

County Librarian's Report to the Library Commission Thursday, July 18, 2024

- **Temporary Executive Secretary**

Nina Braithwaite is filling in for Walt Beveridge through the end of the year. Please communicate with Nina anything you would normally send to Walt. She is also helping with some Budget and Finance projects.

- **LGBTQ+ Listening Session**

Dr. Lori Watson and Ali Cannon will facilitate a listening session for staff who identify as LGBTQ+. This session is only for permanent staff who identify as LGBTQ+. Library aides were not invited to this first session since their concerns are different than those of permanent staff. There is also a survey going out for LGBTQ+ staff to fill out, including Library Aides. The results of the survey will inform the topics of the session.

- **San Ramon Library Hours Reductions**

The City reduced the number of extra hours they are funding next fiscal year from 16 to 6 extra hours. The City's budget was finalized and approved by the City Council on June 25th. No staff will be without a job since we have vacant positions available for affected staff.

- **Racial Equity Action Plan**

The Library Department was chosen by the Office of Racial and Social Justice to work with them on creating a REAP that will serve as a 'best practices' document for other departments.

- **Library Design Standards**

The final document is almost finalized. Once it is finished, we will send a copy to all city managers and each of the Supervisors. This document will help guide new library facility projects including new buildings, refreshes, and moves to new locations.

- **State Budget Updates**

The State budget was signed into law by Saturday 6/15.

- It appears that the \$10 million for Building Forward grant funds for the new Bay Point Library is preserved. It also appears that BrainFuse and the other CA Career Pathways databases (Coursera, GetSetUp, LearningExpress, LinkedIn Learning, Northstar, Skillshare, VetNow, Brainfuse HelpNow) will be defunded. Collection Development staff are assessing which databases they recommend we fund ourselves if they do get defunded.
- While it was proposed that 100% of funds for the State Parks passes program be cut, SB 108, the budget bill containing the continuation of the Parks Passes, has been signed by the Governor. Existing passes will be valid until the end of this calendar year.
- Lunch in the Library funding was cut by 50%, which will not affect this year's programs, but will be reflected in the amount of funds available next year. These cuts will not affect the meals available, just the programming and program supplies funded by the State Library.