MARINet Board Meeting Minutes

Thursday, November 6, 2025

Meeting Held at: 375 Throckmorton Ave, Mill Valley, CA 94941

Present:
Board Chair: Anji Brenner (Mill Valley)
Board: Crystal Duran (Belvedere Tiburon), Lana Adlawan (MCFL), Linda Kenton (San Anselmo), Catherine Quffa (San Rafael), and Jeffrey Jackson (Sausalito)
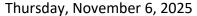MARINet Staff: Jessica Trenary

Brenner called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

I.   Determination of a Quorum – Yes

II.   Public Comment Period – None

III.   Business Topics

    A. Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting (*Action*) - **Adlawan moved to approve the October 2, 2025, meeting minutes, Kenton seconded. Unanimously approved by a voice vote.**

    B. Belvedere Tiburon Sustainability Initiative (*Discussion*) – Duran reported that the initiative began in 2022 with a small green team. In 2024 the library used the Sustainable Libraries Initiative framework to review environmental practices. The framework is detailed and offers a certification path. The project is scheduled to conclude in 2026. The work centers on community co-design in which patrons participate in planning and decision making. Recent results include new Library of Things items such as a karaoke machine, highchair, ice cream maker, and fruit picker.

    C. Annual Retreat Planning (*Discussion*) – Brenner announced that the MARINet Board annual retreat will be postponed until May 7th for full board participation, with plans to focus the retreat on censorship issues and meeting the moment. Trenary's evaluation will be in December at a closed session. For board members that can't attend the December closed session, comments can be sent to Adlawan ahead of the meeting. The Equity Task Force will be gathering results from the working group survey and project priorities will be presented in February, with a project plan proposal.

    D. Board Resolution: Enlarge Equipment Budget, CA State Library CENIC Firewalls Grant (*Action*) - The Board approved a resolution to enlarge the equipment budget to incorporate funds from the California State Library CENIC Firewalls Grant, supporting network security and infrastructure improvements. **Duran moved to approve the resolution, Quffa seconded. Unanimously approved by a voice vote. Hill (Larkspur) submitted his absentee vote "yes" in writing ahead of the meeting.**

    E. SIP2 & Express Lane Licenses (*Action*) – Trenary explained the proposal to add five additional SIP2 licenses to meet current and future connection needs, outlining associated one-time and annual costs, as well as the cost-sharing plan for SIP2 and

Express Lane connections among member libraries. College of Marin will pay the one-time fee for five SIP2 licenses, out of their seven new SIP2 connections (two lockers and five self-checks). MARINet will assume the annual fees. **Kenton moved to approve adding five additional SIP2 licenses at a one-time cost of $11,885 – which will be billed to College of Marin - and MARINet will assume the annual fee, with future libraries covering initial setup costs while MARINet assumes ongoing annual fees for SIP2 and Express Lane connections, Duran seconded. Unanimously approved by a voice vote.**

F. MARINet Working Groups (*Action*) – The Board discussed having each working group create annual goals tied to MARINet's purpose, principles, and commitment to equity. The Board is interested in having all working group Chairs attend one Board meeting each year to report on progress and help set future goals. **Quffa moved to form a Board Task Force of Quffa, Kenton, and Duran, with Hill (if he agrees to participate), to develop a proposal on the structure and roles of MARINet working groups. Jackson seconded. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.**

Brenner called for a break at 10:39 am.

The meeting resumed at 10:45 am.

G. Board Resolution: AMH at MCFL Tech Services (*Action*) - **Quffa moved to approve the resolution enlarging the MARINet equipment budget by $15,000 from Prior Year Fund Balance (PYFB) and authorizing the transfer of $216,529 from the MARINet Reserve Fund (8025) to MCFL for the purchase of the AMH at MCFL Tech Services; Kenton seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved by voice vote. Hill (Larkspur) submitted his absentee vote "yes" in writing ahead of the meeting.**

H. Board Task Force Updates:

-   eBook (*Discussion*) – Trenary reported that reduced Libby hold and checkout limits took effect November 1, with impacts to be reviewed in March, and that the new financial framework for OverDrive establishes a $338,000 library spending target for FY25–26, distributed equitably based on each library's Local Operating Income per Capita and included annually with member library budget information.

-   Equity (*Discussion*) – Out of four working groups with 41 members, we have gotten 4 responses to the survey as of 11/5. One from Belvedere Tiburon, one from San Rafael and two anonymous. Trenary will send the Board a link and a list of working group members. The survey will close next Friday, 11/14.

-   Library Support Groups (*Discussion*) - Adlawan reported that the October 17 celebration for Library Friends and Foundation members at the Belvedere-Tiburon Library was well attended, 30-35 friends, foundation, or other support group members. Board members reported the support groups felt energized by the meeting. A survey will go out and results will be shared with the Board at a

future meeting. The Board was appreciative of the work of Adlawan, Kenton, and Duran and thankful to Belvedere Tiburon for hosting.

IV.   Standing Agenda Items

A.   Library Advocacy *(Discussion)* – CA State Library Directors call is happening soon. One item is a report on expected services at every CA library. Marin County is quickly moving forward to assist with funding and support for food insecurity. [Extra Food](#) will pick up donated dry goods from the MCFL libraries. San Rafael and Sausalito are working with SF/Marin Food Bank. If other libraries would like to partner with MCFL, please reach out to Adlawan, to add locations where dry good donations would be accepted. The California Library Association (CLA) Board has officially adopted their **2026 Legislative Priorities:**

1.   Increase funding for core library programs, including restoring CLSA, Lunch at the Library, and ESL literacy support

2.   One time funding for digital literacy and AI training, and for libraries to strengthen facilities to serve as community resilience centers during climate events

3.   Sustain key federal funding streams such as Summer Meals, E Rate, and IMLS, and seek state bridge funding if federal support is reduced

4.   Advance equitable access including broadband equity, freedom to read, fair pricing for digital content, support for law libraries, support for construction funding, and continued support for the State Library

Kenton left the meeting at 11:29 am

B.   Library Announcements *(Discussion)* –

- Duran – Recruitment for Children's Librarian, particularly Spanish speakers.

- Jackson – Zoom room pod getting great use. Audiovisual system upgrade nearly finished.

- Quffa – Pickleweed remodel is underway. Community center lobby service desk, while library is closed. Almost back to full staffing. Restarting teen advisory group.

- Adlawan – Refresh moving along, Stinson Beach closure extended.

- (Sent ahead of meeting via email to Trenary) Frye –

    o   The move is going smoothly! We can't wait to welcome everyone when we open on Tuesday, January 20th. We'll have an information literacy classroom, 18 reservable group study rooms for students, a beautiful view of Mount Tam, and a coffee shop just steps away from the library! COM is holding a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony in February 2026.

- o COM is hiring two Library Technician III positions. The priority screening date was November 3, 2025.

- Brenner – Cover Girls in Point Reyes Station helped reupholster furniture. Events are very well attended, moving from the meeting room to larger room. Successful survey completed, with many responses.

C. Systems Administrator Report (*Discussion*) – Trenary reported signing the grant MOU, and other operational updates including branch closure work, implementation of the Libby limits change with systemwide communications, progress on school card automation, and completion of the annual audit. Trenary also reported on the BiblioCommons conference, highlighting upcoming AI-driven features, user experience improvements, and future enhancements to digital services.

Brenner adjourned the meeting at 11:58 am

Minutes respectfully submitted by Trenary