

ALAMEDA COUNTY LIBRARY

ALAMEDA COUNTY LIBRARY ADVISORY COMMISSION  
MEETING SUMMARY ACTION MINUTES

July 11, 2018  
Albany Library

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by chairperson, Michael Baldwin, at 7:05 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:**

Michael Baldwin  
Karen Bridges  
Maria "Sucy" Collazo  
Pat Gacoscos  
Dat Haba  
Cynthia Hegedus  
Cheryl Hoffmann  
Raj Salwan

**Members Absent:**

Arun Goel

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

1. Approval of Minutes of April 4, 2018

Sucy Collazo moved and Karen Bridges seconded the motion to accept the minutes of April 4, 2018. The motion was approved.

**DISCUSSION CALENDAR**

2. SimplyE Update

Deb Sica gave an update and some statistics on SimplyE, an open source, cross-platform e-reading app designed to streamline the e-reading experience. ACL is among the first in the nation, and is the first in the Bay Area, to launch the service. 444 patrons have signed up for SimplyE since the soft launch in April. 205,900 titles are searchable in the platform. An audiobook feature is anticipated to be added by spring 2019.

- Michael Baldwin asked if we are sharing our collections with other libraries.
- Sica said that Enki is the only one we are sharing, but we have the ability to share Overdrive and EBSCO.
- Dat Haba asked about what effort we are making to get the word out on this service.

- Sica says that much of it has been through word of mouth and announcements on our website which has approximately 4 million hits per month. Staff is also getting trained on this so that they can answer any questions that may come up from the patrons.
- Haba also asked if the search history gets saved for either patron use or for ACL to use as statistic material.
- Sica says that there is a privacy option within the patron's account that allows them to share or hide this information.

Sica will send talking points on SimplyE ASAP for the commissioners to use.

### 3. Strategic Plan Update

Cindy Chadwick gave an update on the Strategic Plan followed by a brainstorm exercise with the Commission. Public input will be gathered from now until October, through various community conversations and a questionnaire for library users and non-users.

Collazo asked how the community conversations were going to be advertised. Chadwick informed that announcements will be made through the ACL website and social media channels. Collazo added the suggestion that local community events would be a good opportunity to talk to the public.

Haba and Hegedus suggested that it would be beneficial to ask why people choose not to use the Library or prefer other library systems over ACL. Haba also commented that it would be good to look at other influences like income, education, and other demographic information.

Hoffmann talked about the challenges of reaching out to the unincorporated areas of Cherryland, San Lorenzo and Ashland since they do not have city representation.

Members of the commission agreed that partnering with a youth organization or after school program would present great opportunities for outreach.

### 4. County Librarians Report

Chadwick introduced Ben Gomberg to give an update on the new Hold Slips procedures. Gomberg explained that the change was implemented to comply with CA privacy laws. The full name of the patron was removed and changed to the first four letters of their last name, first initial and last four of their phone number. The old slip had the full personal information of the patron on display to the public. So far there have been relatively few complaints on the change. The data breach last year was part of the impetus to go forward with the change.

A copy of American Libraries Magazine's "The State of America's Libraries 2018" report was distributed.

Chadwick provided an update on the Fremont Learning Network trip to Pittsburgh, PA in April 2018, and the efforts to develop a similar Fremont network supporting Maker and STEAM learning. Parker Thomas, FUSE fellow, will be starting the second year of his fellowship with the City of Fremont in October 2018, and ACL will join the City as a partner on this fellowship.

Save the date for a networking event for the Pacific Library Partnership taking place on Saturday, September 15, 2018 from 9:30a.m. – 11:30a.m. at Pleasanton Doubletree Hotel. Registration is required, but is free to all. More information will be sent when it is available.

## 5. Commissioners' Updates and Reports

Hegedus commented that two thirds of voters still value the importance of quiet libraries and it should still be a focus for us to provide quiet spaces. She also mentioned that we should focus on the problems that are within the realm of ACL's capabilities to fix. She challenged the commission to think about how we, as the Library, can support people in the communities and what that would look like.

Baldwin commented that Castro Valley Library being used as a cooling center is going well and has been popular in the community.

Collazo, Gacoscos and Hegedus shared that Newark's "Newark Days," Union City's Alvarado Fall Fest, and Albany's "Solano Stroll" could be good opportunities for outreach.

## 6. Future ACLAC Agenda Item Discussion

A Bookmobile visit is planned for the October meeting.

Bridges would like to find out more information about the Alameda County Library Foundation, how much money they are able to raise as well as how they distribute those funds. She also offered suggestions regarding the ACLF Library Sponsor library card program.

## 7. Next Meeting Date/Place

Date: October 3, 2018

Place: Fremont Main Library

Time: 7:00 pm

## Adjournment

Hegedus moved and Haba seconded for adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

***\*These minutes are subject to Alameda County Library Advisory Commission's approval at their next regularly scheduled meeting.***