

Library Advisory Board Minutes: January 10, 2023For Multnomah County Library Advisory Board

The Multnomah County Library Advisory Board (LAB) met virtually on Tuesday, January 10, 2023. The meeting began at 5:03pm.

Board members present were: Cassie Duprey, Clare Wilkinson, David Jarvis, Hazel Burke, Kate Fleming, Lizzie Martinez, Mabel Reed, Megan Parrott, and Rob Edmiston.

Staff members present were: Annie Lewis, community services director; Dave Ratliff, integrated services director; Jennifer Studebaker, community services director; Johnette Easter, HR director; Jon Worona, director of innovation and technology; Katie O'Dell, library capital bond deputy director; Katie Shifley, finance & facilities director; Kirby McCurtis, location services director; Shawn Cunningham, director of communications & strategic initiatives; and Maddelyn High, director's assistant.

WELCOME & CHECK-IN

Meeting attendees joined the virtual meeting either via video or phone, and participated in a warm-up exercise in Google Meet breakout rooms.

Meeting minutes for the December 13, 2022 meeting were approved.

LAB workgroups shared brief updates:

- The Bylaws Workgroup met once and will meet again this month to discuss proposed changes.
- CBAC leads had their first meeting in December, and a second meeting (covering the library's financial forecast for Fiscal Year 2024) is scheduled January 17.
- The Membership Workgroup will begin its work shortly.

UPDATES FROM LIBRARY LEADERSHIP

Library Deputy Director Annie Lewis shared some general systemwide updates and highlights from the Director's Report:

- [Everybody Reads](#) has kicked off and the author event is coming up in March!
- In-person library programming (post pandemic shut-down) continues to increase as capacity allows.
- Holgate and Midland libraries are both now closed for bond-related work. Staff at these locations are being reassigned to other library locations experiencing higher traffic due to closures and to support outreach efforts. Albina, North Portland, and Central libraries will also close for bond work this spring, and dates will be shared once they are confirmed.
- Due to the closure of multiple library buildings, catalog and holds access will be limited for

certain items from Central Library. The Integrated Services team is working on ways to support patron access to special materials and will be providing some public messaging soon. MCL may be able to meet needs for unique items with interlibrary loans (ILL) or by purchasing additional copies of some items. Central-based services will also be impacted, and the library is working on securing a potential satellite location to offer limited access to technology and possibly some library materials at a county space downtown. Patrons will notice a disruption in terms of how they're used to using the library.

- New library rules are forthcoming in March.

LIBRARY BOND UPDATE

Library Bond Deputy Director Katie O'Dell joined to share an update on bond progress, and to provide some general context to new LAB members. O'Dell shared background information about bond logistics, goals, project timelines, and how community engagement happens and is informing design. O'Dell then shared a slide deck with project-level updates for all in-progress bond projects, including: Operations Center, Holgate Library, Midland Library, Albina Library, North Portland Library, East County Library, refresh projects, and IT projects. Work on Belmont, St. Johns, and Northwest libraries is slated to begin shortly.

In response to a question, O'Dell and others chimed in about overall plans for parking, noting that the library's goal is to maximize the number of available parking spots where possible, and that the parking situation will be different post-bond at some locations.

O'Dell encouraged LAB members to sign up for the library's bond-specific newsletter, and continue to reach out via email to libraryspaces@multcolib.org or directly with questions or about opportunities to engage.

Clare Wilkinson thanked O'Dell for providing this update, and several LAB members expressed excitement about project progress and plans.

ACTION ITEMS + CLOSING

Shawn Cunningham highlighted the library's upcoming Slavic New Year celebration on January 15 at Gresham Library.

The meeting adjourned at 6:09 pm.

Respectfully submitted by:
Maddelyn High, director's assistant
Multnomah County Library, Oregon