

SANTA MONICA PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD



Minutes of the REGULAR Meeting of December 1, 2011 To Be Approved

- Call to Order** A REGULAR meeting of the Library Board was called to order by Chairperson, Ken Blackwell, at 7:00 p.m., Thursday, December 1, 2011 at the Main Library, Administration Conference Room, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., Santa Monica.
- Roll Call**
- PRESENT:** Chairperson Ken Blackwell, Boardmember Gene Oppenheim, Boardmember Kathie Sheldon, and Boardmember Dan Stern
- ABSENT:** Vice Chair Ken Breisch
- ALSO PRESENT:** Greg Mullen, City Librarian; Rachel Foyt, Administrative Analyst; Cynni Murphy, Librarian III, Reference; Erica Cuyugan, Librarian II, Youth Services
- Public Input** No report.
- Approval of the Library Board Minutes** Motion by Boardmember Dan Stern, seconded by Boardmember Gene Oppenheim to approve the minutes of the Library Board meeting of November 3, 2011. The motion was approved by the following vote:
- AYES: Chairperson Ken Blackwell, Boardmember Gene Oppenheim. Boardmember Kathie Sheldon, and Boardmember Dan Stern
- NOES: None
- ABSENT: Vice Chair Ken 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 November Board meeting. The Friends approved funding for a grant for the One Story Project headed by Erica Cuyugan, Librarian II in Youth Services. The project combines teens and oral history. Ms. Cuyugan will explain the project during her report to the Library Board on the Eureka Institute.
- The Friends had a successful November book sale. The Friends Board discussed the redesign of their website and membership recruitment.
- Report on the Annual LA As Subject Archives Bazaar** Cynni Murphy, Image Archives Librarian, gave a report on the Library's digital collections and LA As Subject. The Santa Monica Public Library image archives are part of a larger digital archives collection consortium called LA As Subject.

Santa Monica Public Library was one of the founding members of the LA As Subject consortium started in 1997 by the Getty to collectively preserve, archive and share the history and culture of the Los Angeles region. There are currently more than 230 members including historical societies, museums, public libraries, schools, private collections, and universities.

This was the 6th Annual Archives Bazaar. The Bazaar is a way for the member organizations to highlight their collections and bring attention to smaller archive collections. There were 80 exhibitors at the bazaar, which was held at the Doheny Library on the University of Southern California campus. Ms. Murphy reported that 1000 people attended the Bazaar.

In addition to the Bazaar there were speakers and films focused on the LA region. This year the featured speaker was Christopher Hawthorne the *LA Times* Architecture Critic.

**Report on the
Eureka Institute**

Erica Cuyugan, Librarian II, Youth Services gave a report on her attendance at the Eureka Institute. She was one of 32 librarians from California selected to attend the week-long leadership training event. The purpose of the institute, developed by the California State Library and Infopeople, is to develop the future leaders of California libraries and the library profession. A key component to the Eureka Institute is to create and implement a year-long community based project.

Ms. Cuyugan's project, the One Story Project, fosters invaluable connections between generations and aims to empower teens through oral history and equip them with the skills and assets necessary to succeed in the future.

Ms. Cuyugan has reached out to Olympic High School, Santa Monica Malibu USD's Continuation School, as a main partner for this project. Through a combination of structured class exercises, mentorship from an oral historian, training from a City TV employee, and field trips to both the Main Library and Santa Monica History Museum, Olympic HS students will gain knowledge in all aspects of the oral history process-from interviewing to research to filming interviews.

Once trained, the teens will visit City TV, Santa Monica's local cable television studio, and learn how to create their own cable show that focuses on oral history and interviewing specific community members.

The One Story Project aims to address three of the five common needs/gaps reported in a recent report entitled "Comprehensive Review of Child & Youth Needs in Santa Monica," written in July 2011 by the Human Services Division of the City of Santa Monica.

The three needs that apply to the One Story Project are:

- Mentoring and Coaching-development of closer, long term relationships with adults to develop trust, support and skills
- Educational Support and College Preparation - group programs and

individual support, including for those not necessarily college-bound.

- Youth Employment-includes job development, training, counseling, internships and apprenticeships

Ms. Cuyugan explained that a final component will be to offer internships at the end of the project for one or two teens to process all interview footage and provide descriptors and summaries for archival purposes. These interns will be paid a stipend and will be offered this employment opportunity based on availability and dedication to the project.

Nationwide Current Library Trends - Review of Library Journal Articles

The Board discussed several library journal articles and recent newspaper articles related to libraries.

Secretary's Report

Update on Library Services and Programs

Mr. Mullen reported that for the second year in a row, Santa Monica Public Library has earned a top-rating five stars from *Library Journal's* national rating of public libraries, the LJ Index of Public Library Service 2011. Santa Monica was the only Southern California library to earn the prestigious five stars rating.

The Polaris and BiblioCommons contracts are pending review and signature.

The floating collection's test with children's audiobooks was successful and the floating collection will be expanded to include adult audiobooks.

Update on Library Staffing

The City has contracted with Goodwill Industries to provide the day porter custodians, whose primary responsibility is to clean the Main Library restrooms. There are some challenges with the contract due to turnover among the day porters. The day porters assigned to the Library have to pass a City fingerprinting process and there have been a few people who did not pass fingerprinting.

The Library is in the midst of reorganization. The Periodicals division is moving to the Information Management Department and the Circulation division is moving to the Reference Department. The change will be effective on December 5.

Library staff recruitments for Principal Librarian for Information Management and Librarian I are ongoing. The recruitment for Principal Librarian for Information Management may need to be extended.

Update on Library Facilities and Equipment

The Santa Monica History Museum's annual report, service plan and digitization report are overdue. Mr. Mullen will be scheduling a site visit to the museum in December.

The Montana Avenue Branch remodel and re-carpeting project is scheduled to take place January 15 to February 25.

The Main Library keycards for parking must be replaced by December 5.

Update on Library Security and Safety

There was a gas leak in the alley at the Fairview Branch. The Gas Company repaired the line.

A One-Stop Prep-Shop for emergency preparedness supplies is scheduled for Saturday, December 10 from 11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. at the Main Library.

Library Statistics

Staff distributed the October 2011 Library statistics. Board discussion followed.

What are you reading?

The Board discussed the books they are reading.

Agenda Building

The Library Board asked that the following items be included in the next Library Board agenda: an update on the Santa Monica History Museum.

Adjournment

Chair Ken Blackwell adjourned the meeting at 8:35 p.m.

Attest:

Approved:

Greg Mullen
City Librarian

Kenneth Blackwell
Library Board Chair

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