CONTRA COSTA COUNTY LIBRARY COMMISSION
AGENDA ATTACHMENT 3

MEETING DATE: Thursday, January 17, 2019
AGENDA ITEM #: 3.
ITEM: PUBLIC COMMENT

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Commission members will be presented with a communication from a patron and the County Library’s response.
This message was submitted to the Library Commission.

I read in the news that you will soon be eliminating late fees/fines. The reason for this change, given in the paper, was that these fines are keeping people from putting food on the table. Are you serious? A 50 cent fine stops me from putting food on the table. I have a book checked out from your library now, why should I return it? Are there no rules of society? Please, fines are like speed limits, they keep people somewhat honest. Without them we all go 90 mph and never return books.

Name: Andy Rasner

emailaddress: Newtag50@yahoo.com

spambegone: Library

phone:

v1.1
Mr. Rasner:

County Librarian Melinda Cervantes has received your letter to the Library Commission regarding the recent changes in library fees and charges and has asked me to forward the following response on behalf of the Commission:

Dear Mr. Rasner,

Thank you for your support of the library.

For many families in our communities, fines can stack up quickly and they may be forced to choose between paying off their fines or using that money for something necessary to keep their family fed or warm for the day. It is the goal of the Contra Costa County Library to remove barriers and make access easy, equitable and enjoyable for everyone.

We have eliminated daily overdue fines, but not the charges associated with damaged or lost materials. Checkout periods for library materials have not changed and we expect patrons to return items to the library on time. If an item is not returned within 30 days after its due date a lost charge and $10 non-refundable processing charge will be assessed.

You can find our full press release and a Frequently Asked Questions on this topic on our website at ccclib.org. Just look under Library News on the homepage.

Sincerely,

Melinda S. Cervantes

Walter R. Beveridge
Administrative Aide  CONTRA COSTA COUNTY LIBRARY
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