

Library Board

MINUTES –February 23, 2022

The Inglewood Library Board met on February 23, 2022 via Zoom. The meeting was called to order at 4:34 p.m. by Board Member Julie Minton.

Roll Call

Present:

Julie Minton – District 1 Board Member, Vice Chairman
Pat Douglas – District 2 Board Member
Jacqueline Cochran – District 4 Board Member

Absent Board Members:

Patt Sanders – At Large Board Member, Chairman
Ernesto Castillo – District 3 Board Member

Staff:

Harjinder Singh – Deputy to the City Manager
Kerri Arroyo – Library Manager
Irina Martirosian – Staff Assistant

Board Member Minton made a motion for the meeting to be recorded.

Board Member Douglas asked if the recording is for the purpose of minutes.

Board Member Minton answered that the purpose of recording is for minutes and for public in general.

Board Members voted and motion did not pass.

Board Member Cochran think that the printed minutes are excellent and if there is anything that is not included in the minutes, board should discuss that during the meeting.

Public Comments

Lorraine Aldridge, resident in the community mentioned that she has a daughter and wanted to take her to the library to get a library card and realized that the libraries were temporarily closed for COVID reasons. Ms. Aldridge thanked everyone who had a part in reopening the libraries and for doing a wonderful job. She's happy and looking forward to go to the library again and will be more active in the community. Lorraine Aldridge also thanked Board Member Minton for inviting her to the meeting.

Approval of the Minutes

Board Member Minton made a motion for the approval of the minutes for January 26, 2022.

Board Member Minton also mentioned that on the last page of the minutes on Library updates need little more detailed information on question was asked and answered.

All the Board Members approved the minutes.

Library Report

Library Manager, Kerri Arroyo shared her screen with all meeting participants and showed the results from 2 meetings that we had on January 13 and January 26 with 32 participants from community and 52 patrons submitted surveys that we had open for one week from January 28th to February 4th. Our goal is to hear, respond, reflect and put a plan together that meets everyone's needs.

Board Member Cochran thanked staff for putting the survey out.

Board Member Minton asked for the reason why the survey was for a short time and why couldn't they be out longer?

Library Manager Kerri Arroyo told the board that first day we received 22 surveys, second day 11 and last four days we received only one.

Deputy to the City Manager Harjinder Singh mentioned that the survey went out to 6,500 library members. We could not have the survey out for a longer time because part of the goal was to make sure that the architect had the information and enough time to integrate it into the design, because we want to present it to community with all possible changes and updates.

Board Member Minton asked how long the last survey lasted for the Main Library.

Kerri Arroyo stated that it ran for a month and we received 30 more surveys than this one. Back in September the library was open but it was hard to get people to participate. We kept it open little longer because the actual goal was to get 100 but we received 65 hard copy surveys.

Kerri arroyo introduced the lead architect Gwynne Pugh who presented the new plans that are in alignment with the feedback provided by the community.

Document: [Design Concept Package](#)

Board Member Minton liked the concept, but asked for a separate children's area.

The architect Pugh explained that children have separate area, and because the library is only 2500 square feet we are going to use furniture as the barrier. And the librarian in that location will have whole view of what's going on. Also, they included the exterior space inside the building and made that as staff working area which will have extra wide doors for moving furniture inside whenever they need open area for programs.

Board Member Douglas liked the second diagram more because there is more flexibility.

Board member Cochran asked how big is the area for staff in the back.

The architect Pugh stated that they added 1000 Square feet to the library.

Community member Lorraine Aldridge liked everything, but asked to switch the children's area with the technology workstations. Ms. Aldridge also mentioned that she values green space and wants to have a community garden at the front area of the library.

The architect Gwynne Pugh explained that it's better to keep children's area in that corner, so when library have different programs, it actuary will be further away from that zone, it will be sort of quiet area. Regarding the

green area Mr. Pugh said they haven't programmed the front of the building yet and will see what they will come up with.

Board Member Minton asked Mr. Harjinder why the Morningside Branch can't be included in the bond along with the Main Library and buy another building or build a second floor.

Deputy to the City Manager Harjinder Singh explained that city set aside \$1.6 million for this project and it's coming out from the general fund. Because that building was donated to the city for specific library use, city cannot sell it or the property will revert back to the surviving family members.

Board Member Douglas thanked for the presentation.

Library Manager Kerri Arroyo gave the board members Library's update on internship, programming, outreach and accomplishments. We have a new intern from UCLA. Her name is Mackenzie and works 10hrs a week. She's really enjoying and wants to extend her internship until the end of her school. Library is working with the art commissioner Helen and last Saturday a beautiful art piece called "Taste of Inglewood" was installed on the first floor of the Main library which will stay there for the next month and a half. It's a tapestry of different pieces of quilting that was compiled during pandemic at Rogers Park by the artist Shelley Hepler. Ms. Arroyo invited board members to the reception which will take place this Saturday at 12 o'clock. Kerri Arroyo also mentioned that library had a booth at the Taste of Inglewood and had the opportunity to engage with approximately 211 individuals and families. We gave away 150 Valentine kits and adult coloring kits. Those who applied for digital library cards we gave away mug with Inglewood Library logo on it. Everyone were super excited. We look forward to the community coming in and our librarians are outreaching to the community. On the first day library being open we had 45 patrons on both floors of the library. Lot of children were checking out books, doing homework and obviously a lot of computer use. We have our Read across America and celebrating Dr. Seuss birthday. We are having a party for all the children on Saturday and on Wednesday, March 2nd on his actual birthday both libraries will be offering activities and free giveaways all day.

Board Member Douglas asked if that was advertise in the newsletter.

Library Manager Kerri Arroyo answered yes, last week's newsletter had this week's events publicized and this week's newsletter will have next week's events.

Friends Report

Susan Carleo, President of the Friends of Inglewood Public Library (FOIPL) mentioned that they were pleased to see the exhibit. Friends received a lot of quilting and needlework books, embroidery and other handwork that are on display. So when people go and look at the beautiful exhibit, they will be inspired and want to purchase a couple books. Friends are paying attention on what's going on in the library and trying to modify the bookstore to reflect that. Ms. Carleo thanked and congratulate library on the lovely display and stated that they really enjoyed looking at it.

Public Comments

Community member Lorraine Aldridge thanked staff for opening the library again and asked where she would be able to voice her feedback in regards to the layout plan of the library.

Library Manager Kerri Arroyo told Ms. Aldridge that she can call or reach out via email and we'd love to hear from her.

Board Member Minton told Ms. Aldridge to keep coming to these meetings and to encourage her neighbors to attend also.

Commissioner Comments

Board member Cochran appreciate the architect Gwynne Pugh for coming and sharing the new layout and the adjustments that were made as a result of some of the comments from last time, thanked Kerri Arroyo for Read Across America and said will try to go to at least one of the events.

Board member Douglas agreed with board member Cochran and thanked the staff for everything they have done and having the community involvement.

Board Member Minton agreed with the other board members, thanked Mr. Pugh for the presentation and said that they look forward to seeing the plans. Ms. Minton also asked for the time frame for the Morningside library.

The architect Gwynne Pugh stated that it's a process, but probably within six weeks they will be reviewing the existing structures and will try to get it done by early next year.

With no further comments the meeting was adjourned at 5:29 p.m.

Document: [Design Concept Package](#)