

SANTA MONICA PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD

Minutes of the REGULAR Meeting of August 3, 2006 To Be Approved

A REGULAR meeting of the Library Board was called to order by Chairperson, Edward Edwards, at 7:00 p.m., Thursday, August 3, 2006 at the Administrative Conference Room, Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., Santa Monica.

Call to Order

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

Roll Call

ALSO PRESENT: Greg Mullen, City Librarian; Cynni Murphy, Image Archives Librarian; Rachel Foyt, Administrative Analyst

No report.

Communications from the Public

In July both Kenneth Breisch and Gene Oppenheim were reappointed to the Library Board by City Council.

Swearing in and Reappointment of Gene Oppenheim and Kenneth Breisch

Kenneth Breisch took the oath of allegiance and was sworn to the Library Board. Gene Oppenheim took the oath of allegiance and was sworn to the Library Board.

Boardmember Oppenheim made a motion nominating Edward Edwards for Library Board Chair and Dan Stern for Library Board Vice Chair. Boardmember Breisch seconded the nomination. The motion passed in a unanimous voice vote.

Library Board Elections for Chair and Vice Chair

Boardmember Oppenheim made a motion to approve the minutes of the Library Board meeting of July 6, 2006. Boardmember Field 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 July 10 Friends of the Library Board meeting. Jon Arenberg, Chair of the Friends, has been out of town. In his absence Kent Lewis ran the Friends Board meeting. The Friends heard an end of year report from the Treasurer. They had \$5000 in unspent funds for fiscal year 2005/2006.

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

The book store received large amounts of donations and made \$5700 in July.

Adele Clark the membership chair is moving ahead with several membership projects. She mailed out a letter to Friends whose

memberships have lapsed asking them to renew. The Friends will also have a table at several of the Mozart programs to recruit new members.

The Friends Board added a new Director to their Board, Toni Scharff.

The Friends had approximately 75 people attend the Volunteer Recognition Breakfast on July 23. Entertainment at the event was provided by Recorder Players West.

Cynni Murphy, Image Archives Librarian, spoke to the Board about a new image collection donated by the Pacific Palisades Historical Society. Ms. Murphy distributed a draft agreement for the Board's comments.

**Pacific Palisades
Historical Society
Collection Agreement**

The current Image Archives collection numbers about 4200 images online. The Pacific Palisades Historical Society has a collection of approximately 3000 images.

Ms. Murphy has been working with the Randy and Betty Lou Young, who are the photography curators of the Historical Society.

In the 1980's the Youngs became the recipients of the Zola Clearwater Collection. Zola Clearwater was the publisher/editor of the Palisadian.

The collection was digitized and made copy negatives were made.

Santa Monica Public Library was selected because the Historical Society did not want the collection to be housed outside of the area. They created a regional collection with Santa Monica Library.

Ms. Murphy asked the Board to review the draft agreement and bring any changes or comments to the September Board meeting.

Mr. Mullen reported on the facility improvements at the Ocean Park Branch. The only improvement that is pending is the installation of the exterior light in the parking lot.

Library Security

A Library Service Officer is now at the Ocean Park Branch full time.

The library DVDs were put in the security cases. This now requires a staff person to check out the DVDs. The Library is investigating other solutions.

Staff has confirmed two consultants for the Library staff in-service day on October 30.

Staff is also working with consultants to develop a workshop on dealing with aggressive behavior.

The Library Board reviewed a draft of a commendation for Migell Acosta, Principal Librarian for Information Management. There will be a going away dinner for Mr. Acosta on August 11. He is going to work for Los Angeles County Public Library.

**Commendation from
the Library Board to
Migell Acosta**

Mr. Mullen distributed the Library Annual Statistical Report for 2005/2006. The Main Library had over 500,000 visitors, over 600,000 items checked out, and a 55% growth in attendance at programs since opening its doors in January.

**Library Annual
Statistical Report**

The Board discussed the Library Annual Customer Survey comments. The main comments were that patrons wanted more books, DVDs, periodicals, CDs, Audiobooks, time on the internet, restrooms, cleaning of the restrooms, cleaning in general. They would also like free parking. Overall they were pleased with staff.

**Library Annual
Customer Survey
Comments**

Some quotes from the survey:

- *“More books about elephants”;*
- *“Give us free candy;”*
- *“If I ever get rich (doubtful) I will make you the principal beneficiary of my estate”;*
- of the Fairview Branch *“I love my branch on Ocean Park”;*
- about the Montana branch *“How can you improve perfection?”;*
- of the Ocean Park Branch *“Great library, helpful staff.”*

Library staff takes the comments and complaints seriously and address them.

Chairperson Edwards brought a couple of items to the attention of the Board. The first was an article from an April 2006 edition of Library Hotline titled *“Libraries We Love Book Connects PLs to Community”*. The second from a May 2006 Library Hotline was titled *“Teens Adapt Book into Play In Lexington Summer Program.”* This article was about a summer reading program where teens adapted a book to a play.

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

The final approved draft of the Santa Monica Historical Society Lease has been completed and delivered to the Santa Monica Historical Society.

Secretary’s Report

**Santa Monica
Historical Society
Lease Update**

Library staff recruitment for the Librarian III head of cataloging in Information Management is ongoing. The position was posted and applications are being accepted.

**Library Staff
Recruitment**

Library Service Officer and Staff II recruitments are also underway.

Due to a manufacturing flaw all of the Library reader chairs by designer Dakota Jackson have been replaced.

**Main Library Furniture
Update**

Email notification of holds was implemented. The next step will be to use the email notification system to notify people a few days before their items are

**Email Notification
Implemented**

due.

The Fairview 50th Anniversary Celebration will take place on October 21. The canopy over the children’s patio was installed. Minor improvements and new furniture in the children’s area will be completed the week of August 21.

Fairview Branch Update

The Library Board asked that the following items be included in next Library Board agenda: update on the Pacific Palisades Historical Society draft agreement; restructuring the Library divisions; report on Summer Reading; Library Budget Objectives 2006/2007; and enforcement of Library Rules and Regulations.

Agenda Building

Boardmember Oppenheim moved to adjourn the meeting. Vice Chair Stern seconded the motion. The motion was approved in a unanimous voice vote. The meeting was adjourned at 8:45pm.

Adjournment

Attest:

Approved:

Greg Mullen

Edward Edwards

City Librarian

Library Board Chair