

SANTA MONICA PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD

Minutes of the REGULAR Meeting of May 6, 2004 To Be Approved

A REGULAR meeting of the Library Board was called to order by Chairperson, Kenneth Breisch, at 7:00 p.m., Thursday, May 6, 2004 at the Montana Ave. Branch Library, 1704 Montana Ave., Santa Monica.

Call to Order

PRESENT: Chairperson Breisch, Vice Chair Edwards, Boardmember Field, Boardmember Oppenheim and Boardmember Stern

Roll Call

ALSO PRESENT: Greg Mullen, Assistant City Librarian; Rachel Foyt, Administrative Analyst

No report.

Communications from the Public

Boardmember Field made a motion to approve the minutes of the Library Board meeting of April 1, 2004. Boardmember Stern seconded the motion. The minutes were approved in a unanimous voice vote.

Approval of the Library Board Minutes

The Friends of the Library approved their operating budget for the 2004/2005 fiscal year allocating \$47,000 to support Library programs and services. The newest item in the budget is an \$8,000 allocation for adult programs and services including Citywide Reads.

Report from the Friends of the Library, a Library Support Group

Mr. Arenberg reported that meetings regarding the fundraising campaign for the new Main Library are continuing. Currently a market survey is being conducted to gauge interest among contributors.

At their April 12th Board of Directors' meeting the Friends of the Library held elections for boardmembers. Mr. Arenberg was re-elected as Chair, Edward Edwards will continue on the board and Susanne Trimbath was elected as Vice Chair. The Treasurer position remains vacant.

Susan Annett, Principal Librarian for Public Services, distributed a written report containing a wrap up of Citywide Reads.

Citywide Reads Wrap Up

Ms. Annett reported that 119 people attended public book discussions and total overall attendance at programs was 1364. Don Bachardy, Christopher Isherwood's partner, attended three of the programs.

Ms. Annett reported that collaborative partnerships marked this year's Citywide Reads. The Library partnered with several Isherwood scholars and the Huntington Library. The Citywide Reads program is expected to continue next year.

Mr. Mullen updated the Board on the Main Library building project. The second section of the first floor slab of the new Main Library will be poured on May 7. The next construction site tour is May13 at 3:30pm. The Board is invited to attend.

**Main Library Building
Project - Report**

Mr. Mullen presented the color boards for the interior of the new Main Library to the Board. The Board discussed interior and exterior paint colors. The furniture boards displaying photographs, colors and materials of the furniture were reviewed.

The proliferation of wireless technology has allowed the Library to reduce the amount of hard-wired seats in the new Library. A redundant system of hard-wired and wireless at every seat had been planned for the public areas. Staff has been able to reduce the number of hard-wired seats in the new Library by more than 50%.

Library staff received a report from the acoustical engineer regarding the acoustical problems in the Montana Ave. Branch community room. Acoustical panels and drapes have been proposed to help eliminate the sound problems in the community room.

Boardmember Field distributed several articles from various websites and the American Library Association about registering to vote at your Library.

**Register to Vote @
Your Library**

The Board suggested the Library have a display on voting. The League of Women Voters organization volunteered to host voter information programs at the Library. Mr. Mullen suggested placing links to voter information websites on the Library's home page.

No report.

**Nationwide Current
Library Trends -
Review of Library
Journal Articles**

The Board discussed the Brown Act summary distributed at the Board and Commission Dinner.

Secretary's Report

The Brown Act

Mr. Mullen distributed handouts from a leadership team meeting with Forrest Story. Mr. Story will be doing presentations on customer service to city staff. The Board discussed agendaing one of the handouts for the next Board meeting.

Leadership Team

Mr. Mullen showed samples of the Library's updated and improved website.

Website Update

The new service the Library is offering through it's website is instant access to the subscription on-line databases. Users will have access to the databases without coming into the Library and registering for a library card. Users will be able to register on-line and obtain an access code that is good for 2 weeks. Santa Monica residents can choose to have a library card mailed to their home address. Then the next time they come into the library

the card will be activated.

The Metropolitan Cooperative Library System's on-line reference program, 24/7, is now Ask Now. Several regional 24/7 reference programs have been brought together under one new statewide program called Ask Now.

Mr. Mullen reported that the Library is entering the customer survey period. Customer survey's will be collected from users and studied to determine how the community uses Library services and ways in which services can be improved.

The Library Board asked that the following items be included in next Library Board agenda: Summer Reading Program; Envision It; follow up on voting discussion.

Agenda Building

Boardmember Field moved to adjourn the meeting. Vice Chair Edwards seconded the motion. The motion was approved in a unanimous voice vote. The meeting was adjourned at 8:20pm.

Adjournment

Attest:

Approved:

Greg Mullen

Kenneth Breisch

Assistant City Librarian

Library Board Chair