



SANTA MONICA PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD

Minutes of the REGULAR Meeting of March 1, 2007 To Be Approved

A REGULAR meeting of the Library Board was called to order by Chairperson, Edward Edwards, at 7:00 p.m., Thursday, March 1, 2007 at the Administrative Conference Room, Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., Santa Monica.

Call to Order

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

Roll Call

ALSO PRESENT: Joan Amesbury, Sybil Trubin, members of the public; Greg Mullen, City Librarian; Diane Bednarski, Principal Librarian for Information Management; Rachel Foyt, Administrative Analyst

The Board discussed further communications from Emily Liman regarding internet access for young children.

Communications from the Public

Greg Mullen, City Librarian reported that Youth Services staff is reviewing the Library's Internet Policy with regard to youth. Staff is researching other library's policies on internet filtering and learning about best practices. They are also researching filtering software and obtaining information from workshops and list serves on internet filtering.

Mr. Mullen received a communication from a member of the public regarding donation of sculpture. Mr. Mullen spoke to Community and Cultural Affairs regarding the donation and made the decision not to add any art to the Library at this time.

The Board met Diane Bednarski the new Principal Librarian for Information Management. In January, Ms. Bednarski accepted the position vacated by Migell Acosta. The position was reconfigured in conjunction with the reorganization of the Library Divisions. The Principal Librarian for Information Management now also supervises the Circulation Division. Ms. Bednarski most recently worked at the County of San Diego Library.

Boardmember Field made a motion to approve the minutes of the Library Board meeting of February 1, 2007. Boardmember Oppenheim seconded the motion. The minutes were approved in a unanimous voice vote.

Approval of the Library Board Minutes

Chair Edwards reported that the Friends of the Library Board did not have a quorum in February so they did not meet. The next Friends Board meeting is March 12.

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

Library staff has discussed a tribute to the first City Librarian, Elfie Mosse, and their preference is for an informational plaque. The Board will review locations in the Children's area when they take the facility tour.

Further Discussion of a Tribute to Elfie Asenath Mosse

The Board discussed ideas for the upcoming video report to Council at the Annual Board and Commission Dinner on April 16. Boardmember Oppenheim suggested focusing on programming. Programming is a vital part of the Library's mission. One of the goals in planning the new library was not only more space in which to hold community events but a greater range of library events and programs.

Discussion of the Library Board Video Report

The Board took a facility tour of the Main Library. The tour was prompted by concerns over maintenance at the Main Library. Mr. Mullen distributed information regarding the various service contracts the Library staff coordinate and manage.

Facility Tour of the Main Library

The Board discussed Library closures in Ashland, Oregon and the surrounding counties. Libraries in Ashland were being funded through the Federal government by a law that was enacted to give communities a portion of the revenue from the Lumber industry. That law is expiring and it will not be renewed. The counties will lose the revenue and are making cuts.

Nationwide Current Library Trends - Review of Library Journal Articles

The California Association of Library Trustees And Commissioners (CALTAC) Workshop in Huntington Beach will be held March 24. The Board is encouraged to attend. Staff will obtain a description of the workshop for the Board.

**Secretary's Report
CALTAC Workshop**

The City Council is changing its approach to having liaisons assigned to City Boards and Commissions. The Library Board does not currently have a City Council liaison. In a statement Mayor Bloom said, "the Mayor and Mayor Pro Tempore asked the Council to state their preferences for appointments and along with several other Boards and Commissions no one applied to be a liaison for the Library Board. So rather than appoint people to positions they were not enthusiastic about we decided to change the way we have traditionally approached appointments and appoint only to those Boards and Commission that have legally mandated bylaw functions. For the others I have asked everyone to attend as many Board and Commission meetings as possible..."

Discussion of the Council Liaison to the Library Board

The Board expressed concern at not having a liaison on the City Council. If a political or controversial issue arose it would be good to be able to speak with a member of the Council for assistance or guidance.

Mr. Mullen distributed a report from Director's Station, a SIRI reporting module that helps the Library manage and report usage statistics.

Main Library Usage Statistics

The Library Board asked that the following items be included in next Library Board agenda: a follow up on the tribute to Elfie Asenath Mosse; a report on the millionth visitor celebration; a follow up on the Library internet policy; Citywide Reads and planning for a Staff Recognition Event.

Agenda Building

Boardmember Oppenheim moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved in a unanimous voice vote. The meeting was adjourned at 8:50pm.

Adjournment

Attest:

Approved:

Greg Mullen

Edward Edwards

City Librarian

Library Board Chair