

Jon Maginot

From:
Sent: Tuesday, May 14, 2019 1:24 PM
To: Jon Maginot
Cc: 'Vicki Haukom'; 'David Pariseau'
Subject: Friends of the Library

Dear Los Altos City Council:

I am a 54 year old Los Altos Resident. I have been a member of Friends of the Library for years and supportive of the library system since I was a child. The Friends of the Library is an integral element of importance for the Los Altos Library. The library sales bring a huge income that supports the library system. They need to have a location to store books and have events to support the library. We need you to find a location at the Civic Center Campus for the Friends of the Library.

Sincerely,
Janis E. Schmidt DVM and David Pariseau

Jon Maginot

From: T Morris
Sent: Tuesday, May 14, 2019 12:23 PM
To: Jon Maginot
Cc: City Council
Subject: Friends of the Library

Dear City Council Members,

I am writing to ask that you consider continuing to providing storage for the Friends of the Library. They provide a great deal of financial support for our libraries. If they are forced to find space they must pay for, it will be a shame and will take needed dollars from the library. The libraries are a beloved asset in our town and they need to be supported. The Friends do just that.

Also, consider how the (yet unbuilt) Community Center is too small to accommodate all of the needs our current building structures do. It's not too late to do the right thing and build a two story community center.

Thank you for considering my input.
Teresa Morris

Jon Maginot

From: Leeson
Sent: Tuesday, May 14, 2019 11:57 AM
To: Jon Maginot
Subject: Support Please Friends of the Los Altos Library

This email is in support of maintaining a location for the Friends of the Los Altos Library to continue their operations without interruption until a permanent location in the rebuilt library is available. The reputation of the Los Altos Friends' sales is widely known, and failure of the City of Los Altos to meet a prior commitment to provide space for the Friends could put an end to a most valued program.

Through their book sales, the Friends provide unequalled benefits to Los Altos and the surrounding communities, at no direct cost to the City.

Thanks to the location of Los Altos in the heart of Silicon Valley, the range of subjects and depth of intellectual and professional offerings are unmatched among book sales at other libraries in the county.

Readers' hunger for learning is part of the thrill of finding treasures at the Los Altos sales.

Seniors with transportation, mobility or financial issues value the opportunity to buy a number of affordable volumes to sustain their reading options for weeks without needing to travel. Also, it's a delight to see how many families look forward to the book sales, with children happily sitting on the floor eagerly savoring their new choices. What better way to instill the enjoyment of reading at an early age? Last, the Friends' unique policy supports teachers selecting books for their class subjects that local school districts cannot offer.

In the event of an interruption of their operations, a successful restart of the Friends' sales would be unlikely. Please do not allow this interruption for lack of a temporary location that supports their primary program. If space cannot be provided in existing City buildings in the complex near the new sales location, the history of use by Los Altos of other temporary structures would support the request of the Friends to pay for their own facility in the complex. It seems that appearance issues can be resolved.

In summary, please provide the space to allow the Friends to continue their valuable program. As seniors who have appreciated the book sales over many years, we support the idea that the City Council direct Staff to find a location on the Civic Center Campus for the Friends of the Library operations to continue uninterrupted.

Barbara and David Leeson

Jon Maginot

From: Darwin & Donna Poulos
Sent: Tuesday, May 14, 2019 11:01 AM
To: City Council
Cc: Jon Maginot
Subject: Friends of the Los Altos Library - Item 7 on 14 May 2019 Agenda
Attachments: Council Comments 05142019.pdf

14 My 2019

Hon. Council Members & Mr. Maginot:

Please find below the text, and an attached *.pdf, of my comments regarding the request by Friends of the Los Altos Library for space on the civic center campus.

Regards,
Darwin Poulos
(address on file)

Comments to Los Altos City Council

[D. Poulos, 14 May 2019]

My name is Darwin Poulos and I live near Loyola Corners, am a former Library Commissioner (11 years), and an active member of Friends of the Los Altos Library (FOL) (15 years). FOL is more than an organization that supports the library, and the Los Altos community, with books (bestseller collection), programs (90% of children's & 50% of teen's), and funding for all sorts of things. It is an organization that creates community for many Los Altos residents. It is place where residents can volunteer, use their skills, and develop some long-term friendships – all of which keep a person healthy. FOL's quarterly book sales have been a place that the Los Altos community can come together to support a common cause.

The support of FOL allows the Library to offer programs, materials, and services that are enjoyed by both young and old alike. FOL's book soring activities provide the "raw material" for the quarterly book, ongoing, and internet sales. If FOL does not have adequate space to receive, process, and store donated books most of the above support will be substantially reduced, or eliminated. It seems to me that the City should work toward increasing services for its residents, not decreasing services.

The Staff report states that FOL should look for a site not on the civic center campus. This indicates a misunderstanding of FOL's operations. Moving FOL operations away from the library would mean

increased costs, therefore less funding to the library. Moreover, donated books would need to be moved (now done with hand trucks) a much farther distance. This would further impact operations, and the volunteers that move donated books three times a week. There is good reason to keep FOL on the civic center site – community; library programs, materials, and services; and Los Altos residents satisfaction with the library.

Darwin Poulos

(address on file)

Jon Maginot

From: Eliza Ridgeway
Sent: Tuesday, May 14, 2019 10:26 AM
To: Jon Maginot
Subject: public comment for tonight's agenda item #7

We have a baby at home and can't be physically present at the meeting tonight but wanted to share the following public comment with city council members:

Dear City Council,

We are a young family who work in Los Altos and live in Sunnyvale. The Friends of the Library presence has had a wonderful impact on our lives. We come into town knowing that we can eat and shop downtown, and then browse the wonderful booksale display at the entrance to the library (put on by FOLA).

We have started regularly scheduling date nights on Fridays when the big book sale is happening at Hillview - and convincing friends to do the same. We all find a stack of books for the family, and then walk downtown for drinks and dinner. The sale puts Los Altos on the map – and is memorable for its incredible range of books and the wonderful volunteer spirit that makes it feel like a special community event.

The sale is not about a straight-forward commercial transaction - we buy books many places, including Linden Tree and online. It is about exploring a huge range of books that have been loved by others in the community and then presented by thoughtful volunteers. The experience of shopping the sale is like a scavenger hunt - what new treasures will we discover for our daughters? What might surprise us tonight?

FOLA's stupendous volunteer project has filled our home with unusual and high quality children's books. It has also contributed to making Los Altos a destination that is delightful for families to visit. And we have been proud to invite other families to join us and experience it. You will be losing a rare and fabulous local institution if you stop providing a home for FOLA. It provides a service for book lovers, especially the community's children. But it also supports the vitality of downtown and the reputation of Los Altos itself.

Eliza, Morgan, Ada (3) and Miriam (7 months) Mager-Ridgeway

Jon Maginot

From: Cathie Perga
Sent: Friday, May 10, 2019 12:54 PM
To: Jon Maginot
Subject: Council Agenda Item #7

Dear Mr. Maginot,

Thank you for forwarding this to each City Council Member.

Los Altos City Council,

To say that our library is loved is an understatement. It truly is the family room of our community. The gate count averages over 1300 people each day. About 75% of Los Altos and many LAH residents hold cards. An how about this astounding number: 27 books are checked out annually per capita.

One reason it is so popular is the terrific materials within its walls and another is the many programs given to children and adults. The expense of these is taken up by the Friends of the Library. The all volunteer group numbers over 600. They work hard at the book sales which provides the extra funding for books, furniture and programs at our library.

Many cities help fund libraries. Our city does not. I cannot imagine how our library would suffer in services and books if the Friends were not able to carry on with their work. Truly the fate of the Friends of the Library is now in your hands. Many folks will tell you more about the space needed for book storage and sales.

Thank you for your time working for the city. And thank you for reading my letter.

Sincerely, Cathie Perga (former Library Commissioner)

Jon Maginot

From: Emily Thacker
Sent: Monday, May 13, 2019 10:23 PM
To: Jon Maginot
Subject: Friends of library storage

To Los Altos Council Members

Please support the Friends of the Library by asking city staff to find space in the civic center for the Friends of the Los Altos library.

I use the library all the time - taking out books, audiobooks, dvds. I also give my own books to the library for sales.

Friends' members have worked hard, raising incredible amounts of money in support of the library. But they need storage space for the many donated books. It is definitely an asset to the city and a destination for Los Altos citizens.

Thank you.

Emily Thacker

Sent from my iPhone

Jon Maginot

From: Rona Giffard
Sent: Monday, May 13, 2019 9:21 PM
To: Jon Maginot; Lynette Lee Eng; Jan Pepper; Jeannie Bruins; Anita Enander; Neysa Fligor
Subject: FOL Los Altos

Dear city manager and council members,

As a long time resident of Los Altos (37 years) and user of the Los Altos library I write you to provide input on the issue of supporting the Friends of the Library. The Friends routinely contribute about \$170,000 per year to support the library- to purchase books, furniture and fixtures, and support hundreds of programs annually.

I strongly request that the council find a place for the FOL to operate that is near the library, and continue to support this vital, all volunteer organization that so benefits our community. I find it inconceivable that Los Altos alone of all the communities with local branches of the library within our county might be unable and unwilling to do this. All other FOLs around our county are fully supported by the cities and by their city councils.

As I will be unable to attend the meeting on Tuesday evening in person I hope you will accept my input by email.

Sincerely, Rona Giffard

Jon Maginot

From: Debra Barnes
Sent: Monday, May 13, 2019 8:05 PM
To: Jon Maginot; City Council
Subject: Friends of the Los Altos Library - Storage facility

Dear Mr. Maginot,

Please support the proposed solution for the continuous operation of the Friends of the Los Altos Library book sales and storage. I have lived in Los Altos my entire 60 years and three generations of my family have enjoyed the book sales, as well as the library. A storage locker has been proposed as a short term solution and while it may not be aesthetically pleasing, it is so much more important to the community to support the continuous activities of this very necessary organization.

Sincerely,
Debra Bingham Barnes

Jon Maginot

From: Larryrivers@Pacbell
Sent: Monday, May 13, 2019 8:00 PM
To: Jon Maginot
Cc: Carol Rivers
Subject: Agenda Item: FOL issue

Dear Sir

I have been and am a long time volunteer with the Los Altos Friends of the Library (FOL).

I am 82 years old and have been a resident of Los Altos since 1971.

I consider the FOL and the Library as Irreplaceable Community Assets that should be supported by you as they have been of increasingly used and supported by the young, middle aged, and old of the community for all my years of residence and participation. FOL has also provided significant yearly funding support to the Community Center activity which WE ALL call our Library !!!

Lawrence Rivers
Los Altos Ca 94022

p.s. My wife was born in Los Altos and has been a resident most of her life concurs with my sentiments above.

Jon Maginot

From: Karen March
Sent: Monday, May 13, 2019 7:41 PM
To: Jon Maginot
Subject: Friends of the Library

I was dismayed to learn of your recommendation to no longer provide Friends of the Library storage space for their book sales.

My family (three generations) has attended the book sales religiously since the beginning. On my nephew's first day of kindergarten, he excitedly told my brother, "Daddy, my school has library books too!" He had been going to book sales for years and choosing treasures long before he could read. My father always looks for sailing books, my mother hits the history section, and I have stocked my classroom with books and other teaching materials for thirty five years. I teach in an economically underprivileged rural community in the Central Valley and my students have benefited tremendously from the Friends book sales.

Without space to store book sale books, the good work of Friends of the Library will come to an end. This would be a tragedy for my family, school, and the community at large.

I urge you to rethink the recommendations regarding book storage.

Please share my concerns and how much my family has profited from the good work of Friends of the Library with council members.

Sincerely,
Karen March
Former resident of Los Altos Hills
Currently teacher in the Newman-Crows Landing USD

Sent from my iPad

Jon Maginot

From: Vicki Haukom · >
Sent: Monday, May 13, 2019 6:24 PM
To: Jon Maginot
Subject: May 14th City Council Meeting

Jon –

Would you please provide a copy of the below letter to Mayor Eng and the Council Members for consideration at Tuesday's Council Meeting.

Lynette Eng, Mayor
Members of the Los Altos City Council

It appears that the City of Los Atos is on the verge of losing one of the unheralded crown jewels of its community events.

For many years the Los Altos Friends of the Library has provided substantial and ongoing monetary support to the Los Altos Library. In 2018 that monetary support was \$175,000.00! They also hold four quarterly used book sales at the Hillview Community Center, which are attended by literally hundreds of people, including many Los Altos residents. All of those proceeds are donated to the library to help provide ongoing reading, literacy, educational and informational programs for all age groups.

With the loss of the Hillview Community Center the Friends of the Library will lose their weekly working and operational space and will be left without a viable alternative to continue their operations; and, therefore, their ability to continue their past support of the library, its programs and community.

I urge the City of Los Altos to give strong consideration to providing a temporary space on the civic center campus for a modular classroom (paid for by the Friends) so the Friends may continue their operations, support of the library and provision of the quarterly books sales to benefit the community as a whole.

Thank you for your consideration,

Vicki Haukom, Member
Friends of the Library

Jon Maginot

From: Mary Jo Kelly <>
Sent: Monday, May 13, 2019 6:29 PM
To: City Council
Cc: Chris Jordan; Jon Maginot
Subject: Friends of the Los Altos Library; May 13, 2019 City Council Meeting
Attachments: Friends 51319.pdf

Dear Mayor, Vice Mayor and Council Members,

In anticipation of the City Council meeting tomorrow night, the Friends is submitting this additional document for your consideration.

We appreciate the opportunity to appear before you tomorrow at 7 pm.

With kind regards,

Mary Jo Kelly
President
Friends of the Los Altos Library

IN SUPPORT OF THE LOS ALTOS LIBRARY

AND THE FRIENDS OF THE LOS ALTOS LIBRARY

SUBMITTED TO THE CITY COUNCIL BY THE FRIENDS OF THE LOS ALTOS LIBRARY

MAY 13, 2019

We request that the City Council direct staff to enter into a no cost lease agreement with the Friends of the Los Altos Library and authorize the Friends to place two storage sheds (of an aggregate size of 500 square feet) and a mobile work space (of 800-1,000 square feet) on the civic center campus until there is a permanent space for the Friends. This would allow the Friends to continue operations, despite the demolition of our base at the Hillview Community Center, to maximize our contributions to the Library and to our community.

The Friends of the Los Altos Library provides important and necessary service to the library and to the entire community.

There were more than 500,000 visits to our library this past year. The Friends encouraged and facilitated that widespread use with the programs we finance, including programs for children, teens, adults, book groups and summer reading activities. Funds raised by the Friends are used to acquire books and furniture and fixtures. The in-library Ongoing Book Sale gets community members into the library and the Friends Café gives them a place to linger there.

The Friends fosters a sense of community in Los Altos. Hundreds of Los Altans are members of the Friends, including more than 150 active volunteers (who gave about 20,000 hours last year). The Friends provide a place for the community to recycle books and other items, which allows the Friends to raise hundreds of thousands of dollars for the library. And the Friends quarterly book sales also provide the opportunity for thousands of community members to gather and interact and use and support the Los Altos Library.

But without space to sort and store and prepare-for-sale the books that are donated, supporting the library and facilitating community will not be possible. That space needs to be in close proximity to the library. While our active volunteers are dedicated and hard working, they are generally retired folks with an average age in the late-seventies (with some in the 90's including one who is 98). We have researched moving to retail space downtown and found this is not a workable solution. It would be extremely costly (rent, insurance, utilities, maintenance, etc.) and logistically impractical (moving 5,000 donated books from the library and thousands of sorted books back to the civic center weekly and 40,000 books to LAYC for the quarterly sale; stocking and staffing a store, etc.). And the sense of community within the Friends would be destroyed if the active volunteers lose the opportunity to gather together to work at providing this service to the community.

For the past several years, through many iterations of Community Center projects/plans, the Friends have worked with the City staff to fulfill the commitment that staff would work with the Friends to find workable space for the Friends to continue serving our community. A community which strongly supports our library. The staff asked the Friends not to contest the lack of space for its operations in the new Community Center and assured the Friends the City would work

with us to find alternative space. This assurance was provided in public task force and other meetings over the two year period. As requested, Friends did not participate in the design process, but when the time came for the City to work with the Friends to find space, it postponed a meeting with the Friends to have an in depth discussion about the Friends' issue until February of this year; and in that meeting the staff said that there was no space. The Friends then proposed possible locations on campus for temporary structures to be purchased by the Friends, which are partially identified in the staff report.

The objections raised by staff mostly deal with aesthetics and public attitude. In reality, the placement of the proposed temporary structures would not interfere with identified underground utilities, would only impact one living apricot tree (which the Friends are willing to move or replace) and there is no indication of how the proposed location would adversely interfere with access to the communication tower. As for aesthetics, the citizens of Los Altos appear quite accepting of portable structures (sending their school children to them every day) and the appearance of temporary structures can be mitigated or improved with a small amount of plantings and some decorations.

If the commitment that City staff would work with the Friends to find workable space is not realized, the Friends will not be able to continue to provide the level of resources to the library as we currently do and will likely have to cease operations.

This is not hyperbole. This is a sad fact. And Los Altos will be the only city in the County Library system and in the county that fails to provide space for its Friends of the Library.

And that would be tragic!

So PLEASE, direct City staff to enter into a no cost lease agreement with the Friends and authorize the Friends to place two storage sheds and a mobile work space on the civic center campus.

Thank you.

Jon Maginot

From: Robert Dahl <
Sent: Monday, May 13, 2019 4:47 PM
To: Jon Maginot
Subject: Friends of the Library

Please distribute to the City Council

We are very concerned that the Friends of the Library will disappear unless some accommodation is made to provide them the space necessary to continue to operate.

The Friends provide many benefits to our library operation and to the city of Los Altos. Over \$100,000 of funding is given to the library each year to greatly support the acquisition of new books, audio materials, children and adult programs and facility projects.

All the city needs to do is secure a small location where they can continue to operate.

All the surrounding cities on the peninsula provide this type of support to their local Friends organization. Los Altos has provided this for over 40 years.

We have been active supporters of The Friends and our library as volunteers and Judy as a Library Commissioner.

Our library is very important to our community serving all ages and all demographics.

We urge you to continue to support The Friends and our library.

Judy & Bob Dahl

Jon Maginot

From: David Smith
Sent: Tuesday, May 14, 2019 2:22 PM
To: Jon Maginot
Subject: Fwd: Friends

Add this to your list of letters on the Friends proposal.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: David Smith
Date: Tue, May 14, 2019 at 2:20 PM
Subject: Re: Friends
To: DAVID STRUTHERS <>, Mary Jo Kelly <>, Cindy Hill <>
Cc: Jan Pepper <jpepper@losaltosca.gov>

Hi Dave,

I believe the case needs to be made that a temporary portable near the present library or LACY, is the best alternative for the Friends to organize for their book sales. Unless an owner in town is willing to donate a space, the economics do not make sense. We have an organization, The Friends, that through volunteers and hard work will raise almost a \$1 million over 5 years to support our library. This is not a tax or bond money and it benefits everyone. To create a situation to force The Friends to dismantle their fund raising process, and eliminate almost \$1 million revenue because the city will not figure out a solution, while all the other libraries in the Santa Clara County Library system have large and efficient dedicate space for their Friends organizations sounds elitist and is unconscionable.

On Tue, May 14, 2019 at 12:30 PM DAVID STRUTHERS <> wrote:

Hello David,

I received this message from Mary Jo (current President of the Friends). As you my know, the Friends are having to vacate our facilities at Hillview which is scheduled to be demolished to make room for the new Community Center. The Friends have been negotiating with the City to find a place in the Civic Center to continue their operation. That is the best solution to the continued operation of the Friends ... close to the Library and to the Youth Center where our sales would be held. There are people who think that the Friends could move their operation to downtown. We did make contact with the Costume Bank people who are moving out of their facility. They have turned the leasing or renting of that facility over to an agent and the cost of renting that facility is about \$10,000 per month (\$4/sq.ft. for 2,500 sq.

ft.) For some reason Jan Pepper thinks that you might have some ideas regarding the Friends moving to a facility Downtown. Do you? At any rate, I am reacting to Mary Jo's request that I "talk" to you today regarding this.
Dave Struthers

Begin forwarded message:

From: Mary Jo Kelly
Subject: Friends
Date: May 14, 2019 at 9:00:14 AM PDT
To: DAVID STRUTHERS

Dave

This morning Jan Pepper has asked me by email that we consider a retail store downtown. I told her it was an issue but she would like me to check with David Smith to he had any interest, ideas since he wanted to have the library downtown.

Could you talk to him today? I am swamped at the moment.
Thanks and see you tonight.
Mary Jo

Mary Jo Kelly

--
David M. Smith

--
David M. Smith

Jon Maginot

From: Diane Schmidt >
Sent: Monday, May 13, 2019 3:13 PM
To: City Council; Jon Maginot
Cc: Mary Jo Kelly; Suzanne Epstein; Margaret Brooks
Subject: Letter in Support of Friends of the Library

Dear Los Altos City Council Members,

The decision to provide Friends of the Library the space the group requests on the Civic Center campus meets the criteria of the "head" and of the "heart."

In exchange for providing several hundred square feet for the Friends' use, the residents of our city get a great return - a rich collection of new books and bestsellers, a calendar full of literacy and cultural programs, and an engaging volunteer opportunity for hundreds for residents each quarter. All ages benefit, from young children to senior citizens. It's difficult to put a number on this type of multi-faceted return, but those who decide with their "head" can calculate the numbers based solely upon a financial return to see that the number is compelling.

It's clear to me that residents have shown that their heart is with the library. Our two branches combined attract more visitors every day than any other institution except the high school district. Patron satisfaction scores are top-notch. The circulation rate of the collection for our branches is one of the highest in the district. Many programs are standing room only. The community has consistently supported the funding measures that reach the ballot. Friends of the Library attracts hundreds of volunteers each quarter and our sales attract customers from throughout this area. The work of Friends helps ensure and maintain the robustness of the library. The spirit and heart of Los Altos would be weakened if Friends is not able to maintain its support.

The stated mission for city staff, council, commissions and volunteers is to "foster and maintain the City of Los Altos as a great place to live and raise a family." Please allow Friends of the Library to continue to support you in this mission by directing City Staff to find a location for Friends to maintain our operation on the Civic Center campus.

Thank you,
Diane Schmidt

Sent from my iPad

Jon Maginot

From: Graham Hunter
Sent: Monday, May 13, 2019 2:05 PM
To: Jon Maginot
Subject: Friends Of The Library

Hi Joe,

Los Altos Library is very important to Los Altans, and its continued success as a community resource is greatly dependent on Friends of the Library.

Friends of the Library provides free of charge 20,000 hours of volunteer labor for daily processing of almost 7000 donated books a week, as well as financial support of around \$165,000 per year to the library from book sales. Without a temporary place to operate while the community center is being rebuilt this support would almost completely disappear, with devastating consequences for the library.

This can be avoided if the city will allow temporary housing for Friends on city-owned land. As I understand the situation, they have proposed a temporary structure that you are opposed to as it would not be aesthetically pleasing.

I do not understand how a neat, unobtrusive temporary building would be less aesthetically pleasing than the dust, noise, and traffic commotion that would accompany 12-18 months of demolition and rebuilding of the nearby community center. This does not make any sense to me.

In my opinion, the value of Friends of the Library continuing to operate in a temporary building FAR OUTWEIGHS any considerations of minor aesthetic values of a structure that will hardly ever be seen on a regular basis by most Los Altans.

My wife and I have lived in Los Altos for 48 years. We use the library almost weekly. It would be a tragedy if the city stands in the way of continued availability of temporary space for Friends of the Library.

Please RECONSIDER your stance on the use of a temporary structure. It seems to me that city management and the city council have not spent enough time seriously studying the situation and its very grave effects on community life if the Friends of the Library are not given permission to set up a temporary structure near the library.

Regards,
Graham Hunter

Sent from my iPad

Jon Maginot

From: Jean Somlo
Sent: Monday, May 13, 2019 1:54 PM
To: Jon Maginot
Subject: Friends of the library space

Hi there,

I have been a member of the friends of the Los Altos library since my daughter was born 9 years ago and I was looking for a supply of used children's' books via library used book sales. I have frequented many library book sales in Sunnyvale and Mountain View but found the Los Altos sale is the best run, most organized and with such friendly volunteers that I wanted to be a part of it. What these volunteers do matters. Please find them some temporary space during the library renovation. While I do not regularly volunteer (I work and am raising an elementary school child so I don't have any spare time), I do plan to volunteer there once I retire (or sooner if I have time). And I live in Sunnyvale!

We attend the Los Altos library book sales every quarter and over the years my daughter has cycled through hundreds of books through their sale- when she is done, we donate them to our local and other Sunnyvale schools for use in their classrooms and libraries. I notice specifically at the Los Altos sales, they are frequented by teachers- we all prefer these sales to all others due to the time volunteers spend curating and organizing the donations.

Jean Somlo

--

Jean Somlo

Jon Maginot

From: Kim Hunter
Sent: Monday, May 13, 2019 3:01 PM
To: Jon Maginot
Subject: We need Friends of the Library!

Please distribute this email to the members of Los Altos City Council:

I urge you to provide a location at the Civic Center Campus for Friends of the Library. They have been providing over \$100k in annual funds for the library, and we, the people of Los Altos, LOVE our library!

To suddenly make it disappear, makes no sense!

Sincerely,

Kim Hunter
Los Altos, CA

Jon Maginot

From: Jean Pawek
Sent: Monday, May 13, 2019 2:57 PM
To: Jon Maginot
Cc: Vicki Haucom
Subject: a location for Friends of the Library booksales

It would be a shame on Los Altos not to host used book sales.

I am 91 years old and drive from my home in Mountain View to attend most of the opening night sales. It is a delightful evening 'out' for me. I enjoy the browsing, and purchasing, from among the many books - great bargains for me, on a fixed income since retirement at age 65.

Jean L. Pawek, friends member

; Mountain View CA 94040

Jon Maginot

From: Linda Roy
Sent: Monday, May 13, 2019 2:40 PM
To: Jon Maginot
Subject: Support the Friends of the Los Altos Library Continuous Operation

Dear Mr Maginit,

I am writing in support of the continuous operation of the Friends of the Los Altos Library book sales and storage. The continuous support of these operations is important. Volunteers would disperse, so many books couldn't find new homes and our libraries would loose a valuable funding. Restarting these volunteer communities is not automatically accomplished.

Although the storage locker is unsightly, it is a TEMPORARY drawback, while loosing continuous operation of the Friends of LA Library may have PERMANENT and LONG LASTING drawbacks to an important service and library funding.

Please support our libraries and find a solution to keep this activity going.

Sincerely,

Linda Roy

Sent from my iPhone

Jon Maginot

From: Matt Adelman ·
Sent: Monday, May 13, 2019 1:06 PM
To: Jon Maginot
Subject: Please continue supporting the Friends of the Los Altos Library

Hi Jon,

I am a local software engineer affiliated with Stanford, and going to the Los Altos library book sales are a lot of fun. I enjoy going with friends and getting books for myself and siblings. It was very disheartening to hear that the city would reverse its decision to support the sale after 40 years.

I truly hope the city counsel reconsiders the decision to stop providing space for the Los Altos Book Sale.

Best,
Matt Adelman

Jon Maginot

From: Elissa Wellikson
Sent: Monday, May 13, 2019 1:05 PM
To: Jon Maginot
Subject: I support the Friends of the Los Altos Library

I am an active volunteer with the Friend of the Los Altos library, sorting books on Thursday, helping with On-going Sales in the library and selling books through the Friends on-line Amazon store.

The Friends of the Los Altos Library provides important and necessary services to the library and to the entire community, helping the library with funds for programs and supplies and books. But also helping the library serve the community by creating a sense of community through those programs and the quarterly books sales.

The City Council should give the Friends authorization to place two storage sheds and a mobile work space on the civic center campus and a no cost lease for that space, so that the Friends can continue operations in the same way we have been operating at the Community Center for decades, to maximize our contributions to the Library and our community support.

Please pass this message to members of the council.
Thank you.

Elissa Wellikson

Los Altos, CA

Jon Maginot

From: Jessica C Jordan
Sent: Monday, May 13, 2019 12:20 PM
To: Jon Maginot
Subject: Support for Los Altos Friends of the Library Organization

Hi Jon,

I am writing to express my support for the Los Altos Friends of the Library and to express my dismay at the news that the City plans to stop providing space for their quarterly book sales.

I am a local graduate student (Age 28) who benefits tremendously from the sales offered by the Friends - many times I have been able to get much-needed course books there that would have been a financial hardship for me to acquire otherwise. I have always been impressed by the dedicated and friendly volunteers who put on these sales so they can support their library and other literacy programs in our community.

It is appalling to think that the City is considering withdrawing their support from this great institution - a decision which is not only a departure from nearly every other city in the greater Bay Area, but also reflects a chilling ambivalence towards the vital importance of literacy and access.

I urge you to share this message with the City Council Members, and to reconsider this decision.

Best,

Jessica C. Jordan

Jon Maginot

From: Christine Talbott
Sent: Monday, May 13, 2019 11:58 AM
To: Jon Maginot
Subject: Friends of the Library

Please share this with the entire City Counsel.

It is so important that space be given near the Los Altos Library and the LACY center for the Friends of the Library to continue their excellent work on behalf of the Library. This group provides a wonderful service for the Library and all the Library patrons.

Their work needs to continue.

Christine Talbott and John Gali
Los Altos residents

Jon Maginot

From: Jan
Sent: Monday, May 13, 2019 11:29 AM
To: Jon Maginot
Subject: Friends of the Library

This is an organization I would love to put my talents and efforts into.

We as a community should be thankful/great full for all that they have done for the last fourth years and do to support our library system .

All they ask is for space to operate. !!

We have a first class library as a result of their efforts!!

Sincerely,

Janice Puder

Los Altos

Sent from my iPhone

Jon Maginot

From: Cynthia Johnson
Sent: Monday, May 13, 2019 11:17 AM
To: Jon Maginot
Subject: Friends of Library Space Issue

Dear Mr. Maginot: please distribute this message to the Members of the City Council.
thank you!

To: Members of the Los Altos City Council:

RE: Friends of the Library – Support for identifying space for FOL operations

The Friends of the Library provide important services that substantially add to the vibrancy of our community. The City Council and City should join members of the community in supporting FOL's existence by finding a solution to their need for space after the demolition of the community center.

I support any reasonable option for temporary space for their operations, including the erection of temporary space in the open field between the LAYC and History Center.

The Los Altos Library is one of the top ten libraries in the country, and is a centerpost for the community. It is one of the ongoing advantages to living here. The Library is enriched with the FOL's contributions in the following ways:

- 1) Hundreds of people of all ages—from small children to people in their 90s—and from all walks of life—are able to access reading experiences through the books LOF make available in the Ongoing book sales and large quarterly book sales.
- 2) The FOL provides substantial funds to the library to buy new books. I believe last year's contribution from sales was more than \$175k.
- 3) Perhaps most important, however, the FOL offers an avenue to "give back." Through the donation of books (some 5,000-7,000 per week) and the ability for hundreds of people to volunteer they are helping to make Los Altos a vibrant and active community where we all want to live.

This is why I, along with many other Los Altans, strongly support finding FOL space to operate.

Thank you for your consideration and support.

Cynthia Johnson

Los Altos Resident since 1996

Jon Maginot

From: Frank Robertson
Sent: Monday, May 13, 2019 10:48 AM
To: Jon Maginot
Subject: Friends of the Los Altos Library

I am a 75-year old citizen of Los Altos (a resident for 43 years) and am requesting that you communicate my comments to the City Council members prior to the next meeting. I have heard that the city manager opposes the idea of providing space for the operation of the Friends of the Library during the time that the Hillview center will be under renovation. That would be a dereliction of the council's responsibility to the citizens of Los Altos.

I have utilized the services of the Friends of the Library to constructively dispose of the large library of a friend who died, and highly appreciate the usefulness of such a community resource.

I urge the council to give guidance to the city manager to provide a better solution than to simply cause the Friends of the Library to cease operations later this year.

Thank you.

Frank Robertson

Jon Maginot

From: Jenny Robertson
Sent: Monday, May 13, 2019 10:28 AM
To: Jon Maginot
Subject: Friends on the LA Library

Hello!

I recently learned that the Friends of the Los Altos Library is slated to close due to a lack of space to store their books near the library while the new Community Center is being built (and no space allocated for it in the new building!).

I hope that you can find a way to keep this excellent organization going. Books are still very important to me, and to the community. People need a place to donate books (as Book Buyers has been out of Mountain View for a few years), and a place to buy books at a reasonable price, in support of the library.

Donating and buying books keeps people connected to books, and to the library, and is an important part of its vitality. Please find space for the Friends to keep operating!

Please also share this with the City Council. (Hi, Lynette!)

Jenny Robertson

Jon Maginot

From: J & S Krakauer
Sent: Monday, May 13, 2019 11:57 AM
To: Jon Maginot
Subject: hello

Dear Mr. Maginot, Deputy City Manager,

I am writing to you to distribute this email to the Los Altos City Council members, in support of the Council finding a location on the Civic Center campus for the Friends of the Los Alto Library.

I am an 89 year old avid supporter of the Friends. At every sale I purchase hundreds of children's books that I donate to the families of a pre-school program that serves low income families. The Friends is an amazing organization manned by devoted volunteers raising money for our beloved library. it deserves being honored with appropriate facilities for the storage and dispersal of fund raising books.

Sincerely yours,
Judy Krakauer

Jon Maginot

From: Lloyd Lettis
Sent: Monday, May 13, 2019 10:01 AM
To: Jon Maginot
Subject: Friends of the Library

Sir,

I support the Friends of the Library and request that space be found for the Friends of the Library . I am 98 years old , and I enjoy volunteering

to help support the Library.

Sincerely,

Lloyd A. Lettis

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

2019 MAY 13 AM 10 03

CITY OF LOS ALTOS
CALIFORNIA

May 12, 2019

To Whom it May Concern:

I am in favor of using the empty space between the LA History Museum and the LA Police Department for a temporary storage container/classroom size facility to store books for the Friends of the Library.

This unused space is not visible from any major road. In contrast, the unsightly construction and fence in front of the City Hall lasted almost a year (or more) and was very ugly and visible from San Antonio Road.

For a city that prides itself in providing positive services to the community, I am appalled that the Council would not consider supporting the Friends and the thousands of dollars they give to our library every year.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.



Mary Popek
Los Altos resident for 45 years

Jon Maginot

From: Brittany Stevens
Sent: Monday, May 13, 2019 9:46 AM
To: Jon Maginot; City Council; Darren Stevens
Subject: support for temporary space for Friends of LA Library

Dear Mr. Maginot and Los Altos City Council members,

I am writing to you as a Los Altos Library "Superfriend" - with the personalized apron to prove it! I earned that status a few years ago for being a dedicated volunteer for the Friends booksales for the last 30+ years (beginning when I was 5 years old with my parents). Now as parents in our early 40s who were each raised and educated in Los Altos and chose to stay in this community and raise our own families, my husband Darren and I have raised our young children to participate with us in volunteering for the booksales, and this volunteer experience is an integral part of our family. In fact, for the last booksale at Hillview, I felt emotional thinking of all the years our family has spent there through our time with the Friends. We encourage our LASD friends, neighbors, and teachers to come out to each sale, and we promote the library's use as well. My children have even brought their friends to help volunteer, thus spreading the love of library and literacy ever wider. I am aware of the sizeable amount of money the Friends raises to support the library through the booksales, and am glad that the booksales are scheduled to continue at LAYC while the construction plan moves forward. However, we have recently been made aware that there is no current plan for the city to help house the donated books in between booksales. How can this be? I cannot emphasize how much I support there being temporary space made available during construction so that these booksales can continue. Without dedicated and closely located storage nearby, I do not see how this program can functionally continue, and that loss would be a shame for the library, the community, and of course my own family. I'm attaching for your additional reference a Town Crier article from last year featuring my husband and son so you can see how much this program means to us: <https://www.losaltosonline.com/news/sections/business/183-business-features/58067-los-altos-library-sales-a-longtime-literary-gold-mine-need-a-new-home>

I cannot emphasize enough my support for a dedicated temporary location within the Civic Center to support the important work done by the Friends. I call on you to also pledge your support for this vital community volunteer-based program!

~Brittany

=====
Brittany E. Stevens, Ph.D.
=====

Jon Maginot

From: jkraczkowsky
Sent: Monday, May 13, 2019 8:49 AM
To: Jon Maginot
Subject: Friends of the Library

Dear Town Council,

The Friends of the Library have served our community selflessly for many years. With the impending renovations planned for the Hillview community center, the FOL will lose their workspace which may cause the elimination of the quarterly book sale. This book sale is a vital service to our community in that it brings together literally dozens of volunteers to support the needs of hundreds of Los Altos's seeking high quality reading and educational materials at affordable prices for themselves and their families. The FOL has collaborated with Los Altos town staff to develop a workable temporary solution that will cost the town very little and allow the continued operation of this valuable community service. Please vote to accept their proposal and keep the book sale alive! John Kraczkowsky, FOL volunteer and avid LA library patron.

Sent from ProtonMail Mobile

Jon Maginot

From: Chris Jordan
Sent: Monday, May 13, 2019 8:54 AM
To: Jon Maginot
Subject: FW: Support Friends of the Library

From: Paul George
Sent: Monday, May 13, 2019 8:35 AM
To: City Council <council@losaltosca.gov>
Subject: Support Friends of the Library

Dear City Council Members -

We urge you to support Friends of the Library and their very reasonable request to place a temporary structure in an out of the way location on Civic Center property. We greatly value the tremendous support Friends of the Library gives to one of city's most valuable institutions, the Los Altos Library. As residents who donate numerous books to Friends of the Library and who make frequent use of the library, we will be following your actions closely. Please do all you can to support Friends of the Library and their important contributions to the city.

Paul George and Stephanie Reader
Los Altos, CA 94024

Jon Maginot

From: Joan Ramon Resina
Sent: Saturday, May 11, 2019 1:19 PM
To: Jon Maginot
Subject: friends of the Los Altos Library

Dear Mr. Maginot,

It has come to my attention that the City of Los Altos intends to no longer permit the Library sales to take place at the Hillview Center. Why this plan came up is beyond my comprehension. The Friends of the Los Altos Library sales are a wonderful contribution to the community and benefit the library as well as book lovers who benefit from periodic sales of donations. Why these monthly events that occur on weekends and do not obtrude on the center's activities should now be slated to cease operations after 40 years is beyond understanding. Is the City administration so culture averse that it needs to eliminate a worthwhile community institution without apparent need or benefit? Please share my concern with all members of the City Council and, if I may, please try to prevent this nonsense from moving forward.

Sincerely,
Joan Ramon Resina
Stanford University

Jon Maginot

From: Kathleen Feigelman
Sent: Saturday, May 11, 2019 1:00 PM
To: Jon Maginot

Hello Mr. Maginot,

Please approve an appropriate building or room in the new community center for the Friends of Los Altos Library. The Friends is an important community organization they are absolutely deserving of space to support our library. I grew up in this town and worked at many sales with my parents as a teen. My son and my husband now volunteer along with my 85 year old mother.

I'm including some helpful background information below.

Thank you for your support

Kathleen Feigelman

For the past 60 years the Friends of the Library has been a vibrant organization in this community. The 1 st Used Book Sale 60 years ago garnered \$100 for the Library and the founders were ecstatic. Last year the Friends provided the Library \$177,500.00 to help fund 895 programs, the Best Seller collection of books & DVD's, new furniture and fixtures.

This year the Friends are providing \$165,000 to the Library. Our County Library System is rated one of the Top Ten libraries in the Nation due in part to the extra dollars the Libraries receive from their Friends organizations.

The City of Los Altos, as all other Cities in our County do, has provided space at no cost for the Friends to operate in. For the past 44 years this has been in the Hillview Community Center. This allows at least 95% of all the funds the Friends bring in to be given directly to the Library. Hillview Center is being demolished this summer, forcing the Friends out, yet the City has not provided them with a place to move into.

The Friends of the Library are part of achieving a better environmental footprint for Los Altos. They recycle a tremendous number of books for this community. Every week the Friends receive approximately 60 stacks of boxes of books to deal with. This is 5000 – 7000 books. Each week. This must be processed every week because otherwise where will the next week's donations go?

The Friends are providing a service for the residents of Los Altos, Los Altos Hills and the surrounding community. Not only are they recycling books and supporting the library's many programs and new book purchases, but thousands of people attend the quarterly Used Book Sales, enjoy the Café in the Library and the daily Ongoing Sales shelves in the Library.

The Friends have over 600 contributing members and over 150 regular volunteers who provide 20,000 volunteer hours annually for this community.

All of this will go away if the Friends have no place to operate.

The Friends believe that doing all they can to support and improve the Los Altos Libraries for the benefit of everyone in the Los Altos community is worthwhile – for reading, education, programs, safe spaces, information access – and that this makes the City of Los Altos a better place as a consequence.

Jon Maginot

From: Miriam Marr
Sent: Saturday, May 11, 2019 12:54 PM
To: Jon Maginot
Subject: Space for Friends' booksale

To J Maginot,

Please provide space for the Friends' library booksale materials. It will be a temporary solution, and will allow the Friends to continue to run their very successful booksales. The sales generate valuable and needed funds for the Los Altos and Woodland Libraries.

Please distribute this message to the other Council members.

Sincerely,
Miriam Marr

--

Miriam Marr

Jon Maginot

From: Kathy Thompson
Sent: Saturday, May 11, 2019 12:51 PM
To: Jon Maginot
Subject: Support for Los Altos Friends of the Library

Please share this with the city council to help in their consideration of the LA Library Friends request.

I have been a member, volunteer, and supporter of the library friends for many years. As a parent of two children who are working their way up through the Los Altos school district, the Friends, and in particular the library booksale, have been a huge help in their development as readers, students, and citizens.

When they were learning to read, the book sale provided a reasonably priced way for them to acquire their own libraries and to replace books as their reading levels increased. Now that they are older, volunteering with the organization gives them a great way to give back to the community in a meaningful way. The funds collected also gave us a wonderful story time to attend when they were pre-readers, and now that they are teens it supports introducing them to Shakespeare and positive social activities hosted at the library like gaming and "lock ins."

Without the Friends of the Library, this great resource for readers of all ages will be sorely missed. With kids and teens so connected to their electronic devices, it will be a great loss if this opportunity to connect with books and other members of the community is taken away.

-kathy thompson

Jon Maginot

From: Sarah Khan
Sent: Saturday, May 11, 2019 12:47 PM
To: Jon Maginot
Subject: Friends of the Library - Los Altos

Please distribute this to Los Altos City Council Members

Dear Mr. Maginot,

I am writing this letter to express my support for the Friends of the Library in Los Altos.

I am a 44-year old resident of the area, and when I discovered the Friends organization several years ago, I had not been to the library regularly in many, many years. I had recently moved into the area and although I work full-time in a demanding job, decided to volunteer with the organization when I had time to do so. Since I began volunteering, I now use the library regularly and feel very connected to this important community resource.

When I discovered that there was no City Staff support to find an alternative location for Friends to operate until a new library is built, I was dismayed. I am writing to request that you find a location in the City Center Campus for the Friends, as the organization has offered to pay for the space and does so much to support the library.

I am finding a continuing, alarming pattern of communities disconnecting from each other in our world, and this is another step that would continue to deteriorate our community fabric.

If you have any questions at all, do not hesitate to connect with me.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Sarah Khan

Jon Maginot

From: George Truitt
Sent: Saturday, May 11, 2019 12:47 PM
To: Jon Maginot
Subject: Friends of the Library

I cannot believe that our group is now forced to BEG space for book sorting and storing, short term, in order to gain money to support the local library. What kind of local officials have we HIRED that kick a gift horse in the mouth, so to speak?? So we must BEG you now?? OK, so be it! Friends of the library needs space, short term, until the building of the new community center is complete, to allow books to be gathered and grouped for the next sale. Without such space, Friends will have to disband. The library will lose a large amount of funding, and the community will suffer. This will include only all the "regular folk", but also elders (I am in my 80's) and children. Perhaps the city manager and staff can pool their "voluntary contributions" to make up the difference? NO?? Then perhaps you need to reconsider your negative recommendation and FIND A PLACE FOR BOOKS AND FRIENDS. Sally Truitt

Jon Maginot

From: Adonia Curry
Sent: Saturday, May 11, 2019 12:03 PM
To: Jon Maginot
Subject: Friends of the Library Supporter -

I am supporting this volunteer organization that provides a valuable service to the Library and we the citizens of Los Altos!

To All

Members of the Los Altos City Council

I am totally appalled by the decision not to support Friends of the Library temporary structure!! I find this decision to be totally short sighted and out of tune with what the residents of Los Altos prefer!

If the Friends are not provided space to continue operating on the Civic Center campus, the Friends will cease to exist as it is now and the last large Quarterly Used Book Sale will be held this August for the citizens of Los Altos.

All other cities in our County and in our greater Bay Area enthusiastically support their Friends of the Library organizations and provide space, free of charge, in which their Friends organizations operate.

I would like the City Council to direct Staff to find a location on the Civic Center Campus!!!!

Adonia Curry

Senior Citizen

Resident of Los Altos 45 yrs and ardent user and supporter of the Los Altos library.

Jon Maginot

From: Dolores Gallagher Thompson
Sent: Saturday, May 11, 2019 11:47 AM
To: Jon Maginot
Cc: Dolores Gallagher Thompson; Larry Wolford Thompson;
Subject: Friends of the Library need space to continue their great work for our community!
AGENDA ITEM #7 for this Tuesday's City Council meeting

Importance: High

Hello Jon,

My husband and I are writing as long-time supporters of the Friends of the Library here in Los Altos. We have been supporters (financially, donating books, helping out at the sales, etc.) for over a decade. We understand that this Tuesday at the City Council meeting there will discussion about whether or not to continue to provide SPACE for the group to meet & work – agenda item #7. Apparently there is a proposal to **stop** providing that space once construction of the new community center begins. We want to voice our strong opinions that that would be a huge mistake as this group provides a very valuable service to our Los Altos communities AND they have a very viable plan to use temporary space until the new community center is built – at which time they need to be guaranteed space in or very near that complex so the work can continue.

My husband is 87 years old and tremendously values what this group does – for example, we enjoy the “Friends” book sales enormously... we attend virtually every one, and spend many pleasant hours sorting through the books, CDs, DVDs, etc. that they have for sale. He has taken up several new hobbies as a result of being introduced to them at the book sales.

We also a 12 year old grandson whom we've been taking to the library (and the sales) for years – he's grown up with books and the work of the Friends has made it possible for him to purchase many more books than his parents could afford if we had to buy them all new. It's exposed him to a very broad range of subjects – astronomy, Spanish language, etc. These kinds of books are expensive to purchase new, but “gently used” they are affordable and have greatly enhanced his reading skills – and his curiosity for learning and exploring new things. If the work of the Friends is discontinued / they are displaced, other young minds (and active older adults) won't have these opportunities. We will have to go to other communities – like Mountain View and Sunnyvale – for our reading enhancements.

In addition, we know (from our own experience) what a labor-intensive effort this is! Everything has to be sorted and then “delivered” to the sale site, put up on display, sales arrangements have to be made, unsold items packed up & removed, etc. It's truly a labor of love & we NEED it to continue AND to be “co-located” near the main library! They can't do this work in someone's garage, nor should they! They are providing a valuable service and should

be given every consideration so that they can continue their important work. It's part of the fabric of Los Altos, in our opinion, and there is no justifiable reason to discontinue full support of these efforts.

We cannot attend the City Council meeting in person but we ask that you please circulate our email to council members. I'm sure you will get many others as well that question the current thinking of the council on this matter and that ask for the Friends' work to be enabled to continue in appropriate space near the main library – during and after construction of the community center.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. We look forward to a favorable decision from the City Council this week!

Dolores Gallagher Thompson, Ph.D.
Professor Emerita – Active - Dept. of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences
Stanford University School of Medicine

Larry Wolford Thompson, Ph.D.
Professor Emeritus – Active – Dept. of Medicine
Stanford University School of Medicine

Jon Maginot

From: Barbara Kyser
Sent: Saturday, May 11, 2019 10:43 AM
To: Jon Maginot
Subject: Friends of the Library - please share with City Council members

My husband and I use Los Altos libraries all the time. Please find a space for Friends of the Library to operate so they can continue to support the Los Altos Libraries and raise money that would otherwise not be available. We use both the main Los Altos Library and Woodland Library every week and find them to be an outstanding resource. Also, we really need a place to "recycle" books and by donating them to Friends of the Library we are not only keeping them in circulation, but they are producing money for the libraries to use. It is a win-win for all. If Friends of the Library has an idea for a solution to this problem, please carefully consider it and find a way to work with them to find a successful solution. We want to keep our libraries well-funded and the amazing volunteers with Friends of the Library happy.

Thank you,

Barbara and Ed Kyser (age: late 70's)
, Los Altos

Jon Maginot

From: Eugene M. Hyman
Sent: Saturday, May 11, 2019 10:39 AM
To: Jon Maginot
Cc:
Subject: Agenda Item #7 Council meeting of May 14

Dear Mr. Maginot,

I write in support of the Friends of the Los Altos Library with respect to agenda item #7 for the Council meeting of May 14.

I request that my message be given to the council.

I have been a resident of Los Altos since 1987 and am 69 years old.

I support the "Friends" request for space to do their work near the library and recognise all that they do for the library and our community.

It would be tragic if the "Friends" were unable to do their valuable work and had to stop their support of our library.

Certainly, what they provide greatly outweighs any potential costs to the city.

Kind regards,

Eugene M. Hyman

Los Altos, CA 94022

Jon Maginot

From: Lynne Knight
Sent: Saturday, May 11, 2019 7:31 PM
To: Jon Maginot
Cc:
Subject: TIME SENSITIVE - FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY BOOK SALE VENUE

FOR DISTRIBUTION TO ALL CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

TO: Jon Maginot
Deputy City Manager, Los Altos

The Friends of the Library needs a temporary venue for its quarterly book sales until a new library is constructed. In order to continue operations, they've offered to rent a temporary classroom on the Civic Center campus at their expense. I understand that the City Manager has recommended that the City no longer provide space on the Civic Center campus to the Friends because temporary buildings are aesthetically unappealing.

Please disregard his recommendation and continue to support the Friends' quarterly book sales, which generate significant revenue for the county library system. The book sales also draw people of all ages into Los Altos for an enjoyable community experience and the opportunity to patronize local businesses.

Isn't that worth a temporary inconvenience?

Sincerely,

Lynne Knight

Jon Maginot

From: Bob Simon
Sent: Saturday, May 11, 2019 5:17 PM
To: Jon Maginot
Cc: Mary Jo Kelly; Cindy Hill; Suzanne Epstein; Judy Mitchell
Subject: Message to the City Council in Support of the Friends of the Los Altos Library

Jon,

The following is a message to the City Council relative to Discussion Item 7 on their May 14, 2019, agenda:

Dear Members of the City Council:

Discussion Item 7 on May 14 relates to providing operating space on the Civic Center Campus for the Friends of the Los Altos Library. While many factors may be involved in your decision on this matter, I would like to direct your attention to what I would describe as “return on investment” considerations.

I understand that, over the last two years, the Friends have provided direct financial support of the Los Altos Library in an average amount of approximately \$170,000 per year. If this amount were being drawn from the earnings of Santa Clara County Investment Funds, what would be the principal needed to produce this level of earnings? According to the June 30, 2017, Quarterly Investment Report for the County of Santa Clara, the weighted yield on Jun 30 of that year was \$1.25% (heavily footnoted).

My point is that the citizens of Los Altos are benefitting from the work of the Friends at a financial level that suggests that the North County Library Authority (for example) would need to invest a minimum of \$8,500,000 in order to earn a similar return (based on my analysis of the quoted County report).

Over Eight Million Dollars.

It is incumbent upon a prudent City Council to protect and preserve this level of community support if at all possible, in my view. From my understanding of the factors involved, it seems more than appropriate for the Council to direct City staff to find and provide the space the Friends are seeking in order for them to continue their unique efforts on behalf of all of us.

As a senior citizen (age 87), I welcome what the Friends are doing for me.

Sincerely,

Bob Simon

Los Altos Resident

Jon Maginot

From: Merritt Maduke
Sent: Saturday, May 11, 2019 5:01 PM
To: Jon Maginot
Subject: Friends of the Los Altos Library

To the Members of the Los Altos City Council,

I am writing to state my strong support for the City Council to direct Staff to find a location on the Civic Center Campus for the Friends. The Friends has played an important role in my son's development, and I would like to see them continue to be a central part of our community.

Sincerely,

Merritt Maduke
, Los Altos

Jon Maginot

From: Anne Prescott
Sent: Saturday, May 11, 2019 4:45 PM
To: Jon Maginot
Cc: Vicki Haukom
Subject: Los Altos Friends of the Library

To Jon Maginot, Deputy City Manager:
Please distribute this to the Los Altos City Council Members for me. Thank You.

I believe it is extremely important for the City to support the Friends of the Library by providing space in which the Friends of the Library can operate.

The City staff assured the Friends for 2 years that the City would find alternative space for the Friends. If the City Manager thinks that temporary buildings are aesthetically unappealing, think how unappealing it is to have that huge construction operation—tear-down and rebuild—where the Hillview Community Center currently is. And how disruptive to the many programs that currently take place there. Surely we citizens can handle some temporary buildings for a few years, IF the City cannot find other existing space.

Libraries need support. Ours gains considerable income through the Friends of the Library. The Quarterly Book Sales are looked forward to by our citizens (who both donate and buy books) as well as by the Library staff and its users, of which I am definitely one. I cannot imagine my City of Los Altos without the best possible library system it can have and does have now.

PLEASE don't let Los Altos be the only city in our County and in the greater Bay Area without its enthusiastically-supported Friends of the Library organization. PLEASE find and provide space for it to operate, free of charge, as promised and as very much needed.

Thank you for reading this and for your consideration of my opinion.

Anne Prescott
Los Altos Home-Owner and Library user since 1971.

Jon Maginot

From: Joan M Mansour
Sent: Saturday, May 11, 2019 4:39 PM
To: Jon Maginot
Subject: Friends of the Los Altos Library space

I have been a supporter of the Los Altos Library since 1961 when we built our home on the Stanford Campus and (pay Santa Clara County taxes). Our children loved having the bookmobile stop at a vacant lot adjacent to our back yard. I joined the Friends of the Library after retirement in 2012 and have worked in book sorting and pricing; adding, cashiering, clean-up for our quarterly book sales, and shelving books for the in-library sales. It is greatly puzzling to me why the Los Altos City Council has not yet approved of a space solution for the Friends of the Library when they have contributed so much time, effort, and money to the improvement of the Los Altos Library (and, even if not living within the boundaries of the City of Los Altos) do the majority of their shopping there.

Cordially and Neighborly,
Joan Mansour

Stanford, CA 94305

Jon Maginot

From: John Stutz
Sent: Saturday, May 11, 2019 3:30 PM
To: Jon Maginot
Subject: Friends of the LA Library

Mr Maginot, for distribution to Los Altos City Council Members.

As a longtime Los Altos Library patron, dating from 1963 when the Library was located in a house on State Street, I am surprised and appalled by the Los Altos City Manager's recommendation to the Los Altos City Council, that the City not allow the Friends of the Library to operate their donated book collection and sorting operation anywhere in the Los Altos Civic Center. This is a recommendation to kill the Friends' Quarterly Used Book Sale, and thus a significant source of support to the Library. For while the Friends have permission to use the Los Altos Youth Center for the actual book sales, those sales are utterly dependent upon continuous backroom activities involving collection, sorting, pricing and storage of the 20-60 large cartons of books donated each week.

The sheer volume of donations, up to a full pickup truck load weekly, demands that backroom operations take place somewhere convenient to the points of collection and sale. For the past two years City staff has assured the Friends that the City would find such a space. However this will not be in the rebuilt Community Center. It is expected that the rebuilt Library will include such space, but that is several years in the future. The Friends have proposed a reasonable temporary alternative, to be used until library space is available, but the City Manager has declared he opposes temporary buildings as aesthetically unappealing. How then does the City propose to fulfill its promise

John Stutz

Jon Maginot

From: David Burch ·
Sent: Saturday, May 11, 2019 2:49 PM
To: Jon Maginot
Subject: Friends of the librry

Dear Jon Maginot,

Please share the following with the city council,

Thank you,

Los Altos City Council

Dear Council members,

I most strongly urge you to please do everything in your power to insure that the Friends of the Library continue to be able to operate in Los Altos as they have for the past 44 years.

I am an 85 year old resident of Los Altos and have been for the past 51 years. Both my wife and I use and appreciate the Santa Clara Library and have donated many books to help support it.

The loss of the Friends of the Library would be a great disservice to the residents of our town.

Thank you for your consideration,

David and Betty Burch

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

Jon Maginot

From: Phyllis Brown
Sent: Saturday, May 11, 2019 1:54 PM
To: Jon Maginot
Subject: FOLA ****needs**** space!

Mr. Maginot,

I am a 70-year-old resident of Los Altos; I have lived in this community for the last 29 years. Since retiring, I have devoted many hours to the FOLA book sort-and-sale operation. As you must know, thousands and thousands of dollars are raised ever year, due to our all-volunteer efforts, to support the Los Altos Library system. I find it stunningly short-sighted that no space has been made available for us to continue our work. Please, please - find a location somewhere near the library for us to continue.

Sincerely,
Phyllis Brown

Jon Maginot

From: Alice Johnson
Sent: Saturday, May 11, 2019 1:44 PM
To: Jon Maginot
Subject: Finding a location for the Friends of the Library

Dear Sirs, The Los Altos Library is in my opinion the nicest library in our area. And it supports a great number of programs benefiting the community. Many of these programs are funded by the volunteers who work selflessly to support the community. Over the years they have developed effective ways to raise funds. This expertise will be lost if they have to cease operations even for a year, and the programs they support will go away. All this can be saved at the small cost of having temporary buildings in an unused area behind the library.

Why can't the city council intervene in the friends behalf?
Alice Johnson

Mountain View, CA



Virus-free. www.avast.com

Jon Maginot

From: Gabriele Scheler
Sent: Saturday, May 11, 2019 1:40 PM
To: Jon Maginot
Subject: Los Altos Library Friends

I support the Friends of the Los Altos Library. I tell all my friends in Germany about the great library system in place, and the fantastic volunteer support they receive. I really don't want to tell them that's gone now too. Please find a space for them. Gabriele Scheler

Jon Maginot

From: Alison Gardyne
Sent: Sunday, May 12, 2019 2:38 PM
To: Jon Maginot
Subject: Friends of Los Altos Library

Please distribute this to the Los Altos City Council

Dear Council Members -

I am unable to attend the May 14th Council meeting, but wish to express my strong support for the Friends of Los Altos Library. That organization is a treasure - offering affordable books for the community and a great place to recycle books - all supporting our library. I strongly urge the city to accommodate the needs of the Friends of the Library by allowing a temporary storage facility to house the books close to the library. It would be a significant shame to lose this excellent organization due to lack of appropriate space.

Thank you,
Alison Gardyne

Los Altos, CA

Jon Maginot

From: Bruce Riter
Sent: Sunday, May 12, 2019 2:18 PM
To: Jon Maginot
Subject: Friends of the Library of Los Altos

Dear Mr. Maginot,

We have resided in Los Altos for 34 years. We raised our family here. Our grandchildren visit here.

In that time our family has benefited greatly from the activities of the Friends of the Library. We are longstanding members. We regularly donate books to the Friends of the Library. We purchase books at Friends of the Library book sales. We borrow books and media from the Los Alto Library that are made possible by the profits of those book sales. We have purchased books from the Friends of the Library for a Bay Area school system in need.

The Friends of the Library enjoys wide participation in and participation of the Los Altos community. Its activities bind together people of all ages and backgrounds.

The City of Los Altos has long supported the Friends of the Library by making space available for its activities.

We expect the City of Los Altos to continue to do so.

Kindly pass this message to the Los Altos City Council.

Yours Truly,

Bruce and Gudi Riter & the Riter family

Jon Maginot

From: Patricia Johnson
Sent: Sunday, May 12, 2019 12:35 PM
To: Jon Maginot
Subject: Friends of the Library

Friends of the Library is a vital part of this community. Without us programs will disappear. The children's programs, art lectures, garden programs, authors lectures, music programs and current events programs will end.

The current book shelf will be diminished .You will no longer have quick access to ,your special book.

We are a large, vibrant ,determined group. I have been a member for thirty years And remember a city councils that supported the first bond issue for books and hours, and the second one for the addition. They helped and encouraged us . They recognized our value to the community.

Please give this your thoughtful attention.

Patricia Johnson

Sent from my iPad

Jon Maginot

From: Karen Van Buren
Sent: Sunday, May 12, 2019 12:15 PM
To: Jon Maginot
Subject: Friends of the Library

Dear Mr. Maginot,

I was distressed to hear that the City is not allowing temporary housing on the Civic Center campus for the Friends of the Library. They do very important work, and should be accommodated so that they can continue. I am unable to attend the Council meeting on Tuesday, but I am asking that you pass on to the Council members that it is imperative that the City provide a convenient temporary working space for the Friends of the Library.

Thank you for your attention.

Karen Van Buren

Los Altos resident and member, Friends of the Library

Jon Maginot

From: k.l. kriese
Sent: Sunday, May 12, 2019 10:57 AM
To: Jon Maginot
Cc: City Council

Please distribute this email to the Los Altos City Council Members.

Libraries are important cornerstones of a vibrant community. For the past 60 years, the Friends of the Library has provided great support for our library. Last year, the Friends provided the library \$177,500 to help fund 895 programs, the Best Seller collection of books and DVDs, as well as new furniture and fixtures.

This year, the Friends are providing \$165k to our library. Our Santa Clara County library system is rated one of the Top Ten libraries in the nation, due in part to the extra dollars the libraries receive from their Friends organizations.

The City of Los Altos, as all other cities in Santa Clara County do, has provided space at no cost for the Friends to operate in. For the past 44 years this has been in the Hillview Community Center. This allows at least 95% of all the funds the Friends bring in to be given directly to the Library. Hillview Community Center is being demolished this summer, forcing the Friends out, yet the City has not provided the Friends with a new location.

The Friends has more than 600 contributing members and more than 150 regular volunteers who provide 20,000 volunteer hours annually for this community. All of this will go away if the Friends have no place to operate.

The Friends want to continue to support and improve the Los Altos Libraries for the benefit of everyone in the Los Altos community -- for reading, education, programs, safe spaces, information access --to make the City of Los Altos a better place as a consequence.

Please prioritize providing space so the Friends of the Library will be able to continue to operate.

Kathy Kriese
Member, Friends of Los Altos Library

Jon Maginot

From: rick anita & thomas
Sent: Sunday, May 12, 2019 10:25 AM
To: Jon Maginot
Subject: FOL problem

Dear Mr. Maginot:

Is this really true? Is there no space provided for the Friends of the Library in the new library, as well as no way for them to continue their operations as the new building is built? This organization is not just a useful adjunct. It is a critical part of the success of the library, and its fund raising arm.

I attend almost every one of the book sales. I buy books, I drop off books, I browse the sales books in the library. I support the FOL. I could never have imagined they would not have a place in the new library.

Given the prosperity of our area, there's no excuse for not providing the money and space to keep these very important friends going.

Anita Baldwin, senior citizen
Los Altos Hills

Jon Maginot

From: John Seyfarth
Sent: Sunday, May 12, 2019 7:47 AM
To: Jon Maginot
Cc: John Seyfarth
Subject: I support Friends of the Library at the Civic Center

Please distribute this letter to all of the City Council members!

Dear Council Members,

I am extremely disappointed that you are considering not supporting keeping a location for Friends of the Library at the Civic Center. As a forty year resident of Los Altos, my family has benefited from the library and the Friends activities for many years. The financial support from the Friends is significant. The regular used book sales are important in our throw away society, and a great resource for many local citizens.

Please support a location for the Friends at the Civic Center. A permanent location is first choice, but the temporary location proposed is quite reasonable.

--John Seyfarth

Jon Maginot

From: Lydia Buurma
Sent: Saturday, May 11, 2019 8:37 PM
To: Jon Maginot
Subject: Please allow the Friends of the Los Altos Library continue

Hello,

I am writing to express my desire to see that the Friends of Los Altos Library continue and have a space that they can occupy. A temporary space in the parking lot by the library and LACY would be fine. There are so many eye sores in the town that one more portable would not make a difference for all the good that it provides the town. My family and I rely on the library and its free services on a weekly basis and without the extra money provided by the Friends, I would hate to see these services not exist.

And who doesn't look forward to the \$5 bag sale at the quarterly book sale?!

My husband and I are in our thirties and have a toddler.

Thank you for your consideration and support.

Lydia

Jon Maginot

From: Bob Horowitz
Sent: Saturday, May 11, 2019 8:25 PM
To: Jon Maginot
Subject: Friends of the Library

Dear Mr. Maginot,

Please distribute this email to the members of the Los Altos City Council.

I am writing to support the Friends of the Library for the Los Altos Library and to urge you to find a temporary home for the organization after the Hillview Community Center is demolished this summer.

I have been a resident of Los Altos since 1986 and consider the Los Altos Library to be one of our city's most valuable resources. I became a member of the Friends of the Library many years ago and have attended many of their booksales. This organization has been a tremendous asset to the library. Yearly proceeds of the quarterly Used Book sales orchestrated and run by the Friends of the Library ranged from \$165,000 - \$177,500 over the past 2 years. These funds have helped fund hundreds of library's programs as well as purchases of furniture. In our community of passionate readers, booksales are enthusiastically attended; I, for one, mark my calendar and eagerly await these events.

Beyond their financial value, I feel that these booksales send a message that a love and appreciation of reading are core values of our city. In addition, they help to recycle 5000 - 7000 books that are acquired each week. The Friends of the Library also runs the Café in the library.

The Friends of the Library requires space to process and house books and other materials between sales. Without a designated home, the organization cannot continue to function. During this time of transition, I strongly urge you to explore creative solutions to supporting the Friends of the Library, not only for the sake of the library but for our community as a whole.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Bob Horowitz, MD

, Los Altos, CA 94024

Jon Maginot

From: Lynne Cortopassi
Sent: Saturday, May 11, 2019 8:15 PM
To: Jon Maginot
Subject: Los Alto Friends of the Library

Please copy this email and distribute it to the Council Members:

Dear Council Members,

For years I have been a true fan of your quarterly library sales and of your lobby used book sales. I recently became a volunteer and help sort books and set up for the quarterly book sales. The friends have continued to raise a good deal of money for the library. It would be a real shame to lose the sale of used books to the community (not everyone is able to buy brand new books because of finances) and it's a great way to recycle books. I strongly urge you to recommend that the City Manager of the City of Los Altos provide for the friends of the Library a suitable location to continue their operations. Thank you.

Lynne Cortopassi

Lynne Cortopassi

Jon Maginot

From: Judy Hogan
Sent: Sunday, May 12, 2019 7:10 PM
To: Jon Maginot
Subject: Friends of the Library of Los Altos

John Maginot
Deputy City Manager
Los Altos
JMaginot@losaltosca.gov

May 12, 2019
Dear Mr. Maginot,

Please distribute this to the council.

The Friends of the Library of Los Altos is a wonderful resource for the community – inexpensive books for shoppers and significant benefits for the library. Why, oh, why, would the Friends of the Library be considered as a disposable resource? Does the City Manager’s low opinion of temporary buildings count more than decades of town history? [When Mountain View redid their library on Franklin, they moved the whole library to temporary buildings near Moffitt for a period of time.]

We have lived in Los Altos since 1971 and have been members of Friends of the Library since we learned of them. We have assisted at the sales for a number of years. We are now in our mid-seventies and still love the many community events in town – Friends of the Library book sales, Plant Exchange, Pet Parade, Festival of Lights, Art in the Park, Los Altos History Museum and so on.

Judy and Tom Hogan

Los Altos CA 94022

Jon Maginot

From: Ann Olmsted
Sent: Sunday, May 12, 2019 6:53 PM
To: Jon Maginot
Subject: Finding space for the Friends of the Library of Los Altos

Dear Mr. Maginot,

Please give this message asking the city council members to direct the city's staff to find a temporary location for the Friends before Tuesday's city council meeting.

Although I'm a South Palo Alto resident, I've been a dues-paying friend and regular patron of the Library since 1991 and was distressed to learn that no temporary space for the Friends to operate after the current community center is demolished has been found yet. I have many happy memories of attending the book sales with family members, browsing the ongoing sales, and browsing the online descriptions, and my mother (who died last year aged 93) and I have donated 100s of books over the years. I used to take her to the Sunday by-the-bag sales, and she would fill her bag with books to mail to a friend in Singapore, books to read and then give to me to return to the donation room at the library, and books to give to her friends for their children to read.

Please direct city staff to find a temporary location for the Friends close to the youth center. Los Altos has the most innovative, effective, and friendly(!) Friends organization that I have ever encountered, and it would be a shame to interrupt its history of support for the Los Altos Library.

Sincerely,
Ann Olmsted (62)

Jon Maginot

From: Dorothea W. Long
Sent: Sunday, May 12, 2019 5:39 PM
To: Jon Maginot
Subject: Space for the FRIENDS

Direct Staff to find a location on the Civic Center campus for the FRIENDS. Please distribute this message to the Council Members. The thousands of dollars the Friends have earned for many years have supplied so much to the Library items never in their Budget- funds for additional books, DVD'S, furniture and many programs for children and adults.

Dorothea W. Long,- a member since 1961-past president, booksale chairman- several times. I am 91 years old. The enrichment the Friends has given the Library is tremendous- ask any librarian. After the schools, the Library is the most intensively used facility in Los Altos.

Jon Maginot

From: LC
Sent: Sunday, May 12, 2019 5:25 PM
To: Jon Maginot
Subject: support - agenda item #7 - May 14, 2019 City Council Meeting

Dear Jon -

I'm writing to state my support at the upcoming city council meeting for the agenda item, "Request from the Friends of the Los Altos Library to Utilize Land on the Civic Center Campus: Direct staff to enter into a lease agreement with Friends of the Library allowing that organization to utilize approximately 500 sq. ft. of land between the Police Station and the History Museum at no cost until the new Community Center is constructed. (Agenda Item #7)

The FoL is a valuable part of our library ecosystem, and I support them being accommodated in nearby, temporary buildings during the construction phase as recommended by staff.

My residential address is -

many thanks,

M. Liz Crowell

Jon Maginot

From: WILLIAM DOLAN
Sent: Sunday, May 12, 2019 5:14 PM
To: Jon Maginot
Subject: Friends of the Library

As a frequent user of the library and one who buys books which have been given to the Friends for resale, the proceeds going to the library, I strongly urge you to provide a temporary space while the hillview site is rebuilt. Thanks for your consideration.

William Dolan

Jon Maginot

From: Bob and Krisi
Sent: Sunday, May 12, 2019 5:08 PM
To: Jon Maginot
Subject: Friends of the Library

We support the Los Altos Friends of the Library and the work they do to support our local library. We are in favor of the City of Los Altos continuing to provide adequate free book storage and work space for this important group of volunteers.

Kris and Bob Stanfield
, Los Altos

Sent from my iPad

Jon Maginot

From: Marge Mellentine
Sent: Sunday, May 12, 2019 4:51 PM
To: Jon Maginot
Subject: Agenda Item #7

To: Jon Maginot, Deputy City Manager

Please distribute this note to the Council Members
Thank you —

To Whom it May Concern:

The Friends of the Los Altos City and Community Library is very important to me and our family. Please stay.

I've been a volunteer with this group for 36 long and wonderful years.

The friendships and spirit of the volunteers and members is amazing. The books are so great, too! I support the City Council to direct Staff to find a location on the Civic Center Campus for the Friends.

Thank you,
Marge Mellentine
Sunnyvale

Jon Maginot

From: Mary Mulkins
Sent: Sunday, May 12, 2019 4:42 PM
To: Jon Maginot
Subject: Support for the Friends of the Library, please forward to the City Council

My name is Mary Mulkins, and I have been a Los Altos homeowner and voter for 27 years. I am also an active member of the Friends of the Library and I respectfully request that the City Council provide space near the library for the Friends to continue their operations after the Hillview Center is demolished.

The Friends of the Library is a tremendous resource for our community. Not only did we provide over \$177,000 last year for the library to buy books and fund programs, but our volunteer work enables thousands of people to attend our quarterly Used Book Sales and to enjoy the Cafe and the Ongoing Sales shelves in the library. I work in all of these areas, and have seen firsthand how our residents appreciate what we do.

Please help the Friends relocate to a suitable new location.

Jon Maginot

From: Don Vance
Sent: Sunday, May 12, 2019 4:17 PM
To: Jon Maginot
Subject: Please forward to members of the Los Altos City Council re: Friends of the Library

My name is Don Vance and I have been a Los Altos homeowner for 27 years. I request that the City Council direct its staff to find a location on the Civic Center campus for the Friends of the Library to continue their operations. Last year, the Friends of the Library provided over \$177,000 to the library to buy books and equipment and fund programs. If the Friends do not have space to continue their operations, the library will not receive this money. Is the city going to make up this difference for the library?

Donald Vance, CPA (retired)

Jon Maginot

From: Ursula Cremona
Sent: Sunday, May 12, 2019 3:00 PM
To: Jon Maginot
Subject: Friends of the Library

As a volunteer for the friends of the library I ask that the library be assigned a space close by to continue with their Booksale.

Thank you,
Ursula Cremona,

Los Altos

Jon Maginot

From: Lissa Martin SeseK
Sent: Sunday, May 12, 2019 7:28 PM
To: Jon Maginot
Subject: Friends of the Library - Community Supporter

Dear Jon, please distribute this letter of support for the Friends of the Library space request to the City Council in advance of the discussion at the May 14 City Council Meeting. I am sorry that I have a prior commitment so I am unable to attend the meeting in person.

Thank You.
Elisabeth Martin SeseK
35 year resident of Los Altos and active library patron
Los Altos, CA 94024

TO: Members of the Los Altos City Council
Jon Maginot, Deputy City Manager

FROM: Elisabeth Martin SeseK
DATE: 13 May 2019
RE: Friends of the Library Work Space

Please support the Friends of the Library (FOL) request for adequate work space with a portable. This organization is important for the city. It generates key funding for the library, provides a re-use mentality for books, and channels key volunteers into supporting the city.

My husband and I raised two sons in this city, and we visited the library often when they were in school. We now take advantage of the outstanding library to plan our trips and learn about the world. I would hate to see the value of our library diminished because we lack space to support the FOL for book sale preparation. This organization generated over \$170K for the Los Altos Library in 2018. Let's not lose this valuable contribution because of the renovation/rebuilding of the Hillview Community Center. The workspace must be near the library, as over 5000 books per week are moved from the donation room in the library to the workspace.

I urge you to support the FOL request to find a location to have a temporary workspace in the community center area until the new library facility is available. Our town is significantly enhanced by the services of the Friends of the Library.

Regards,
Elisabeth Martin SeseK
35 year resident of Los Altos and active library patron
Los Altos, CA 94024

Jon Maginot

From: Jane Herman
Sent: Monday, May 13, 2019 7:58 AM
To: Jon Maginot
Subject: Friends of the library

Please distribute to Los Altos city council members. Thanks.

Please find a place for Friends of the library to store and sort their books. The library is a very important part of our town. The selling of used books, etc., is a valuable way to support the library and a win-win for the community. The bargains and joy the books bring to local buyers is multiplied by the help they give the library. Many seniors on fixed incomes and struggling families with the costs of buying books benefit greatly from the book sales. In this age of increased focus on recycling, our environment benefits, too. Please work with FOTL to secure a place for them to continue their good work. Thank you.

Jane Herman
Big supporter of FOTL

Sent from my iPad

Jon Maginot

From: Brian Wong
Sent: Monday, May 13, 2019 6:29 AM
To: Jon Maginot
Subject: friends of the library operations - please distribute to Council Members

As an attendee of the quarterly book sales and user of the Los Altos Library, I believe it would be in the best interests of the community to find an alternate location within the Civic Center Campus for the Friends to continue their operations. They provide a nice source of funding to the Library. If the operations were to cease to exist, how would you replace that funding? The thought that the library would just scale back their programs or purchase of new materials seem a bit absurd when their seems to be a viable option.

The event also provides an outlet to recycle books and media while giving back to the community. I hope things can be worked out so that the sales can continue.

Sincerely

Brian Wong

Jon Maginot

From:
Sent: Sunday, May 12, 2019 10:34 PM
To: Jon Maginot
Subject: Friends of the Los Altos Library

Dear Mr. Maginot –

I have been a resident of Los Altos since 1974, I am 72 years old. I have been a member of the Friends of the Los Altos Library for almost 20 years and I can tell you that this organization has contributed not only to the library but to the general community in hundreds of ways. Not only do the Friends raise significant funds to support library programs but the book sales bring people from all of the surrounding cities. They buy books but also dine and shop in our stores. The Los Altos book sales are so well known and respected that the Friends groups from other cities actually schedule their book sales so they do not conflict with the Los Altos dates.

The Friends share books with various other organizations such as the VA hospitals, battered women's shelters, the Senior center, Books for China, Friends Outside (for inmates) and most recently arranged to have local teachers choose books for free for use in their classrooms (see the current Crier article) . This hard working group has done all of this while working and storing materials in ONE classroom at Hillview Center. Thousands of books are sorted , priced , stored and sold on the internet within this one small space. If you have never viewed Room 7 we invite you to see for yourself. Boxes/crates/shipping supplies etc. are stacked to the ceiling but they make it work.

PLEASE do not loose this valuable group of dedicated people by failing to provide the minimum space they require. I urge you to support a decision by the City Council to direct Staff to find a location on the Civic Center Campus for the Friends.

One personal note. Thru the years these wonderful volunteers have formed strong bonds with each other sharing the satisfaction of contributing to their city. We have experienced births and deaths, happy and sad times and for many this one activity has defined their strongest bond with Los Altos, their home town. We all want to continue being The Friends of Los Altos in the fullest sense of the word. Thank you for your consideration. Danielle Maddox

Jon Maginot

From: Katherine Lang
Sent: Sunday, May 12, 2019 9:48 PM
To: Jon Maginot
Subject: Friends of the Library

Hello,

I have been a Los Altos resident for twenty years, and the Friends of the Los Altos Library book sales have been an important part of my enjoyment of living in Los Altos. Please do whatever you can to facilitate a space for this fantastic group to continue their work of encouraging a love of books by providing low-cost used books in our community.

Unfortunately I am unable to attend the meeting Tuesday night to express my support for the Friends of the Los Altos Library.

Thank you
Katherine Lang

Los Altos, CA

Jon Maginot

From: Cathie Perga
Sent: Sunday, May 12, 2019 9:47 PM
To: Jon Maginot
Subject: Re: Council Agenda Item #7

On May 10, 2019, at 12:53 PM, Cathie Perga wrote:

Dear Mr. Maginot,

Thank you for forwarding this to each City Council Member.

Los Altos City Council,

To say that our library is loved is an understatement. It truly is the family room of our community. The gate count averages over 1300 people each day. About 75% of Los Altans and many LAH residents hold cards. And how about this astounding number: 27 books are checked out annually per capita.

One reason it is so popular is the terrific materials within its walls and another is the many programs given to children and adults. The expense of these is taken up by the Friends of the Library. The all volunteer group numbers over 600. They work hard at the book sales which provides the extra funding for books, furniture and programs at our library.

Many cities help fund libraries. Our city does not. I cannot imagine how our library would suffer in services and books if the Friends were not able to carry on with their work. Truly the fate of the Friends of the Library is now in your hands. Many folks will tell you more about the space needed for book storage and sales.

Thank you for your time working for the city. And thank you for reading my letter.

Sincerely, Cathie Perga (former Library Commissioner)

Jon Maginot

From: Lenelle Smith
Sent: Sunday, May 12, 2019 8:36 PM
To: Jon Maginot
Subject: Los Altos Needs the Friends

Jon, would you please forward this to the Los Altos City Council & all others involved in making the decision on Tuesday at the City Council meeting.

Dear City Council,

PLEASE VOTE FOR OPTION # 1. It is the only option that will permit the Friends to continue until we can build a new library. The only disadvantage is that the civic center will have temporary buildings for approximately 5 years. This seems a small price to pay for the Friends to continue with its financial support and also continue its ecologically friendly book sales.

Los Altos has a great community library, from help with homework, to research for helping startup businesses, digital access to databases that are not available otherwise, even apps for meditation. It provides resources, education & even entertainment for all ages. To keep our library great, it needs the financial support of the Friends. This year the Friends are providing **\$165,000** to the Library; last year it was **\$177,500**.

Every week the Friends receive approximately 60 stacks of boxes of books to deal with. This is 5000 – 7000 books.

It is shocking that Los Altos is less interested in the quality of its library than other members of the Santa Clara County Library System such as Cupertino, Saratoga, Gilroy, Milpitas, Campbell, & Morgan Hill.

Sincerely,

Lenelle Smith

Los Altos, CA 94022