

SANTA MONICA PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD



Minutes of the REGULAR Meeting of June 7, 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, June 7, 2007 at the Administrative Conference Room, Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., Santa Monica.

Call to Order

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

Roll Call

ALSO PRESENT: Karen Ginsberg, Community and Cultural
Affairs; Lisa Pound, Vice President of the
Friends of the Library Board; Sherrill
Kushner, community member; Arlen Field,
community member; Greg Mullen, City
Librarian; Rachel Foyt, Administrative Analyst

No report.

**Communications from
the Public**

Boardmember Oppenheim asked that the free of charge description from the May 3 Library Board minutes on the Library Meeting Room Policy discussion be clarified. Those minutes report that; *The Board was in favor of keeping all meetings held at the Library free of charge.*

**Approval of the
Library Board Minutes**

This statement is misleading because there is a charge for the use/rental of the Library meeting rooms however the Library Meeting Room Policy Rules for Use state that applicants renting Library meeting rooms cannot charge a fee or solicit a donation as a condition of entry to their meeting. The Library Board is in favor of this policy remaining.

The May 3 minutes will be changed to *The Board was in favor of retaining the Library Meeting Room Policy rule that states applicants renting Library meeting rooms cannot charge a fee or solicit a donation as a condition of entry to their meeting.*

Boardmember Field made a motion to approve the minutes of the Library Board meeting of May 3, 2007 as changed. Boardmember Oppenheim seconded the motion. The minutes were approved as changed in a unanimous voice vote.

Karen Ginsberg, Assistant Director, Community and Cultural Services made a presentation to the Library Board on a possible relocation site for the

**Presentation of
Possible Relocation
Site for the Shotgun**

shotgun house. The proposed site is in the Library parking lot at Second Street and Norman Place across from the Ocean Park Branch Library.

Community and Cultural Services will go to City Council on June 26, 2007 to recommend a permanent location for the shotgun house.

Ms. Ginsberg gave the Library Board some background on the shotgun house. This house is the last remaining example of a shotgun style house in Santa Monica. It was originally located at 2712 Second Street and since the house was saved from demolition it has been moved several times. In December 2006 Council directed staff to identify a permanent location for the house and initiate a process to select a nonprofit to raise funds to rehab the house.

One of the three sites being considered as a permanent location for the shotgun house is the Library parking lot on Second Street and Norman Place across from the Ocean Park Branch Library.

Ms. Ginsberg distributed a site location plan and photos of the shotgun house. The location of the house in the proposed reconfiguration of the parking lot would require no more than one parking space. The parking lot would be re-graded, re-striped, landscaped and new driveways would be installed. The retaining wall would be restored; additional lighting and a trash enclosure would be built.

One of the items staff is proposing to Council is that Council support a set of criteria by which a Request for Proposal (RFP) would be issued to which potential organizations would have to respond. In the RFP potential organizations would need to identify how the house would be operated, determine the level of demand, public interest and public use. The organization would have to be an active and official nonprofit capable of raising funds.

Both the Library Board and Library staff expressed concern that the use of the house would cause additional traffic at the Ocean Park Branch and parking in the lot would be utilized by people patronizing the shotgun house thus taking parking away from library patrons.

Greg Mullen, City Librarian, reported that Library staff discussed the proposed location. Library staff suggested that the house have an independent program for the space that justifies its move to the location at Second Street and Norman Place. After discussion Library staff felt that they could support the concept of the house being at that location assuming that there is not a major conflict between the proposed role for the shotgun house and the role of the Branch Library.

Sherrill Kushner member of the Santa Monica Conservancy spoke to the Board and answered questions with regard to the shotgun house.

Boardmember Oppenheim made a motion that the Library Board accept the proposed location at Second Street and Norman Place as a possible site for

the relocation of the shotgun house. Boardmember Field seconded the motion. Board discussion followed. The Board would like to see the house have a public use or be a public resource. They would be happy to have the parking lot improved, landscaped and the trash bins enclosed. The motion carried in a unanimous voice vote. Boardmember Breisch abstained from voting.

The Board requested an update after the recommendation goes to City Council.

Greg Mullen, City Librarian, gave a report on the Friends of the Library's activities to the Library Board. The Treasurer's report showed that \$12,500 in funds will roll over to fiscal year 2007/08. The report from the Friends' Book Store showed the special book sale held in May earned about \$800. The membership report revealed that several new members joined at the Million More: Celebrating Our Visitors event. Currently the Friends are planning their booth for the Santa Monica Festival.

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

The Library Board issued a commendation for resigning Boardmember Sheila Field. The Board commended her for her service to the Library and the community of Santa Monica. In addition the Library Board selected several new titles *Deliver the Vote* by Tracy Campbell, *Liberty* by Lucy Moore, *Santa Monica Bay* by Fred E. Basten, *Prisoner of Tehran* by Marina Nemat, and *The Assault on Reason* by Al Gore and had book plates placed in them honoring Boardmember Field.

Proclamation for Boardmember Sheila Field

With Boardmember Field resigning a year early and Chair Edwards' term expiring there will be two vacancies on the Library Board. Chair Edwards is interested in being reappointed to the Board.

Library Board Vacancies

Staff distributed a final report on Citywide Reads 2007. This year staff collaborated with The Getty Research Institute, Santa Monica College and City TV. Ten discussion groups meet through out the City to discuss the book and Audrey Niffenegger author of *The Time Traveler's Wife* spoke to a crowd of over 300 people at Santa Monica College.

Final Report on Citywide Reads 2007

Mr. Mullen reported on the Library budget. In the upcoming fiscal year 2007/08 the Library requested budget enhancements for technology related items. All of the enhancements were approved and will be paid for from the Information Systems Department's budget. The enhancements include funding for a Commvault backup for the public network; an upgrade to McAfee Anti-Virus Spyware including automated updates; Altiris Network Management software for automated software and patch deployment; and an annual maintenance contract for Cisco Switch.

Library Budget Fiscal Year 2007/08 Update

The Board discussed several journal articles and trends.

Nationwide Current Library Trends -

Mr. Mullen reported that he has been following up on the material submitted by the Santa Monica Historical Society Museum.

Secretary's Report

Update on the Santa Monica Historical

Society Museum

The tribute plaque to Elfie Mosse has been hung in the parenting area in Youth Services. Mr. Mullen invited the Board to visit Youth Services and look at the plaque.

Update on the Elfie Mosse Plaque

The theme for Summer Reading 2007 is *Get a Clue*. Children that sign up for summer reading will get a bag, a sticker and a handout on which to record their time spent reading.

Report on Youth Services Summer Reading 2007

Children who complete 15 hours of reading will receive a t-shirt. Pre-readers who complete 15 hours will receive a plastic "Library Detective" badge. Children who read 10 hours will receive a free paperback book and complementary Dodgers tickets. The 5 hour prize is a wristband with a secret compartment.

Staff distributed information on the Teen Summer Reading program. New this year for the teens is a raffle for several large items. Teens will be given raffle tickets based on the amount of time they read. Writing reviews and posting them on the teen website will earn them additional raffle tickets.

The Library won an honorable mention best of show award from the American Library Association in the category of services available/orientation materials/policy materials.

ALA Best of Show Award

Mr. Mullen reported to the Board that Head of Reference, Nancy O'Neill, is retiring in August. A retirement breakfast is being planned in September.

Library Personnel

Staff has completed interviews for the Building Systems Technician position. Staff is ready to begin interviews for the Librarian I Cataloger position in the Information Management Division.

The Library Board asked that the following items be included in next Library Board agenda: a report from the American Library Association Convention; CALTAC nominations for outstanding trustees; a report on the Library Board plaque; and an update on the possible relocation site for the shotgun house to Second Street and Norman Place.

Agenda Building

Boardmember Oppenheim moved to adjourn the meeting. Boardmember Breisch seconded the motion. The motion was approved in a unanimous voice vote. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Adjournment

Attest:

Approved:

Greg Mullen

Edward Edwards

City Librarian

Library Board Chair