

# San Anselmo Library Advisory Board

## Meeting Minutes of January 9, 2020

The meeting was called to order by the Board's chair, Doug Holm, at 4:33 p.m.

In Attendance: Dean McDonald, Doug Holm, Eli Welber, Karen Licavoli, Scott Fletcher, Tina Kroot, Youth Member Kate Harges, Town Librarian Linda Kenton.

Absent: Anya Bosina, Judy Anderson

One member of the public also was present.

### November 2019 Meeting Minutes

Minutes from the November 14, 2019, Board meeting were reviewed and unanimously approved without any modifications.

### Public Expression Time

A San Anselmo resident attended the meeting to observe how the Board operates. He suggested that the Board look into ways to better interact with other Town of San Anselmo boards.

### Discussion Items

#### 1. Librarian's Report

Librarian Linda Kenton provided the following updates on library operations, services and activities.

- **Open Position:** One of the library assistants retired at the end of the previous week and the staff has begun the process of rehiring for the full-time position. The library advertised on two library-dedicated web sites , as well as on Craig's List, and received 39 applications for the position. The staff intends to interview as many as five applicants and hopes to fill the position by the end of February.
- **Board Term Expirations:** The seats of two Board members—Tina Kroot and Dean McDonald—will be expiring in June. Both members may re-apply to serve another term.
- **Update on Library Tech Upgrade:** The new flat-screen monitor installed in the reading room has been used to publicize upcoming library and town events. It also was used to livestream the recent impeachment hearings for interested patrons.

- **Puzzles!** Children now may play with simple wooden jigsaw puzzles in the children’s reading room. The puzzles were purchased by the Friends of the San Anselmo Library and are not available to be checked out. The staff is discussing starting a toy-lending library. Patrons have approached library staff to ask about donating toys to the library. Board members noted that lending toys for young children might present health-related risks.
- **Winter Reading Challenge:** Forty people have signed up for the Winter Reading Challenge, which is open to all ages and runs through the end of January.
- **Overdrive Update:** A hedge fund has acquired Overdrive, Marinnet’s largest ebook supplier. It is too early to tell if the change in the firm’s ownership might impact pricing and services.
- **2020 Census:** The library will be helping people complete their 2020 Census forms, which will be undertaken entirely online. The library’s patron computers will be available for the public to use. Additional laptop computers and iPads also may be available.
- **Upcoming Events:**
  - **March 14:** Amateur historian and train enthusiast Richard Torney will speak in the Library’s reading room on the “Forgotten Railroads of Marin,” looking back at how rail transportation shaped the county’s early days.
  - **March 17:** Musician Jon Pedersen of Amazing Grace music will perform Irish fiddle and banjo tunes in the Library’s reading room.
  - **April 23:** The 17th annual “Night of the Poets” community poetry reading will be held in the library reading room. Community members of all ages who want to share their poems (of two minutes or less) may sign up beginning on March 2.
  - **May 7:** Local author Julia Flynn Siler will discuss her recent book, *The White Devil’s Daughters*, which recounts the history of women who fought slavery in San Francisco’s Chinatown in the late 1800s and early 1900s.

## 2. Friends of the San Anselmo Library Report

Board member Eli Welber provided an update on the activities of the Friends of the San Anselmo Library, of which he is also a member.

- **Volunteer Recognition Event:** The Friends is discussing a date to hold a volunteer-recognition event, an important social gathering of the organization’s volunteers, who often work independently.
- **Artist Reception:** Town Books, the used book store operated by the Friends at 411 San Anselmo Avenue, will hold a reception on Friday, January 10 (5 p.m. to 7 p.m.), for Martha Ture, a local photographer whose work will be displayed in the store in the coming weeks.

### **3. Election of Officers for 2020**

The Board unanimously voted for Doug Holm and Karen Licavoli to serve as Board chairperson and vice-chairperson of the Board for 2020. The Board also voted in favor of Doug Holm serving as secretary.

### **Board Comments Questions, Requests for Future Agenda Items**

The following items were requested to be placed on the agenda for the next Board meeting:

- Potential ways to interact with other Town boards.
- An update on “no-fine” policies in Marin County libraries.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned by Doug Holm at 5:25 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled to be held on **Thursday, March 12, 2020.**

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*Minutes prepared by Doug Holm*