

# SANTA MONICA PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD MEETING



## Minutes of the SPECIAL Meeting of April 5, 2007 To Be Approved

A SPECIAL meeting of the Library Board was called to order by Chairperson, Edward Edwards, at 7:00 p.m., Thursday, April 5, 2007 at the Conference Room, Montana Ave. Branch Library, 1704 Montana, Santa Monica

**Call to Order**

**PRESENT:** Boardmember Breisch, Chairperson Edwards, Boardmember Field and Boardmember Oppenheim

**Roll Call**

**ALSO PRESENT:** Terrie Dorio, Montana Branch Manager; Dora Stein, member of the community; Greg Mullen, City Librarian; Rachel Foyt, Administrative Analyst

The Board discussed email communications from the public.

**Communications from the Public**

Boardmember Field made a motion to approve the minutes of the Library Board meeting of March 1, 2007. Boardmember Breisch seconded the motion. The minutes were approved in a unanimous voice vote.

**Approval of the Library Board Minutes**

Branch Manager, Terrie Dorio led the Boardmembers on a tour of the Montana Ave. Branch. The Board discussed furniture, carpet, and restroom cleaning. Ms. Dorio pointed out that the adult internet computers have been relocated and slat wall is being added to the stacks' end panels to allow for merchandising. The Montana Ave. Branch received a grant from the Gates Foundation for two computers for the teens.

**Montana Ave. Branch Facility Tour**

Greg Mullen, City Librarian, gave a report on the Friends of the Library's activities to the Board.

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

The Friends approved two requests for funds one proposal from Youth Services staff for a "Coping With Violence" book donation. The gift of books would be given to various schools including elementary schools and teen centers in the Pico area as a gesture of good will and to acknowledge Santa Monica's youth and their struggles. The second request from Youth Services was for bags and activity booklets to give out at outreach events.

The Treasurer of the Friends has moved to on-line bill pay and banking.

The Friends discussed the past two months where Friends' Board meetings were canceled due to a lack of quorum. The Friends passed a motion stating that seven Boardmembers constituted a quorum for a policy change, a change in the budget or approval of major expenditures. However, only a quorum of five is needed to hold meetings or to approve small monetary matters such as requests for funds.

A Million More: Celebrating Our Visitors is planned for April 14 from 10am – 4pm. Staff distributed a schedule of the day's events. The schedule includes: carnival games, a Bubble Extravaganza program, Japanese Festival of Sounds, the Antoine Salem Trio, storytelling, a screening of the movie *Millions*, face painting, pictures with Woody and free food. The Friends of the Library made a monetary donation to cover the cost of the performers.

**Millionth Visitor Event**

The Board continued their discussion on a tribute to the first City Librarian, Elfie Asenath Mosse. They selected text that will hang with the photograph in the parenting area in Youth Services.

**Tribute to Elfie Mosse**

*As a visionary in library service, Miss Mosse believed the Library should answer questions, help immigrants become Americanized, have popular reading materials, and provide vocational materials to returning servicemen. She believed the community's children should have their own room in the Library with story hours and any child old enough to sign his or her name could obtain a library card. Over her long career as City Librarian, Miss Mosse guided the Library through several moves, the construction of the Carnegie Main Library in 1904, and its expansion in 1926. She established a Carnegie branch in Ocean Park in 1918 and a branch in Fairview in 1931 which primarily served the area's Mexican immigrant children. Miss Mosse resigned in mid-June 1939 due to ill health and died on June 23, 1939. She served as City Librarian for forty-nine years from December, 1890 – June, 1939.*

Terry Grabowski of Beck and Grabowski is designing a dedication plaque mock up for the Main Library. The plaque may not include the Library Board.

**Update on the Main Library Dedication Plaque**

The Board discussed several on-line articles included in their packet on homelessness and libraries. *America Gone Wrong: A Slashed Safety Net Turns Libraries into Homeless Shelters* by Chip Ward at [Alternet.org](http://Alternet.org) on April 2. *Shelters for Dickens, Shakespeare and the homeless* by Chip Ward in the [LA Times](http://LA Times) on April 1, 2007. Chip Ward was assistant director of the Salt Lake City Public Library.

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

The 2007 Annual Board and Commission Dinner is April 16. Boardmembers Oppenheim, Field and Breisch plan to attend.

**Secretary's Report**

**Annual Board and Commission Dinner**

Mr. Mullen reported that Youth Services staff has discussed the children's internet policy. Ellen Braby, Head of Youth Services, will make a report to

**Youth Services Review of the Children's Internet**

the Board in May.

Currently the Library is recruiting for two openings a cataloging librarian and a building systems technician.

Library staff has received complaints regarding the reorganization of the DVDs and the lack of appropriate shelving. Staff plans to remove the last 3 sections of shelving in the popular materials area to install DVD shelving.

Mr. Mullen reported that the Library received an updated detailed plan for the museum space from the Santa Monica Historical Society Museum. The documents include; the plans, budget, construction estimate, project schedule, and a plan for the image archives. Library staff will review the packet with the City Architect's office.

The Library had in the budget for this fiscal year funding for two Library vehicles. The Library plans to purchase a zero emission, all electric sport utility truck made by Phoenix Motor Cars. Delivery is expected in July. In conjunction with the purchase of the electric SUT four electric vehicle charging stations will be installed in the Library Parking Structure. Additionally bids are out for a CNG van to replace the current Library van.

Library staff met to discuss lessons learned and best practices from the Nordic Lattitudes exhibit. Also discussed were possibilities for future exhibits. Protocol for future exhibits needs to be developed.

The Library Board asked that the following items be included in next Library Board agenda: a Citywide Reads update, a report from the A Million More event, an update on the Santa Monica Historical Society Museum, a report from Ellen Braby on the Youth Services Internet Policy and a follow up on the Elfie Mosse plaque.

Boardmember Breisch moved to adjourn the meeting. Boardmember Field seconded the motion. The motion was approved in a unanimous voice vote. The meeting was adjourned at 8:10pm.

Attest:

Approved:

Greg Mullen

Edward Edwards

City Librarian

Library Board Chair

**Policy**

**Library Staff  
Recruitments**

**DVD Shelving**

**Santa Monica  
Historical Society  
Museum**

**Vehicle Replacement**

**Wrap-Up Report on  
Nordic Lattitudes**

**Agenda Building**

**Adjournment**