

# SANTA MONICA PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD



## Minutes of the SPECIAL Meeting of July 10, 2008 To Be Approved

A SPECIAL meeting of the Library Board was called to order by Chairperson, Edward Edwards, at 7:00 p.m., Thursday, July 10, 2008 at the Community Room, Montana Branch Library, 1701 Montana Ave., Santa Monica.

**Call to Order**

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

**Roll Call**

**ALSO PRESENT:** Wright Rix, Principal Librarian for Reference Services; Julie MacDonald, Librarian II Public Services; Greg Mullen, City Librarian; Rachel Foyt, Administrative Analyst

No report.

**Public Input**

Boardmember Breisch made a motion to approve the minutes of the Library Board meeting of May 1, 2008. Boardmember Oppenheim seconded the motion. The minutes were approved in a unanimous voice vote.

**Approval of the Library Board Minutes**

Greg Mullen, City Librarian, gave a report on the Friends' June Board of Directors meeting. He reported that the Friends donate books that have not sold in the bookstore to 86 different charitable agencies. The Friends approved their budget for fiscal year 2008/09 including an increase in budget funding for Public Services and Branch Services.

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

Julie MacDonald, Public Services Librarian II, reported that Citywide Reads is in its sixth year. The book selection read and discussed this year was Jim Lynch's The Highest Tide.

**Report on Citywide Reads 2008**

This year's Citywide Reads brought a number of special programs to the Library. Oceans Futures Society and the Catalina Environmental Leadership Program brought Jean-Michel Cousteau, world famous ocean explorer and educator, to a capacity crowd at the Library. The Too Hot Tamales, two local businesswomen and restaurateurs, gave a seafood cooking demonstration. Staff screened two documentaries, a BBC production entitled *Deep Blue* and film by a local director about geoducks titled *Six Feet Under*. In addition, the Library hosted two informative presentations, one featuring Rachel Carson and one about the Santa Monica Bay. The Citywide Reads program culminated with an afternoon with the author, Jim Lynch, at Santa Monica College on May 17.

The first Santa Monica City blog and the first Citywide Reads blog received hundreds of hits. The Sitemeter, which registers unique or first-time visits, registered almost 700 hits. The blog was another way of disseminating information and for marketing. Information about Citywide Reads 2009 will be posted as the planning continues. Ms. MacDonald encouraged the Board to send in book suggestions for 2009 Citywide Reads.

Wright Rix, Head of Reference Services, spoke to the Board about WebFeat, a federated search engine, that allows Library patrons to search all Library databases in addition to the catalog at the same time. A new quick search box will be placed on the Library's home page. The Board viewed a demonstration of the search engine.

**Report on WebFeat**

The Stanton Macdonald-Wright mural website has been completed and can be viewed at <http://www.smpl.org/mural/index.htm>. The Board toured the website which includes information about the historical and current installation of the mural; a tour of the mural panels; information on the conservation of the mural; a scan of the original 1935 artist's statement; and resources for further reading on the mural and the artist.

**Stanton Macdonald-Wright Mural Website**

The Library's Meeting Room Policy has been revised. Library staff reviewed the clarifications and wording revisions with the Board.

**Meeting Room Policy Revision**

The Board asked that item number nine be clarified. In the following sentence "Library equipment" was added to explain which equipment was at a risk for damage. *Due to the potential for damage to Library equipment no equipment other than a laptop can be connected to Library equipment.* The Board also requested the fee schedule be clarified with respect to the hourly fee vs the fee for the three hour minimum.

Boardmember Oppenheim moved to accept the policy revisions with the suggested changes. Boardmember Breisch seconded the motion. The motion carried in a unanimous voice vote.

Mr. Mullen reported that there is continuing interest in the Pico Neighborhood for a neighborhood library. He has attended several meetings with the school district and the Pico Neighborhood to discuss the possibilities of a joint use facility at the Edison School.

**Library Services for the Pico Neighborhood**

Library staff is investigating what services are wanted, what services are already available and what services are needed in the community.

The Board discussed several journal articles. The article *To MLS or Not to MLS* from Public Libraries discussed the issue of who you hire. Some public libraries are moving away from hiring staff with a Masters in Information and Library Science (MILS) but Santa Monica Public Library considers a MILS degree a value.

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

The Board also discussed the article *Toy Library Expanded in OH* from Library Journal.

The City Attorney's Office is working with the Santa Monica Conservancy on a lease agreement for the shotgun house.

**Secretary's Report**

**Update on the Shotgun House**

Eighteen Santa Monica Public Library staff members attended the American Library Association Annual Conference in Anaheim.

**American Library Association Annual Conference**

The Well Stacked Sci-brarians representing Santa Monica Public Library placed first in the World Champion Book Cart Drill Team competition.

The Santa Monica Historical Society Museum timeline has been delayed approximately two months.

**Update on the Santa Monica Historical Society Museum**

The Board reviewed the April and May monthly statistics for the Library. Board discussion followed.

**April and May Monthly Statistics**

The quick case unlocking station has been installed at the Main Library. Once the DVDs and CDs are checked out the unlocking station releases the quick cases on the material. Patrons can now use the self check stations to check out all Library material.

**Quick Case Unlocking Station at Main**

The Board expressed a desire to have the ability to decline a receipt at checkout.

The Library Board asked that the following items be included in next Library Board agenda: update on the Spanish language collection; analysis of the disabilities topics discussed at the May Board meeting; and an update on the Library Board plaque.

**Agenda Building**

Boardmember Oppenheim moved to adjourn the meeting. Chair Edwards seconded the motion. 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