



**DRAFT MINUTES
LIBRARY COMMISSION**
Wednesday, August 6, 2025

LIBRARY COMMISSION MEETING

CALL TO ORDER

At 7:01 p.m., Chair Zhao called the meeting to order at the Cupertino Library, 10800 Torre Avenue, Room 201A.

ROLL CALL

Commissioners present: Liyan Zhao, Janki Chokshi, Qin Pan, Minna Xu (7:04)
Commissioners absent: Chandra Sakthivel
City/County Staff present: Molly James, Bryant Bao, Jennifer Weeks
Guest Speakers: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Subject: June 4, 2025 Library Commission Meeting Minutes

Recommended Action: Review and approve the June 4, 2025 Library Commission meeting minutes.

Chair Zhao motioned to approve the June 4, 2025 Library Commission meeting minutes as submitted. Vice Chair Chokshi seconded. Motion carried with 4 yes (Zhao, Chokshi, Pan, Xu) and 1 absent (Sakthivel).

POSTPONEMENTS

Chair Zhao motioned to re-order the agenda and hear Agenda Item #4 Monthly Update Reports before Agenda Item #2 Cupertino Poet Laureate Subcommittee's Recommendation of Thomas Celerier for appointment of the new 2026-2028 Cupertino Poet Laureate. Vice Chair Chokshi seconded. Motion carried with 4 yes (Zhao, Chokshi, Pan, Xu) and 1 absent (Sakthivel).

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

None

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

None

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

2. Subject: Cupertino Poet Laureate Subcommittee's Recommendation of Thomas Celerier for appointment of the new 2026-2028 Cupertino Poet Laureate

Recommended Action: Consider and approve the Poet Laureate Subcommittee's recommendation of Thomas Celerier for appointment of the new 2026-2028 Cupertino Poet Laureate for recommendation to City Council.

Agenda Item #4 Monthly Update Reports was heard before this item.

Vice Chair Chokshi informed the Commission that interviews took place and that the subcommittee selected the recommended candidate, Thomas Celerier. Referred Commissioners to Attachment A and reported that the candidate was very impressive with a lot to offer the program.

Commissioner Xu informed the Commission that the other candidate had a great relationship with previous Poet Laureates and had knowledge of the program history, however, was more old fashioned and preferred in-person communication over technology. Added that the selected candidate, Mr. Celerier, is very passionate, knowledgeable in marketing, and active over email.

Vice Chair Chokshi added that Mr. Celerier brings a fresh perspective with a new crowd of people and a large social media presence.

Commissioner Xu added that Mr. Celerier is from France but does speak English.

Vice Chair Chokshi added that Mr. Celerier already had plans for the program, whereas the other candidate was going to rely on information from previous Poet Laureates.

Vice Chair Chokshi motioned to approve the Poet Laureate Subcommittee's recommendation of Thomas Celerier for appointment of the new 2026-2028 Cupertino Poet Laureate for recommendation to City Council. Commissioner Pan seconded. Motion carried with 4 yes (Zhao, Chokshi, Pan, Xu) and 1 absent (Sakthivel).

3. Subject: Mayor's Storytelling Initiative Subcommittee Update

Recommended Action: Receive an update from the Mayor's Storytelling Initiative subcommittee.

Vice Chair Chokshi informed the Commission that Commissioner Sakthivel met with the Mayor's Initiative Committee. Provided updates from Commissioner Sakthivel's discussion on the Mayor's Initiative Puzzle Hunt:

- Flyers and posters are ready
- Sponsorship program is ready
- Puzzle hunt is for kids and adults
- Recommendation to collaborate with the Arts and Culture Commission to include public art in the puzzle hunt
- Recommendation for Library Commission to promote flyers at the Fall Fest event on September 13

Commissioner Xu added that last Saturday, volunteers had a table outside of the library and were able to interview more than 10 people. Requested clarification on whether or not it was possible to put some flyers by the window of the library. Bryant Bao, Cupertino Community Librarian, clarified yes and that there is a bulletin board area that is being relocated to the front of the library.

Community Librarian Bao added that the library is also a puzzle hunt location and is an avenue for promoting the [Mayor's Initiative] events.

Chair Zhao recommended printing a banner for the entrance gate. Community Librarian Bao clarified that approval for these requests is on a case-by-case basis, however, if this is part of the City's puzzle hunt then the library is happy to help as an official partner.

Commissioner Pan requested clarification on the puzzle hunt event and what it would look like for the Arts and Culture Commission to get involved. Vice Chair Chokshi clarified that she missed the first meeting, and the information provided was from Commissioner [Sakthivel].

Community Librarian Bao clarified that the puzzle hunt is similar to a citywide scavenger hunt with 10 specific locations with clues and puzzles.

REPORTS/UPDATES

4. Subject: Monthly Update Reports

Recommended Action: Receive Monthly Update Reports from:

- Cupertino Community Librarian
Reported as submitted.
- County Librarian
Reported as submitted. Jennifer Weeks, County Librarian, reported prior to Community Librarian Bao.

STAFF AND COMMISSION REPORTS

Recreation Manager James provided a Staff Liaison Update on the following:

- Summer Concert Series – Thursdays, through August 21 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Memorial Park Amphitheater.
- Movies in the Park - Fridays, August 8 to August 29 at 8 p.m. at Creekside Park
- Senior Center is collecting donations for Hidden Treasures now through October 10. Visit cupertino.gov/hiddentreasures for a full list of acceptable donations.
- Senior Center Open House – Friday, August 22 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Cupertino Senior Center.
- Pooch Plunge – Saturday, September 6 from 9 a.m. to 12:45 a.m. at Blackberry Farm. Advanced registration required.
- Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Academy hosted by Santa Clara County Fire Department – October 7 through 25

- CERT training is a great way for residents to learn how to respond effectively during emergencies. It provides practical skills to help others in a crisis and play an active role in supporting the community. The training is conducted over multiple days, typically spread across several weeknights and one weekend day.
- All in-person sessions will be held at Monta Vista Recreation Center.

FUTURE AGENDA SETTING

None

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Zhao adjourned the meeting at 7:57 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Jessica Suntay, Administrative Assistant
Parks and Recreation Department

Minutes approved at the _____ regular meeting