



**THE LIBRARY COMMISSION  
MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING  
27, March 2023**

**The Library Commission convened in a Regular Meeting on Monday, March 27, 2023 at the Old Quarry Branch Library, Village Center Drive, in Austin, Texas.**

Chair Smith called the Board Meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

**Board Members in Attendance:** Chair Mark Smith, Vice-Chair Lynda Infante Huerta, Commission Members, Courtney Rosenthal, Cristina Masters, JC Dwyer, and Melanie Haupt

**Board Members Absent:** Commission Members Julia Aguilar, Steven Self, Tori Vogel

**Public Communication: General**  
None

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**1. Approval of Minutes from the February 27, 2023, Regular Meeting**

The minutes of the regular meeting were approved on Commission Member Rosenthal's motion and Commissioner Dwyer's second on a 6-0 vote. Commission Members Julia Aguilar, Steven Self, Tori Vogel absent.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**2. Discussion on a future Library Commission Retreat**

The commission discussed topics and looked at possible dates for the upcoming commission retreat.

**3. Discussion of the March Director's Report covering public programming highlights, facilities, and APL priorities**

Director of Libraries, Roosevelt Weeks, gave the report.

**DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS****4. Discussion of Library Commission's Recommendations for FY 2023-24 Budget**

The motion to approve a resolution in support of the Austin Public Library FY 24 budget was approved with the following friendly amendments on Commission Member Infante-Huerta's motion, Commission Member Masters' second on a 6-0 vote. Commission Members Julia Aguilar, Steven Self, Tori Vogel absent. The friendly amendment from Commission Member Dwyer included the addition of language notating that the proposed budget does not represent a growth budget but may, in fact, lead to a reduction of e-resources and an increase in patron wait times. The friendly amendment from Commissioner Rosenthal adds additional text to the end of the resolution in support of funding the listed unmet needs of the library. The amendments were accepted by Vice-Chair Infante-Huerta, the maker of the motion, and Commission Member Masters', who seconded the motion.

**5. Discussion and possible action on Commission's participation in community engagement opportunities**

Chair Smith led the discussion with Commission Members offering examples of opportunities to coordinate and participate in community engagement events in their branch libraries and council districts.

**6. Discussion and possible action on Legislative Developments**

The motion to approve a resolution regarding Opposition to Legislation Pending in the 88<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature was approved with the following friendly amendments on Commission Member Rosenthal's motion, Commission Member Masters' second on a 6-0 vote. Commission Members Julia Aguilar, Steven Self, Tori Vogel absent. The friendly amendments by Commission Member Haupt included the addition in the whereas section of the resolution, that library advocates in opposition of proposed legislation have been targeted with threats and the addition in the resolved section of the resolution, to direct the City Manager to take appropriate measures to protect and support library staff. The amendments were accepted by Commission Member Rosenthal, the maker of the motion, and Commission Member Masters', who seconded the motion.

**WORKING GROUP UPDATES****7. Update from Legislative Issues Working Group**

Commissioner Rosenthal gave the update. Chair Smith asked the working group to continue their charge and meet again, making further recommendations regarding any additional proposed legislation related to libraries at future commission meetings.

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Officer Elections  
Community Engagement Opportunities  
Legislative Developments  
Library Commission Retreat  
APL Budget Update – May or June  
Budget Recommendations that Impact the Library Budget

**Adjournment:** Chair Smith adjourned the meeting at 7:37 p.m. without objection.