



**THE LIBRARY COMMISSION
MINUTES**

**SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
08, July 2023**

The Library Commission convened in a Special Called Meeting on Saturday, July 8, 2023, at the Central Library, 710 W. Cesar Chavez, in Austin, Texas.

Chair Smith called the Board Meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

Commission Members in Attendance: Mark Smith, Chair, Lynda Infante Huerta, Vice-Chair, Courtney Rosenthal, Melanie Haupt; Sheila Mehta, JC Dwyer, Christina Masters

Commission Members Absent: Kezia Frayjo

Public Communication: General

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approval of minutes from the June 26, 2023, regular meeting

The minutes of the June 26, 2023, regular called meeting were called for approval on Commission Member Master's motion and Commission Member Mehta's second on a 7-0 vote. Commission Member Frayjo absent.

This vote will be completed again at the August 28, 2023 meeting so the vote can be captured on audio.

STAFF BRIEFINGS

2. Staff briefing regarding APL Strategic Plan by Roosevelt Weeks, Director of Libraries

The presentation was made by Roosevelt Weeks, Director of Libraries

3. Staff briefing regarding facilities construction plans and allocations by Cody Scott, Facilities Process Manager

The presentation was made by Cody Scott, Facilities Process Manager

DISCUSSION ITEMS

4. Discussion and review of the 2022 action areas identified by the Library Commission and areas addressed

Discussion was held regarding the review of the 2022 action areas.

5. Discussion of areas of potential effectiveness

Discussion was held regarding areas of potential effectiveness.

6. Discussion of the role of the commission regarding advocacy and action

Discussion was held regarding the role of the commission regarding advocacy and action.

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS

7. Discussion and possible action regarding the identification of action areas for 2023 – 2024

Discussion was held and the commission identified three principal areas of activity for 2023-2024:

1. Support for facilities development
2. Equity in service/social services issues—helping to remove barriers to access
3. Legislative/Freedom to Read/Advocacy

The Commission also identified the following activities in support of the goals:

- Keep our council members apprised of facilities needs
- Be available to speak at council meetings if needed on related issues (staff will alert us to upcoming council agenda items)
- Advocate for funding for feasibility study
- Develop talking points to inform the community of facilities development plans and objectives
- Form working group charged with recommending specific plan of action to support facilities development
- Presentation at next commission meeting on social services issues
- Pending that discussion, form working group to consider and recommend action to address issues of equal access, including the following”
 - Services to immigrant populations
 - Services to historically underserved
 - Persons experiencing homelessness
 - Social workers in the library
- Exploration of how to support next phase of Enhanced Library Card development
- Keep council members and public apprised of ongoing value of libraries
- Continue to have an agenda item for commissioners to report on community engagement contacts

- Remain aware of new challenges to materials or legislative action that would limit access

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Homelessness
Library marketing
Facilities issues and plans
Equity in Service
Enhanced Library Cards
Broadband
Library programming

Adjournment: Chair Smith adjourned the meeting at 1:00 p.m. without objection.

The minutes were approved at the August 28, 2023 meeting on Commission Member Rosenthal's motion, and Commission Member Dwyer's second on a 6-0 vote. Commission Members Haupt, Masters and Vogel absent.