

MINUTES  
MALIBU LIBRARY SUBCOMMITTEE  
SPECIAL MEETING  
AUGUST 27, 2018  
ZUMA ROOM  
3:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Pro Tem Wagner called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m.

ROLL CALL

The following persons were recorded in attendance:

PRESENT: Mayor Pro Tem Wagner and Councilmember Laura Rosenthal

ALSO PRESENT: Lisa Soghor, Assistant City Manager; Elizabeth Shavelson, Assistant to the City Manager; Kristin Riesgo, Community Services Deputy Director; and Mary Linden, Executive Assistant

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION Councilmember Rosenthal moved and Mayor Pro Tem Wagner seconded a motion to approve the agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

REPORT ON POSTING OF AGENDA

Executive Assistant Linden reported that the agenda for the meeting was properly posted on August 22, 2018.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Approval of Minutes – March 6, 2018

Recommended Action: Approve the minutes of the Library Subcommittee Special meeting of March 6, 2018.

MOTION Councilmember Rosenthal moved and Mayor Pro Tem Wagner seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the Library Subcommittee Special meeting of March 6, 2018 as amended. The motion carried unanimously.

2. 2019 Malibu Library Speaker Series

Recommended Action: Discuss the 2019 Malibu Library Speaker Series; and 2) Provide direction to staff.

Community Services Deputy Director Riesgo presented the report.

Pamela Conley Ulich commended past speakers. She questioned if any of the suggested speakers were locals. She recommended broadening the list to include published authors from Malibu or start a smaller series that would promote local authors. She acknowledged comments submitted by Joan Lavine. She agreed with Ms. Lavine's suggestion for changing the Subcommittee's meeting time.

Ann Buxie discussed the Poet Laureate summit. She requested the City sponsor another event after a new Poet Laureate is appointed in Spring 2019. She thanked Malibu for supporting a place for the exchange of ideas in poetry.

Ricardo Ybarra, Malibu Poet Laureate, agreed with Ms. Buxie. He stated the summit presented the opportunity for a great combination of arts. He discussed the Call to the Wall II and what could be done to make it a successful event. He asked for Council support to continue the poetry summit.

Councilmember Rosenthal stated the summit was included in the proposed list of events.

John Mazza stated the City was missing an opportunity with Pepperdine. He stated Pepperdine has a major art show and gallery at least three times a year. He suggested asking them to make a presentation that could promote the Pepperdine library, art museum and programs.

Mayor Pro Tem Wagner agreed Pepperdine is a great asset that is underused.

Councilmember Rosenthal agreed with suggestions to include local authors. She stated the Speaker Series has become a greater event than originally expected. She agreed with Ms. Conley Ulich about possibly holding smaller speaker events at the Malibu Library with local authors, such as Sharon Barovsky, Jo Giese, and Carole Lieberman. She stated it would be a great way to showcase local authors while still bringing in other speakers who the community would not normally be able to hear. She expressed concern that only one of the suggested speakers was a woman. She stated the City should have more of a say in what speaker is chosen for the Earth Day event cosponsored by Pepperdine and held at the university.

Melissa Stallings, Malibu Library Manager, stated they usually hear from Pepperdine in November.

Councilmember Rosenthal agreed with continuing the Poetry Summit.

Councilmember Rosenthal suggested pursuing Kristin Hannah to speak. She discussed the separation of the school district and suggested incorporating 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning in the Speaker Series to help educate the community. She discussed challenges with holding events at Pepperdine. She stated it was preferable to hold the events at City Hall or the Library. She stated she would rather see Pepperdine inviting the City to participate.

Ms. Conley Ulich stated the Draft Needs Assessment indicates the City has \$9 million in funds available. In response to Ms. Conley Ulich, Councilmember Rosenthal stated she would rather those funds be used for City events. She stated it would be interesting to get an artist or photographer with published books.

Mayor Pro Tem Wagner agreed with including local history. He suggested bringing back the Malibu Historical Society. He suggested one of the speakers be a local historian.

Councilmember Rosenthal agreed and suggested historical videos that the City is putting together be shown at an event toward the end of the year. She stated contacting producers of a film about Johnny Strange about including that film with a panel discussion. She expressed support for having a scientist, Walter Isaacson, or an expert on cannabis if Measure G passes at the November 6, 2018 election.

Mayor Pro Tem Wagner agreed with having a scientist. He suggested getting a speaker with expertise on earthquakes, such as Dr. Lucy Jones, to speak about global warming and coastal rise, as well as tsunami and FEMA aspects.

Councilmember Rosenthal stated the subject of earthquakes and tsunamis could also be incorporated into the City's public safety events. She supported having a dynamic political speaker, possibly prior to the 2020 election season.

3. Draft 2018 Library Needs Assessment

Recommended Action: Provide a recommendation to the City Council concerning the Draft 2018 Library Needs Assessment.

Assistant City Manager Soghor introduced Linda Demmers, Library Consultant.

Ms. Demmers distributed an outline of the Draft Needs Assessment. She emphasized it is a draft report. She presented the report. She discussed the correlation between the Parks and Recreation Master Plan and the Library Needs Assessment. She explained the make-up of the Library Working Group. She commended the Harry Barovsky Memorial Youth Commission for its input. She commended the community for its response to the online survey. She stated respondents made similar comments as speakers today about the need for local history. She discussed concerns expressed by respondents about safety impacts of homelessness. She stated demographic projections made in 2005 did not happen. She explained that the Topanga Library, which opened after the 2005 Needs Assessment, reduced the number of visitors to the Malibu Library. She stated coverage at the library is difficult with the current number of staff.

In response to Ms. Demmers, Gladstone Bucknor, Los Angeles County Library Regional Administrator, confirmed there are now two MāK Mō vehicles in the district.

Ms. Demmers explained that OverDrive is the County Library's free downloadable inventory, which includes audio books, e-books, music, and magazines.

Councilmember Rosenthal stated the County Library had hired a consultant for new branding to promote the library.

Ms. Demmers explained that use per hour was down, mainly because the library was visited by the same number of people but was open more hours. She stated that Malibu Library usage per hour was higher than the County as a whole. She discussed changes to the current facility set-up that could help meet some of the suggestions and requests in the Needs Assessment.

Ms. Demmers described Library Community Centers.

Councilmember Rosenthal asked if it was known how often the Library is rented by local community groups.

**RECESS** Mayor Pro Tem Wagner recessed the meeting at 4:05 p.m. The meeting resumed 4:10 p.m. with all Subcommittee members present.

Ms. Demmers discussed the findings and recommendations. She provided examples of both short-term and long-term recommendations. She explained some of the programming and collection requests could not be met due to insufficient space or staffing. She stated the Malibu Library has more back of house space than other libraries.

Ms. Conley Ulich thanked Ms. Demmers for such a thorough report. She requested the working group be given the opportunity to make comments on the draft report. She suggested the report be made available at the library and schools. She suggested the Council consider putting a combination community center/library on the west end of town. She stated she hoped it would be voted on and implemented sooner than the seven years it took last time. She suggested a priority be holding a town hall meeting about uses for the new property the City is purchasing. She asked if there could be a dual use facility for the schools part-time and the public for the rest of the time.

Lotte Cherin asked if OverDrive had been replaced by Libby and Kanopy. Ms. Stallings explained all three are currently available for different uses. Ms. Cherin discussed alternatives to laptop towers. She suggested having notebooks that could be checked out at the service desk. She agreed with setting up a second library in the western end of the City. She suggested a combined library and community center. She stated adding something in western Malibu was more important than changing the front of the current Library.

Scott Tallal stated he was a survey researcher on how people use all types of media. He stated the survey should have asked where in Malibu respondents lived. He stated the population center and largest population areas are in western Malibu. He stated it is not difficult to find people in western Malibu who want to live and work in Malibu.

Mayor Pro Tem Wagner stated there are many mentions of population density in the report.

Patt Healy suggested the City purchase all or some of 25 acres of Trancas property owned by Malibu Bay Company with the Library funds and build a library there in a few years when the

additional library Set Aside Funds are earned. She stated the City's other Trancas property could be used as an outdoor environmental learning center and pollinator area with Library programs developed for that area.

John Mazza stated one thing missing was what will happen to the existing library and services after the Santa Monica College campus and Sheriff substation are built. He stated security guards would no longer be necessary. He stated Pepperdine has four full-time archivists with climate-regulated storage. He questioned if it was really necessary to have in the Malibu Library. He agreed that western Malibu absolutely needs community space. He suggested the City do a land lease for leasing a plot of land to the County for 99 years to build a library in western Malibu. He discussed the need for meeting space for local organizations and space for senior programs.

Harriett Pollen congratulated Ms. Demmers on the most fabulous collection of data relative to the community, not just the library. She discussed how traffic impacts the ability for many residents to get to the library. She agreed with the need for a library in western Malibu.

Mayor Pro Tem Wagner stated the report was very informative. He agreed the report should be available to the school administration.

Assistant City Manager Soghor stated the report could be posted on the City website and shared through social media.

Mayor Pro Tem Wagner suggested the latest homeless count be added to Page 18, as well as how the homeless use the library. He suggested adding to page 68 how participation between seniors and youth could be increased. He said it was important to emphasize that Library service is required by State law, as indicated on Page 19.

Councilmember Rosenthal thanked everyone for attending and for their comments. In response to Ms. Pollen, she stated the City is in the middle of designing a project to synchronize traffic signals from Topanga Canyon Boulevard to John Tyler Drive. Councilmember Rosenthal requested Ms. Stallings speak to the issue of staffing and why it is difficult to find and retain staffing.

Ms. Stallings explained that library staff cannot afford to live in Malibu and have to commute or choose to work at other facilities. She stated staff knows and appreciates the support from the community. In response to Councilmember Rosenthal, Mr. Bucknor stated he was unsure if higher salaries could be offered in Malibu because all County Library staff are unionized.

In response to Councilmember Rosenthal, Ms. Stallings stated a Masters in Library Science was required. She explained it is not always a local hiring opportunity.

Councilmember Rosenthal stated the schools and City also had problems retaining staff due to geographic challenges. She stated she was excited about the upcoming public meetings to find out what the community wants to do with recently purchased land. Assistant City Manager Soghor announced escrow is scheduled to close on September 6, 2018.

Councilmember Rosenthal stated she would love to see a community center in Point Dume. In response to Ms. Healy, she stated she did not think it would work at Trancas. She explained how Library Set Aside Funds have been used, including expanded hours, additional staffing, Malibu Library Speaker Series, and maintenance. She suggested setting up a pick-up site in western Malibu. In response to Ms. Conley Ulich, she stated sharing any new library site and related liability issues had been discussed extensively. She stated the County's Third Supervisorial District, which includes Malibu, has fewer libraries than the other districts. She stated other districts put money into projects that stay within their jurisdiction. She stated she supported a full-time employee for branding and promotion. She stated they should not have to work out of the Malibu Library.

In response to Councilmember Rosenthal, Ms. Stallings stated the Library's 3-D printer was just waiting for a recycling part that has been delayed. Councilmember Rosenthal stated she would like to use some funds used for classes, such as Life Skills class for teens, and events, such as an expanded Concert on the Bluffs.

Mayor Pro Tem Wagner asked the County to look into stipends or travel allowances for extra travel time for staff.

Scott Tallal suggested recruiting from Ventura County. Councilmember Rosenthal stated that was always done.

Councilmember Rosenthal agreed with suggestions for renovations to the community room and for how the patios were utilized. She supported getting rid of underused computers. She discussed a pilot program that used sensors to see where people go in the library to provide more information about how the library is used.

Councilmember Rosenthal suggested questions about what is wanted and needed on the west side of town for library services, tempered with difficulties of finding qualified staff, be discussed when the City conducts its community-wide town hall meetings and outreach about the uses for the newly purchased land.

Mayor Pro Tem Wagner stated we need to address what the needs are first, then go deeper later after the County responded about staffing. Assistant City Manager Soghor explained the Council's plans for getting community input about land use.

Mayor Pro Tem Wagner stated the Draft Needs Assessment should come back to the Subcommittee for final review after today's comments are incorporated, after which it would to the Council.

Ms. Demmers stated she was still waiting for some information from the County, particularly regarding alternatives to building a new facility.

MOTION Mayor Pro Tem Wagner moved and Councilmember Rosenthal seconded a motion to have the Subcommittee's and public comments incorporated into the Draft Needs Assessment and the report brought back to the Subcommittee before submitting to the City Council.

Mayor Pro Tem Wagner commended Ms. Demmers for a great job on the report.

The motion carried unanimously.

#### ADJOURNMENT

MOTION At 5:10 p.m., Mayor Pro Tem Wagner moved and Councilmember Rosenthal seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

Approved and adopted by the Library Subcommittee of the City of Malibu on October 1, 2018.

  
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JEFFERSON WAGNER, Mayor Pro Tem

ATTEST:

  
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MARY LINDEN, Executive Assistant