

## July 19, 2021, BLT Agenda Comments

These comments on Newport Beach Board of Library Trustees (BLT) agenda items are submitted by:  
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### **Item 1. Minutes of the June 21, 2021 Board of Library Trustees Meeting**

**Suggested corrections:** The passages shown in *italics* below are from the draft minutes with suggested corrections indicated in **strikeout underline** format.

**Page 3** (page 7 of agenda packet), paragraph 1, sentences 3 and 7: “*Over the past year the CdM **Branch** offered curbside pickup for patrons which was well received. ... The Fire Station adjoining the CdM **Branch** has been an excellent neighbor and the building design received national attention and awards.*” [alternatively, do not insert “Branch” and instead change “the CdM” to simply “CdM” as it is elsewhere in the paragraph]

**Page 3** (page 7 of agenda packet), paragraph 2: “*Chair Watkins thanked CdM Branch Librarian Dallstream, **complemented complimented** the facility, and received and filed the report.*”

**Page 4** (page 8 of agenda packet), last two paragraphs: There is reference in two places to “*the California Library Literacy Services.*” Similar to the first suggestion, above, including “the” seems strange to my ear unless there were a word after “Services” such as “Department.” From their [website](#), it appears that if one wants to start with “*the*,” then the missing word at the end is “*the California Library Literacy Services **program.***”

### **Item 3. Library Activities**

I like Director Hetherton’s choice of quote for this month. And I am especially pleased that E. B. White is one of the many who has “managed to stay alive by hiding between the covers of a book.”

And, whatever the reason for the change, I am also pleased to see the BLT’s August meeting has been rescheduled from August 16 to August 23, for that avoids a conflict with the City’s Aviation Committee, which has announced August 16 at 5:00 p.m. as the date and time for their next meeting.

### **Item 6. Proposed Library Schedule for Winter Holidays 2021**

I have no objection to the proposed schedule, but I have to wonder if “usage is low in the evenings during the holiday week” may not be a self-fulfilling prophecy. For, since the City Manager started this practice of closing the City Hall for a week during December and forcing the other employees to use their leave time, the Library has been closing early that week, which, in itself, might discourage evening use.

And the Board may wish to be aware the statement about “*the majority of City departments, who operate Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.*” is not entirely accurate. Most of the departments in the [City Hall](#) actually serve the public from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Friday.

### **Item VIII. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

- As best I can tell, the agenda does not indicate who those who are unable to attend should send comments to, or by when.
- The near 100% fraction of young people self-attesting to being vaccinated by not wearing masks in the library is remarkably high. Should Orange County be congratulated on this?