

# SANTA MONICA PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD MEETING



## Minutes of the REGULAR Meeting of May 3, 2007 To Be Approved

A REGULAR meeting of the Library Board was called to order by Chairperson, Edward Edwards, at 7:00 p.m., Thursday, May 3, 2007 at the Administrative Conference Room, Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., Santa Monica.

**Call to Order**

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

**Roll Call**

**ALSO PRESENT:** Greg Mullen, City Librarian; Susan Annett, Principal Librarian for Public Services; Ellen Braby, Head of Youth Services; Rachel Foyt, Administrative Analyst

The Library Board wished Boardmember Oppenheim a happy birthday.

**Communications from the Public**

Boardmember Field made a motion to approve the minutes of the Library Board meeting of April 5, 2007. 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 of the Santa Monica Public Library activities to the Library Board.

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

At the April 9 Friends of the Library Board meeting the Friends heard a request for additional funds from Susan Annett, Head of Public Services for an increase in funds for Youth Services, Public Services and the Branch Libraries. The request was approved along with a \$62,000 budget for fiscal year 2007/08.

The Treasurer's report reflected that income for the first nine months of the fiscal year 2006/07 totaled \$66,000 over \$52,000 of that amount was income from the Friends' Bookstore.

A brunch for Bookstore volunteers was held on April 7. Twenty-five people participated in the meeting. They reviewed the current business plan for the Bookstore and planned a special book sale for

May 12.

The Friends discussed participating in the Santa Monica Festival on May 20. They would share a table at the Library's booth.

A subcommittee was formed to work on the Friends' website.

Susan Annett, Principal Librarian for Public Services, gave a report on Citywide Reads 2007.

**Update on Citywide Reads 2007**

Ms. Annett reported that Public Services staff has been busy promoting and doing outreach for Citywide Reads.

Audrey Niffenegger, author of the Citywide Reads 2007 selection *The Time Traveler's Wife* is scheduled to appear at the SMC Pavilion on Saturday, May 5.

Ms. Annett encouraged the Board to call into the live book discussion program scheduled for Wednesday, May 9 at 7pm on City TV, Channel 16.

Ellen Braby, Head of Youth Services, discussed the information item *Public Access Internet for Children in the Santa Monica Public Library*.

**Youth Services Internet Policy**

Library staff recommends education, guidance and parental supervision at home and in the library as the best means of ensuring that children have a safe and enjoyable experience online.

Staff continues to be concerned that filters provide a false sense of security, suggesting that children are protected online when they are not, and filters often limit access to legal, useful information that should be available to all library users.

Privacy screens have been added to the young adult and children's computer stations.

Library staff has reviewed the Library Internet Policy currently in place and plan to continue with that policy.

The Board discussed the Library Meeting Room Policy. At the Main Library meeting rooms have been in use for over a year and there has been feedback from users and staff. Additionally staff has begun use a new management system for meeting room reservations that would make changes at this time easier.

**Library Meeting Room Policy Discussion**

Staff asked the Board for feedback on the following meeting room suggestions: consider allowing users to have private meetings,

consider allowing users to charge for programs at the Library, consider allowing meetings to be held after Library hours. Board discussion followed.

The Board was in favor of retaining the Library Meeting Room Policy rule that states applicants renting Library meeting rooms cannot charge a fee or solicit a donation as a condition of entry to their meeting. They were also in favor of allowing private meetings and having the meeting rooms open for meetings after Library hours.

Chair Edwards suggested that the Library hold an annual event to kickoff National Library Week and Citywide Reads. He encouraged the Library to purchase additional sound equipment and lighting to be used for events held in the North Entry Courtyard.

No report.

In response to the A Million More Celebration there was a fifty percent increase in attendance on April 14. Approximately 3300 people attended the event at the Main Library. Library staff received a number of comments from people who had not visited the Library prior to the event.

The Elfie Mosse plaque is at the framers and should be completed in two weeks.

After reviewing the documents submitted by the Santa Monica Historical Society Museum relating to the Museum at the Library complex Library staff had questions and is waiting for additional information from Architect Kristina Andresen.

Library staff had an additional meeting with Warren Graham author of *Blackbelt Librarians*. The day began with a general staff meeting where staff asked questions related to security in the Library. Mr. Graham then led a series of meetings with the Library supervisors where they discussed security issues; the supervisors' role is in security and how to help staff deal with security issues. Mr. Graham also met with the Library Services Officers, reviewed the draft of the security manual and discussed actual security events.

The Library Board is invited to attend the 2007 American Library Association Conference from June 21-27 in Washington DC. Library Staff is planning to attend.

The Library Board asked that the following items be included in next Library Board agenda: a Citywide Reads final report; a facilities

**Annual Library Event  
During National  
Library Week**

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

**Secretary's Report**

**Follow up on A Million  
More: Celebrating Our  
Visitors**

**Update on the Elfie  
Mosse Plaque**

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

**Security Update**

**2007 American Library  
Association  
Conference**

**Agenda Building**

report; a report on the Elfie Mosse plaque; a report on the Library dedication plaque; a report on the Summer Reading programs; and in the July agenda an item on exhibits in the Library focusing on Library policy and approach.

Boardmember Sheila Field announced her intention to resign from the Library Board in June.

Boardmember Oppenheim moved to adjourn the meeting. Boardmember Field seconded the motion. The motion was approved in a unanimous voice vote. The meeting was adjourned at 8:50pm.

**Adjournment**

Attest:

Approved:

Greg Mullen

Edward Edwards

City Librarian

Library Board Chair