



**NATIONAL CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY
LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**

**ZOOM MEETING
April 6, 2022 - 5:30 PM**

You are invited to a Zoom webinar.
When: April 6, 2022 05:30 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)
Topic: Library Board Meeting – April 6, 2022

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_ug1GBA1iSeKA9r-XAJXDYQ

Public Comments: There are multiple ways you can make sure your opinions are heard and considered by the Library Board of Trustees:

1. **Submit your public comment prior to the meeting:** To submit a comment in writing, email or mail to: LbtPubComment@nationalcityca.gov, provide the agenda item and title of the item in the subject line of your email. Public comments or testimony is limited to up to three (3) minutes. If the comment is not related to a specific agenda item: Indicate *General Public Comment* in the subject line. All email comments received by 3:30 p.m. on the day of the meeting will be read into the record at the Library Board of Trustees meeting and retained as part of the official record. All comments will be available on the City website within 48 hours following the meeting.
2. **Register online and participate in live public comment during the meeting:** To provide live public comment during the meeting, you must pre-register at https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_ug1GBA1iSeKA9r-XAJXDYQ by 3:30 p.m. on the day of the meeting to join the Library Board of Trustees Meeting.

*****Please note that you do not need to pre-register to watch the meeting online, but you must pre-register if you wish to speak.**

Once registered, you will receive an email with a link from Zoom to join the live meeting. You can participate by phone or by computer. Please allow yourself time to log into Zoom before the start of the meeting to ensure you do not encounter any last-minute technical difficulties.

*****Please note that members of the public will not be shown on video; they will be able to watch and listen and speak when called upon.**

Public microphones will be muted until it is your turn to comment. Each speaker is allowed up to three (3) minutes to address the Library Board of Trustees. Please be aware that the Chair may limit the comments' length due to the number of persons wishing to speak or if comments become repetitious or unrelated. All comments are subject to the same rules as would otherwise govern speaker comments at the meeting. Speakers are asked to be respectful and courteous. Please address your comments to the Library Board of Trustees as a whole and avoid personal attacks against members of the public, Library Trustees, and City staff.

AGENDA

Call to Order

Roll Call

Public Comments and Communication

Consent Agenda

1. Approval of Agenda dated April 6, 2022
2. Approval of the Minutes of March 2, 2022 meeting
3. Approval of March 2022 Library Warrants

New and Unfinished Business

4. Presentation of New Senior Library Technician Tiffany Roberts
5. Approval of Fine-Free Policy
6. Little Free Libraries Update

City Librarian Report

Principal Librarian Report

Other Reports

7. Friends of the Library Report

Board Member Comments

Adjournment: Next meeting May 4, 2022 at 5:30 p.m.

Upon request, this agenda can be made available in appropriate alternative formats to persons with a disability in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Please contact Joyce Ryan, City Librarian at (619) 470-5800 or by email at jryan@nationalcityca.gov to request a disability-related modification or accommodation. Notification 24 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangement to ensure accessibility to this meeting.



NATIONAL CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY

Regular Meeting of the Library Board of Trustees

Minutes

March 2, 2022

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Board of Library Trustees of the National City Public Library was called to order by President Godshalk at 5:30 p.m. on March 2, 2022.

ROLL CALL

BOARD OF TRUSTEES PRESENT: Margaret Godshalk, President
Bradley Bang, Secretary
Anzueth Zambrano, Trustee
Coyote Moon, Trustee

BOARD OF TRUSTEES ABSENT: Sherry Gogue, Trustee

STAFF PRESENT: Joyce Ryan, City Librarian
Sarah Ruiz, Administrative Secretary

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND COMMUNICATION – Via email

- Penny Moreau, National City Public Library Book Club spoke about the book club and requested a date when the book club can resume meeting in the Library.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Items 1, 2, and 4: Approval of the Consent Agenda including the Minutes of the Meeting of March 2, 2022 and the California Library Literacy Services (CLLS) grant of \$9,750

Motion to approve the consent agenda without the warrants.

Motion: Bang/ Second: Zambrano

Vote: Ayes: 4 Nays: 0

Motion carried.

Item 3: Approval of February 2022 Library Warrants:

Motion to approve the warrants for \$4,358.96

Motion: Bang/ Second: Moon

Vote: Ayes: 4 Nays: 0

Motion carried.

NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- **Introduction of new Administrative Secretary, National City resident Sarah Ruiz.**

CITY LIBRARIAN'S REPORT

- **Recruitment**-The Senior Library Technician position candidate is being processed.

- **Fine-Free Policy**-Staff is working on the fine-free policy and procedure, which will be submitted to National City Council on 4/19 for approval.
- **New Book Displays**-Staff is shifting new books over to a more visible location in front of the Circulation Counter.
- **Collection Development Plan**-Staff is creating a plan to refresh collection with the endowment fund from the Friends of the Library.
- **Policy and Procedure for Reconsideration of Library Materials**-Staff are still working on this policy and hope to bring it to the Board of Library Trustees by June or July of 2022.
- **National City Council voted on 3/1/22 to continue meeting virtually for time being.**

PRINCIPAL LIBRARIAN'S REPORT

- **Staff continuing to provide programming** and is distributing free books to community schools and organizations.
- **Outreach**-Senior Saturdays Library Outreach and Programming twice a month

OTHER REPORTS – Friends of the Library – Margaret Godshalk

- **Library Bookstore**-Bookstore is well staffed with the exception of one evening each week that needs to be covered.
- Friends of the Library is purchasing two new tablecloths for Library outreach tables.
- The President of the Friends of the Library is planning a Blood Bank event to occur in the Library parking lot and the date will be Wednesday, March 30, 11-5.
- The Community Breakfasts are planning to resume Saturday, June 11.

BOARD TRUSTEE COMMENTS/COMMUNICATION

- Secretary Bang inquired about the California State Library Literacy grant for \$9750 and Director Ryan explained about the ESL grant.
- Chair Godshalk expressed her appreciation about the new Administrative Secretary.
- Chair Godshalk congratulated the Director on the grant and she looks forward to hearing about other library programs in future.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn meeting.

Motion: Bang /Second: Moon

Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 5:55 p.m. The next Board Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 6, 2022 at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Ryan
City Librarian

Library Warrants

FY2021-22

Board Meeting

Wednesday, April 6, 2022
 * updated 3/30/22

						FUNDS				
Vendor Name	Description	Account	Sub-Acct	Check#	Check Date	Gen Fund #104	Capital Outlay #108	Donation #277	Grant #320	Total
Allstate Security	Security Guard - Feb.'22	104-431-056	299			\$ 2,243.67				\$ 2,243.67
Amazon	Hard Drive Cases	104-431-056	399				\$ 205.20			\$ 205.20
Brainfuse, Inc.	Online Tutoring	320-431-339	222			\$ 5,000.00				\$ 5,000.00
California Library Association	Institutional Membership	320-431-339	222			\$ 600.00				\$ 600.00
Demco	Out of State Taxes- Invoice from May 2021	104-431-056	399			\$ 65.76				\$ 65.76
Demco	Books	104-431-056	399			\$ 887.01				\$ 887.01
Midwest Tape	Audiobooks	108-431-056	304			\$ 73.06				\$ 73.06
	Audiobooks	108-431-056	304			\$ 108.95				\$ 108.95
	DVDs	108-431-056	304				\$ 68.89			\$ 68.89
	DVDs	108-431-056	304				\$ 316.21			\$ 316.21
	DVDs	108-431-056	304				\$ 200.14			\$ 200.14
	DVDs	108-431-056	304				\$ 135.75			\$ 135.75
	DVDs	108-431-056	304				\$ 49.31			\$ 49.31
New Readers Press	Literacy Materials FY22	320-431-339	304			\$ 1,966.88				\$ 1,966.88
John's Lock & Safe Service, Inc.	Circulation Safe, Repair	104-431-056	299			\$ 275.08				\$ 275.08
Worth Ave. Group LLC	Insurance Policy - Hotspot/Laptops	104-431-056	299			\$ 159.62				\$ 159.62

Total										\$ 12,355.53
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STAFF REPORT

Board of Library Trustees

Prepared by: Joyce Ryan, Library & Community Services Director Meeting Date: 4/6/22

SUBJECT: Fine-Free Policy Approval

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends Library Trustees approve the NCPL Fine-Free policy to remove barriers for access at the National City Public Library.

BOARD/COMMISSION PRIOR ACTION: 2/2/2022 – BOLT approved the staff recommendation to establish a fine-free policy. Staff are presenting the final policy for approval and also updating the Board on the revised procedures for patron use.

STATEMENT ON SUBJECT:

Within the past four years, many libraries across the country have decided to remove late fines citing that these fines are now seen as a barrier to access to library materials and create a disproportionate financial burden on low-income families, youth, older adults, and communities of color. This can be seen as the culmination of a debate that has continued for years within the library profession. Many librarians see fines as a necessary tool for accountability in patrons, while others see late fines as a discriminatory practice propagating social inequity.

At the 2019 ALA Midwinter Meeting, the American Library Association on behalf of its members, drafted and approved a “Resolution on Monetary Library Fines as a Form of Social Inequity.” The ALA noted in the resolution that monetary fines present an economic barrier to access to materials and resources and added that statement to the ALA Policy Manual. In addition, the resolution urged members to “scrutinize their practices of imposing fines on library patrons and actively move towards eliminating them.”¹

Over the years, many libraries across the country have created programs to address late fines – Read Down Programs, Food for Fines programs, Amnesty Days, Fine-free Days, etc. In addition, many libraries have also started programs that eliminated late fines on children’s and young adult materials. Although these programs have met with certain success, they are also considered to be a “piece-meal” solution to a larger issue regarding the disproportionate impact on vulnerable populations. Consequently, many library systems have decided in recent years to eliminate late fines for all patrons.

Many large library systems across the country have removed late fines from their fee schedule. New York Public Library, Chicago Public Library, Los Angeles Public Library, San Francisco Public Library have all removed patron late fines. In San Diego County, the vast majority of libraries are now fine-free. All San Diego County libraries and San Diego Public Libraries (City of San Diego) are fine-free libraries. Chula Vista Public Library (3 locations) went fine-free on July 1, 2021 and Escondido Public Library went fine-free on September 1, 2021. Oceanside Public Library stopped assessing fines and forgave assessed late fines in August 2021. The only libraries in San Diego County that continue to charge overdue fines are the National City Public Library, Coronado Public Library, and Carlsbad City Library. (Both Coronado Public Library and Carlsbad City Library are exploring the option of going fine-free.) In

¹ “Resolution on Monetary Library Fines as a Form of Social Inequity,” 2019 ALA Midwinter Meeting. Accessed Nov. 24, 2021.
<https://www.ala.org/aboutala/sites/ala.org.aboutala/files/content/Resolution%20on%20Monetary%20Library%20Fines%20as%20a%20Form%20of%20Social%20Inequity-FINAL.pdf>



STAFF REPORT Board of Library Trustees

addition, library fines at Coronado Public Library are less than fines in our existing fine structure.² Out of the total of 85 libraries in San Diego County, 82 have gone fine-free (San Diego County Library has 41 locations; San Diego Public Library has 36 locations; Chula Vista has 3 locations).

Fiscal Impact

Currently the National City Public Library charges \$.25 per day in overdue fines for books and magazines, \$3.00 per day in overdue fines for DVDs and audiobooks, and \$1.00 per day in overdue fines for test books and audio CDs. With the current fee schedule, a parent checking out 8 picture books and returning those items one week late, would owe the library \$14.00 in overdue fines. A patron checking out 6 movies and returning them one day late would owe \$18.00.

The table below shows the current fine structure for the National City Public Library:

Item Type	Checkout Period	Overdue Fine	Renewable
Children's, Young Adult and Adult Books and Magazines	28 days	\$0.25/day	1 time – 2 weeks
Audiobooks	14 days	\$3.00/day	1 time – 2 weeks
DVDs/Blu-Rays	7 days	\$3.00/day	Only educational 1 time – 1 week
Audio CDs	14 days	\$1.00/day	1 time – 2 weeks
Test Books	7 days	\$1.00/day	1 time – 1 week

Library patrons need to renew items online or ask a library staff member to renew the items for them. In addition, when patrons check out a book and the item is lost, the patron is responsible for the replacement cost as designated in the electronic catalog (typically, MSRP) and a \$5.00 processing fee. If the item is later found, the patron is not able to receive a refund from the library and is told to keep the item.

Staff reviewed the actual revenue amounts for past fiscal years to determine the amount of late fines that would not be realized if the Library were to go fine-free. The Library monitors the amount of late fines and other fees that are deposited into revenue in the Library's budget. The table below shows the annual amount of fines and fees that the Library has received since Fiscal Year 2015-16:

Fiscal Year	Library Fines Revenue	Total Library Budget	Revenue as Percentage of Library Budget
2015/16	\$38,207.52	\$2,285,400 (Actual)	.017%
2016/17	\$39,442.92	\$2,501,782 (Actual)	.016%
2017/18	\$48,143.78	\$2,412,792 (Actual)	.020%
2018/19	\$34,729.40	\$2,363,881 (Actual)	.015%
2019/20	\$20,049.93	\$2,554,119 (Actual)	.008%
2020/21	\$2,585.52	\$2,701,447 (Actual)	.001%
2021/22	\$6,073.59 (as of 3/29/22)	\$2,330,960 (Adopted)	.002%

² As of December 2021, Coronado Public Library late fine structure is as follows: \$.05 per day for Children and Teen materials, \$.20 per day for adult materials, \$1 per day for DVDs.



STAFF REPORT Board of Library Trustees

The highest revenue year was FY 2017/18 with \$48,143.78 in revenue; even then, the percentage of revenues was only .02% of the overall Library budget. Since then, however, revenue levels from late fines have dropped, even accounting for decreased circulation due to COVID closures. It is important to note, also, that the figures above are a combination of fines and fees. Late fines are a significant portion of the revenues listed; however, other fees such as lost item replacement fees, processing fees, etc. are also included in these revenue totals. There has traditionally been no separation of revenue source (i.e., late fines, processing fees, etc.) within the budget.

The Library currently has 22,491 active borrowers (borrowers who have utilized library materials within the past five years). The table below shows the current balances (as of March 29, 2022) for each type of fine or fee since 2017, with the total balance of late fines as \$53,340.54 (highlighted).³

Bill Library Desc	Bill Created Year	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	Total
	Bill Reason	Total Outstanding Bill Amount						
National City Public Library	CaC	\$1.00	\$2.00	\$1.00	\$8.00	\$8.00	\$10.00	\$30.00
	credit			-\$25.00	-\$25.00	-\$50.00	-\$25.00	-\$125.00
	damage	\$85.00		\$115.00	\$254.50	\$322.00	\$262.50	\$1,039.00
	fee	\$10.00	\$26.00	\$20.00	\$21.00	\$45.00	\$64.00	\$186.00
	fine	\$1,966.25	\$3,308.65	\$4,872.30	\$13,667.95	\$15,725.71	\$13,799.68	\$53,340.54
	I	\$5,192.99	\$3,771.99	\$13,877.99	\$16,096.10	\$17,874.90	\$19,602.87	\$76,416.84
	LostPro	\$615.00	\$660.00	\$2,830.00	\$3,400.00	\$3,705.00	\$3,985.00	\$15,195.00
Misc		\$10.30	\$226.35	\$34.10	\$464.74	\$88.90	\$824.39	
Total		\$7,870.24	\$7,778.94	\$21,917.64	\$33,456.65	\$38,095.35	\$37,787.95	\$146,906.77

Staff Recommendations

Late Fines

Staff recommend the removal of all late fines – including those already assessed. If late fines have already been paid, those payments are non-refundable.

Lost Items/Other Fees

If library materials are reported as lost, the library patron will assume responsibility for the replacement costs for the item(s). In addition, the Library will continue to assess fees for the following services, including:

- Library Card replacements
- Copying/printing
- Damage to library materials
- Collection Referral
- Non-sufficient funds (NSF)

³ Bill reason “CaC” indicates the purchase of a Computer Access Card for printing purposes; “I” indicates lost item replacement fees.



STAFF REPORT

Board of Library Trustees

Customers are encouraged to return materials in a timely fashion to the Library so others may enjoy our shared resources. Patrons will be blocked from checking out additional items if they have not returned their library materials by the due date. Items not returned within 30 days of their due date will go to a “lost” status and customers will be billed for item replacement costs. Customers will continue to be responsible for reconciling any lost items or fees on their library account by either returning the item(s) or paying the replacement fee. Replacement fees and processing fees are non-refundable. Once the patron either returns the overdue items or pays replacement fees, all blocks on their account will be removed.

If the patron’s account has had items on “lost” status for 90 days and owes \$100 or more, the account will go to collections. This is a change from current practice, which sends accounts to collections with \$20 owing on their account, an extremely low threshold. The reason for raising the threshold to \$100 is that Library staff feel strongly that access to computers should continue until a patron’s account is sent to collections.

The new Fine-Free Policy modifies the number of renewals allowed by patrons and increases the amount on a patron’s card before going to collections. If approved by City Council, staff will ensure that Library patrons are aware of the change, including posting information and FAQs on the Library website and posting on the City’s social media. In addition, Library staff will be working with patrons to update their records with email addresses and mobile phone numbers. As part of its ILS renewal, the Library will now be able to notify patrons via text messaging on their mobile phones.

Noted Concerns

Some community members express concern regarding the idea of removing fines as creating a lack of accountability in patrons and are worried that materials will not be returned. However, current practice has shown a different outcome. In 2019, Chicago Public Library and its 81 locations eliminated late fines for all materials and erased outstanding debt. As a result, the amount of books returned within the first few months was up 240%.⁴ Many patrons may owe fines and then be afraid or ashamed to come back to the library. In that instance, not only does the library lose the revenue and the materials – they also lose the patron. Many libraries that have gone fine-free have noted that they now have more patrons coming in the door than ever before and their circulation statistics are rising.

The burden of administrative fines can create financial strain for low-income families and can contribute to a cycle of economic hardship. Administrative fines can also have a disproportionate impact on vulnerable individuals, particularly youth, non-citizens, and people of color. Overdue fines represent a small portion of the library's budget and are not a steady or reliable source of revenue. **We believe that the library's mission to provide free and equal access to materials and services is important and are choosing to make that a priority for our patrons.**

Bibliography

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⁴ Spielman, Fran, “Lightfoot’s Decision to Eliminate Library Fines Triggers 240% Increase in Book Returns,” Chicago Sun-Times, October 30, 2019. Accessed Nov. 24, 2021.

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STAFF REPORT

Board of Library Trustees

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EXHIBITS:

1. National City Public Library Fine-Free Policy

NATIONAL CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY FINE-FREE POLICY

The National City Public Library is dedicated to equitable access to library services and materials for everyone in the National City community. Consequently, the Library will no longer assess overdue fines for borrowed items.

1. Effective with City Council approval, overdue fines will not be charged for materials kept past their due date and all previously assessed late fines will be deleted. Patrons are still responsible for previously assessed fees, including lost item fees.
2. Each item has a due date and cardholders are responsible for honoring the due date.
3. The fine-free policy only applies to overdue items. Fees for lost or damaged items will be applied according to existing procedure.
4. All library materials (with the exception of audiovisual materials and tech devices) will check out for 28 days, with three automated renewals of 14 days each renewal period, as long as there are no holds on the item. Renewal notices will be sent to patrons with new due date.
5. DVDs/BluRays will check out for seven days, with one automated renewal of seven days, as long as there are no holds on the item. Renewal notices will be sent to patrons with new due date.
6. Music CDs will check out for seven days, with one automated renewal of seven days, as long as there are no holds on the item. Renewal notices will be sent to patrons with new due date.
7. If an item is overdue, the cardholder's account will be blocked from checking out library materials. Once the item is returned, the block will be removed. Patrons will receive an overdue notice.
8. At 30 days overdue, the item will be marked as "lost" and the patron will be unable to check out or renew any physical items until they return the lost item, or pay for its replacement cost plus a \$5 processing fee.
9. Tech devices will check out for 28 days, with one automated renewal of 14 days, as long as there are no holds on the item. Renewal notices will be sent to patrons with new due date. If an item is overdue, the cardholder's account will be blocked from checking out library materials, the wireless hotspot service will be paused, and the Google chromebook is locked remotely. At 30 days overdue, the item will be marked as "lost" and the patron will be unable to check out or renew any physical items until they return the lost item, or pay for its replacement cost plus a \$5 processing fee. Once the item(s) is/are returned, all library card account blocks will be removed. All tech devices are insured for full replacement cost.

10. Ninety days after the item goes to “Lost,” if a patron owes \$100 or more in lost items, the account will be sent to collections through the City of National City’s Finance Department, and the patron will no longer be able to check out library materials or use Library computers until the collections account is resolved. If the materials are returned, the replacement fees will be removed; however, the patron is still responsible for any collections fees incurred on their account.

Fine-Free Patron Information

Loan Periods and Renewals

Library Materials	Initial Loan Period	Renewal Period	Number of Renewals
All books and Periodicals	28 days	14 days	3
DVDs/BluRay	7 days	7 days	1
Music CDs	14 days	14 days	3
Tech Devices	28 days	14 days	1

Notices

Notice	Date Generated
Pre-Overdue/Courtesy Notice	3 days prior to due date
Auto-Renewal Courtesy Notice	3 days prior to due date
Overdue Notice	Immediately after due date
Bill for Item	30 days after due date



STAFF REPORT

Board of Library Trustees

Prepared by: Joyce Ryan, Library & Community Services Director Meeting Date: 4/6/22

SUBJECT: Little Free Libraries Update

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends Library Board of Trustees receive and file report.

BOARD/COMMISSION PRIOR ACTION:

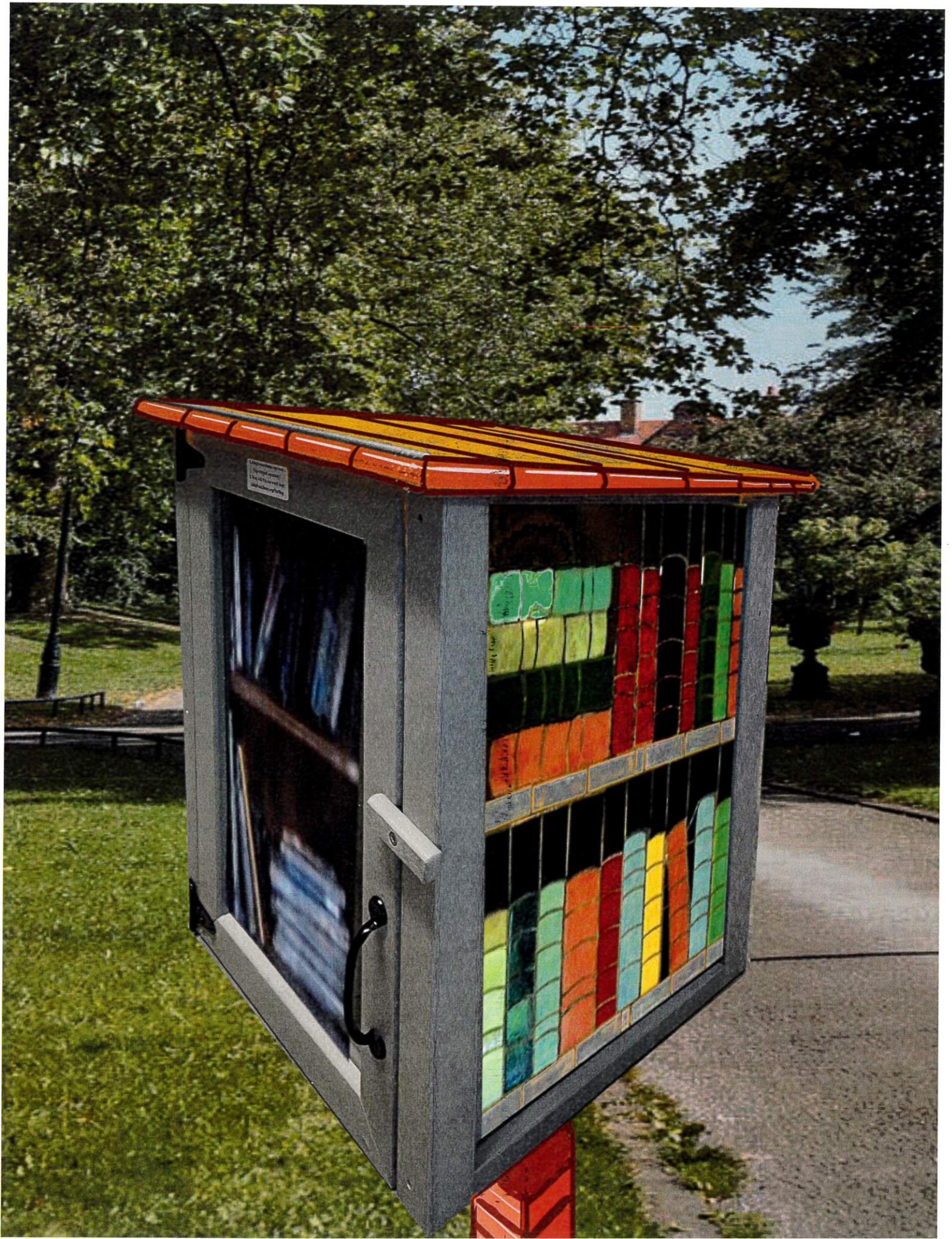
STATEMENT ON SUBJECT: Staff have previously reported on receiving two Little Free Libraries from the County of San Diego. Library staff and the Public Works Department have determined that they will be installed in Sweetwater Heights Park and Las Palmas Park. Both will be located within easy reach of the local playgrounds. The Library has been working with ARTS to decorate the Little Free Libraries and the Public Art Committee approved the ARTS designs for the libraries at the March 15, 2022 meeting. The designs for the artwork are attached for your reference.

ARTS is on track to complete this project by the end of April 2022. The designs were created by ARTS' resident artists. The book-themed piece is a tile mosaic from Rob Tobin (artist that designed the A Avenue Storm Water Mosaic Wall and the D Avenue roundabout military service mosaic). The other piece will be a painted art piece from Omar Quintero, muralist and sculptor.

The City is paying for the cost for installation for the two libraries which totals approximately \$500. There are three Little Free Libraries currently available to the public throughout the City. These libraries are located at Paradise Creek Park by the playground, in front of the Library by the Kimball Park playground and in front of Big B's Market at 1540 Coolidge Avenue.

EXHIBITS:

1. Artwork Designs by Rob Tobin and Omar Quintero









STAFF REPORT

Board of Library Trustees

Prepared by: Joyce Ryan, Library & Community Services Director Meeting Date: 4/6/22

SUBJECT: City Librarian Report

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends Library Board of Trustees receive and file the City Librarian report.

STATEMENT ON SUBJECT:

National School District Program

The Library is working with National School District staff to hold a small event in May at the Library in celebration of the district's 150th anniversary. This is an invitation-only event and Board members will be given more information on the event in April.

Technical Services

With the start of our new Senior Library Technician for Technical Services, we are starting to work towards better workflow and creating more complete records. Some of the projects that we will be working on in the coming year are the creation of location and collection codes for new books, mysteries and science fiction collections.

Text Messaging of Library Notices

With the renewal of our ILS, SirsiDynix, we have included a service which allows us to send notices via text message to our patrons. Library staff will be encouraging our patrons to move towards email and text message notifications for courtesy and overdue notices.

Hours Survey

The hours survey is available to the public online and at the Circulation Desk. Staff hope to bring this item back to the Board of Library Trustees in May or June 2022.



STAFF REPORT

Library Board of Trustees

Prepared by: Anne Defazio, Principal Librarian Meeting Date: 4/6/22

SUBJECT: Principal Librarian Report

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends Library Board of Trustees receive and file the Principal Librarian report.

BOARD/COMMISSION PRIOR ACTION: None.

STATEMENT ON SUBJECT:

Children’s Programming and Special Events

The Children’s staff are continuing to provide programming that is available to the patrons on their own schedules, either inside the library or from home. This includes stocked craft carts, Dial-a-Story, and STEAM and projects online. They continue to create and prepare 500 kits with information and a craft for distribution at the Miracle Babies drive-through events.

We also are planning some on-the-ground programs:

Saturday, April 30: Dia de los Niños

We will be providing a craft piñata with candy, and entertainment for this event, with funding provided by the Southern California Library Cooperative, recipient of a State Library grant. The refreshments for the event will be provided by the Friends of the Library, National City. This program is suitable for children ages 5-11. The time of the event will be from 2:00 p.m.-3:30 p.m. This will be a bilingual event in Spanish and English.

June 1-July 31, Summer Reading Program:

Library staff is gearing up to provide incentives and programming for summer reading. This year, the Library plans to host regular children’s entertainment programming, with funding provided by the Friends of the Library, National City. The staff is also busy ordering new books for the children’s collection to engage the children in reading, in addition to prize giveaways. This year’s Summer Reading theme is “Read Beyond the Beaten Path”, which is a summer camp theme. Children can begin signing up through the library catalog on Beanstack on June 1.

National City 16 Weeks of STEAM

NC16Weeks is underway for its second year. This year, the theme is engineering and the Library and ARTS are distributing maker kits. The Children’s Library staff is receiving training on assembly of the kits from the partners so that the Library can be the National City “go to” for assembly instruction. Families can make an appointment for instruction at the Library. Children’s Library staff will be demonstrating these kits at the *ARTS (A Reason to Survive) Day of STEAM* on Saturday, April 23.

1. During the month of April, families can pick up a Lego kit and can work on it in the library or at home. We have 100 kits provided by the NC STEM Collaborative that are available on a first-come, first-served basis. The NC16weeksofSTEAM provides an online packet of information on simple STEAM activities. These activities are designed to engage children, ages 6-12. For more information, go to <https://NC16weeksofSTEAM.org>.