advisory Board Member Reports

Holly Bishop said she tried to resign from her duties with the Davis Friends but that they wouldn't let her. She invited Anthony Wright to take her place so that the group will have more faces and voices. Anthony Wright said he hasn't attended a Friends meeting in a long time and would like to see a recent agenda but would be happy to tag-team the effort with Holly. Holly

mentioned that the Friends are moving away from their weekly parking lot sales to bimonthly book sales in the Blanchard Room, and that sales at Logos continue to be strong.

Diane Adams attended the recent Friends of the Yolo County Archives meeting. She mentioned that the Archives will be presenting at the Yolo County Fair with an exhibit about the influential Blowers Family. Mel Russell will also be presenting a program about the tomb of unknown soldier. She also said that Archives and Records Center Coordinator Heather Lanctot will be going on maternity leave from November 2022 to April 2023.

Anthony Wright said Holly Bishop covered most of the Davis news, so he'll pass the baton.

Kristin Peacock reported that the West Sacramento Friends had a conversation about the diversity of fundraising opportunities. They were the recipient of a \$2,000 grant from the West Sacramento Foundation and are looking for new ways to keep fundraising.

Sharon Hallberg said she talked to Regional Library Manager Scott Love about the Library's parking lot being unavailable during the high school construction next door. She's concerned that the parking situation will become messy, students won't have a place to park on campus and will want to use the library lot. Mark Fink responded that Scott is working on the situation and that he'll talk to him when he's out there tomorrow.

Sharon was also concerned about equity in technology around the County and resources for rural communities. With broadband from the State, she asked if there will be enough for rural branches with technology needs. Mark Fink said the County IT Department monitors usage and how many people are on broadband. The only place where it's an issue is in Clarksburg and communities are only using about a third of the capabilities that are available. When they get connected, it will be a 10 GB connection in Clarksburg.

11. County and City Officials/Staff Reports and Comments

Mark Fink announced that, after almost five years, he is departing Yolo County and his last day will be October 7, 2022. He is moving to Colorado to become the new Executive Director of Anythink Libraries, a special library district serving Adams County which is known for innovation and creativity. He has recommended that the County Administrator's Office hire an interim County Librarian until a permanent replacement can be hired.

The Board wished him well and thanked him for his service and contributions to Yolo County.

12. Action Items

Next Meeting: Wednesday, October 12, 2022 at 6 p.m. via Zoom.

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm.