

Friends of PAL
September 30, 7pm

Joanna called the meeting to order at 7:07pm

Jamie Turbak (Director of OPL) and Jenera Burton (Supervising Librarian – Branches and temporary librarian for our branch) were welcomed.

Highlights from Jamie's report:

(click here for more information – (GABRIELA – REPORT ATTACHED AS A WORD DOC)

- OPL was featured in a recent American Library Association YouTube
- Soil testing going on at 81st and Acorn School (shares property)
- MLK branch has \$400K grant to complete shed project for bicycle repair
- Tool Lending Library project is moving along
- Sidewalk pick up is available at all branches following guidelines set forth by the Alameda County Health Department
- OPL working with the Emergency Management Services Department re providing centers for citizens to go to during heat crisis – West Oakland Branch being considered as a possible site
- Christopher Columbus statue removed
- During pandemic Jenera has been leading an in-house group working to provide self-check-out at all branches – will free up staff for other projects – will not cause any reduction in staff
- AAMLO has a new chief curator and offer has made re librarian's position
- Congresswoman Barbara Lee has provided personal papers to AAMLO
- Tony Gonzales has been hired to replace long time OPL office administrator Rosalie Ramos who recently retired.
- OPL has been working with OUSD and the city of Oakland re a joint-use agreement for the Echo street CDC property
 - OUSD has hired a consultant for the project and seems interested in an agreement
 - Jamie and Diane Tannenbaum (OPL Facilities Manager) have met with Oakland's Department of Public Works (DPW)
 - DPW has provided preliminary scope of work that needs to be completed before site can be occupied and to determine what "tenant improvements" might cost – no definite projections at this time
 - Mrs. Ahmad (principal of Piedmont Ave Elementary) has mentioned would like a conference room on the property available to both the school, library, and community
 - Jamie wants to "make it happen"
- Property Maintenance –Branch volunteers and DPW recently cleaned up property – will this be ongoing – probably not – Ruby to check on city's Adopt-A-Spot and Keep Oakland Beautiful programs – wants to get community involved

Jenera's updates:

- Sidewalk service taking place Tuesday – Saturday, 10am to 1pm -- averaging 100 items per day – see Ruby's article in The Hoot for patron's reactions
- Branch also providing mobile printing service

- Staffing: Margaret and Russell have moved to Asian – looking to hire new manager and children’s librarian – funding available via passage of Measure D

Status of 501c3: Attorney has all documents – waiting for approval from IRS

Publicity: Helen has been forwarding info to Piedmont Post who have run several articles about the branch

Board development: Looking for individuals with accounting and marketing skills

Cut outs on the fence: Thanks to the crew who recently refurbished the cut outs!

Infographic: OPL Advocates and OPL staff have produced an updated Infographic

FOPL/LAC mixer: Will take place (virtually) on 12/6, 1 to 3pm

Adjournment: Ruby moved we adjourn at 8:06 – Ronile seconded

Next meeting: Tuesday, 11/10, 7pm