

SANTA MONICA PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD



Minutes of the SPECIAL Meeting of December 9, 2010 To Be Approved

- Call to Order** A SPECIAL meeting of the Library Board was called to order by Chairperson, Edwards, at 7:02 p.m., Thursday, December 9, 2010 at the Main Library, Administrative Conference Room, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., Santa Monica.
- Roll Call**
- PRESENT:** Boardmember Blackwell, Chairperson Edwards, Boardmember Oppenheim and Vice Chair Stern
- ABSENT:** Boardmember Breisch
- ALSO PRESENT:** Wright Rix, Head of Reference Services; Greg Mullen, City Librarian; Rachel Foyt, Administrative Analyst
- Public Input** No report.
- Approval of the Library Board Minutes** Motion by Boardmember Oppenheim, seconded by Vice Chair Stern to approve the minutes of the Library Board meeting of November 4, 2010. The motion was approved by the following vote:
- AYES: Boardmember Blackwell, Chairperson Edwards, Boardmember Oppenheim and Vice Chair Stern
- NOES: None
- ABSENT: Boardmember Breisch
- Report from the Friends of the Library, a Library Support Group** Greg Mullen, City Librarian, gave a report on the Friends of the Library Board meeting. The Friends are planning to meet with a financial planner to help them get a better return on their investment. Online book sales were strong for the month of November. The next Friends of the Library Board meeting will be Monday, December 13 at 8:00 a.m. at the 17th Street Café, Santa Monica.
- New eBook Service** Wright Rix, Head of Reference Services, gave a demonstration of several eReaders and spoke to the Board about the new eBook service now available through the Library.

The downloadable eBooks are available free, 24/7 to all Santa Monica Public Library card holders in good standing. Browse, checkout and download eBooks anywhere by visiting the library's new eBook site at ebook.smpl.org. The opening day collection of over 1900 eBooks was made possible by the generous support of the Friends of the Santa Monica Public Library.

Downloaded titles can be enjoyed immediately on a PC or a Mac®. Customers can also transfer titles to a variety of devices such as the Nook®, the Koho® eReader and the Sony Reader®. Compatibility with the iPad® is coming soon.

The standard loan period is 21 days. Titles automatically expire at the end of the lending period. There are never late fees or fines.

Can We Talk? City Budget Sessions

Mr. Mullen reported that City Manager, Rod Gould, held meetings with each neighborhood group to discuss the state of the city and the economic outlook for Santa Monica. He presented a summary of the budget, and discussed services and projects in the city.

Report on the Green Prize

The Pioneer Award Winner of the 2010 Green Prize for Sustainable Literature was David Orr. One idea to help draw a larger attendance for future Green Prize Awards is to partner with another sustainability event.

The Board suggested creating and sending a Green Prize Award sticker to the publishers of the winning books so they can include the stickers on their book covers.

Update on the Pico Branch Library

Mr. Mullen reported on the development of the concept for the Pico Branch Library.

City Staff have hosted four community meetings for input and dialogue with the community regarding the Pico Branch.

Issues that the community has identified as important for the Pico Branch are community history and culture, employment and training opportunities for youth, marketing, and synergy between park and library programs.

Nationwide Current Library Trends - Review of Library Journal Articles

The Board discussed the budget cuts at Los Angeles County libraries.

Secretary's Report

Update on Library Services and Programs

Mr. Mullen gave an update on Library services and programs. Citywide Reads 2011 begins February 14 and the selected title is *Wench* by Dolen Perkins-Valdez. Special events planned for Citywide Reads include a screening of Alex Haley's *Roots* on February 14-19 and a discussion with the cast of *Roots* on February 19. A discussion of the novel with the

author will be held on February 26 at 2 p.m. in the Martin Luther King Jr. Auditorium.

The letter to parents was revised and integrates general service and internet information. The letter is given to parents and caregivers when they register children for a library card.

The Popular Materials area at the Main Library has been shifted. The magazines have been consolidated which provided room to shift the audiobooks and in turn gave more room for the DVD collection.

Update on Library Staffing

A part-time Reference Librarian, two as-needed Librarians and a cataloging Librarian were hired.

In-Service Day was held on November 11 and included training for all levels of staff. The day included presentations on Serving the Irrational Patron, Making Work Fun and Front Line Advocacy.

Update on Library Facilities and Equipment

Ocean Park Branch is scheduled to close on January 3 for approximately 5 weeks for new carpeting, shelving in the children's area, enhancements to the storytelling space, computer furnishings for adults and children, and additional wiring for technology. The Branch will reopen on January 29.

The Community Meeting room at the Main Library will be used to house the estimated 10,000 returned items. Holds scheduled for pick up at the Ocean Park Branch will be available for pick up at the Main Library.

The Main Library landscaping and soil work has been completed. Electricians will return to complete installation of the electrical outlets in the Central courtyard.

The bidding process for fire alarms at the Branch libraries is under way.

Library staff received five proposals in response to the RFP for a new integrated library system. Staff is reviewing the proposals and will schedule on-site presentations for the short listed companies in January.

The computers in the computer commons were replaced as part of the city's computer replacement program.

The first floor parking garage elevator doors at the Main Library have been replaced. The new doors should be better in the Santa Monica climate.

Update on Library

The proposed changes to the Library Rules of Conduct will be on the February 8th Council agenda.

Security and Safety

Staff implemented a new book delivery process to improve security and efficiency. New items will go directly to the hold shelf when appropriate rather than first going to their 'home' location.

Agenda Building

The Library Board asked that a special Library Board meeting be held in February at the Ocean Park Branch to tour the Branch improvements.

Adjournment

Chair Edwards adjourned the meeting at 8:50pm.

Attest:

Approved:

Greg Mullen
City Librarian

Edward Edwards
Library Board Chair

This document is available in alternate format upon request. The Santa Monica Public Library is wheelchair accessible. For special disability accommodations contact Library Administration at (310) 458-8606 at least 3 days prior to the scheduled meeting.