

# SANTA MONICA PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD



## Minutes of the REGULAR Meeting of September 1, 2011 To Be Approved

- Call to Order** A REGULAR meeting of the Library Board was called to order by Vice Chairperson, Dan Stern, at 7:05 p.m., Thursday, September 1, 2011 at the Main Library, Administrative Conference Room, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., Santa Monica.
- Roll Call**
- PRESENT:** Boardmember Blackwell, Boardmember Breisch, Boardmember Oppenheim, Boardmember Sheldon and Vice Chair Stern
- ABSENT:** None
- ALSO PRESENT:** Wright Rix, Principal Librarian for Reference Services; Greg Mullen, City Librarian; Rachel Foyt, Administrative Analyst
- Public Input** No report.
- Approval of the Library Board Minutes** Motion by Boardmember Breisch, seconded by Boardmember Blackwell to approve the minutes of the Library Board meeting of July 7, 2011. The motion was approved by the following vote:
- AYES: Boardmember Blackwell, Boardmember Breisch, Boardmember Oppenheim and Vice Chair Stern
- NOES: None
- ABSENT: None
- Report from the Friends of the Library, a Library Support Group** Greg Mullen, City Librarian, reported on the Friends of the Santa Monica Public Library Board activities. The Friends Board has hired a new bookkeeper and authorized a redesign of their website. The new website will incorporate the Friends' blog.
- The Library Board reviewed the Friends' fiscal year report for 2010/11. During the fiscal year the Friends funded a starter collection of eBooks, furniture for the Ocean Park Branch remodel, continued digitization of the Santa Monica *Evening Outlook* newspaper and part of the Library's webpage redesign.

**Swearing In and Oath of Allegiance**

Kathleen Sheldon took the oath of allegiance and was sworn in as a new Library Boardmember.

**Language Resources**

Wright Rix, Principal Librarian for Reference Services, reported to the Board on language resources at the Library.

The online language learning tool, Mango Languages, has 34 languages and 24 English as second language modules available. There are 2000 items in the Main Library collection that are either hard copy or CD versions of language learning materials. Eight languages are collected in the World Languages collection with the most popular languages being Chinese and Russian. The World Languages collection is targeted to native speakers.

Mr. Rix presented a demonstration of the Czech language course in Mango Languages.

**Discussion of Youth Resource Team Plans and Reports**

Mr. Mullen reported that the Youth Resources Team Policy Group was organized by the Human Services Division of the Community and Cultural Services Department in response to a white paper on youth violence in Santa Monica.

The Group includes representatives from about 30 local groups and organizations that support children. The goal is to create the most effective youth/family development and violence reduction system in the country. As a way to report on the effectiveness of the project a Children, Youth and Family Report Card similar to the report on sustainability has been proposed.

Board discussion followed.

**Tour of Reorganized Youth Services Area at the Main Library**

Roger Kelly, Youth Services Coordinator, led the Board on a tour of the newly reorganized Youth Services area at the Main Library.

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

Boardmember Oppenheim reported on a DVD circulation article in the journal *Library Hotline*.

**Secretary's Report**

**Update on Library Services and Programs**

Mr. Mullen reported that he and Mr. Rix made a pitch to the State Library for a \$20,000 grant to enhance the Library's local history website. The grant would allow expansion of Imagine Santa Monica and involvement of the community in local history by allowing them to submit material electronically.

Next week the Library will begin experimenting with floating collections for juvenile and teen audiobooks. Items in the floating collection will take on the 'home location' of the branch to which they are returned.

Library managers and supervisors have been holding discussions to determine if it is possible to open the Branches on Fridays using existing staff. Since the Pico Library is in Virginia Ave. Park it is likely that it will be open on Fridays and it would make sense that the other Branches would be open as well.

On September 10, from noon to 4:00 p.m. twelve Living Books will share their perspective on life at Santa Monica Public Library's fourth annual Living Library Project. A Muslim, a homeless advocate, a transvestite, and a Communist are some of the Books who will be available to check out for 30-minute conversations.

**Update on Library Staffing**

An all staff In-Service Day is being organized for October 10. The Libraries will be closed and staff will participate in training and workshops throughout the day.

Recruitment will begin for a Librarian I at Ocean Park to replace Olivia Narins who is retiring in October. The Library will also be recruiting for six current and anticipated Library Page vacancies.

Upcoming Library conferences include: the California Library Association in Pasadena in November and the American Library Association in June/July 2012 in Anaheim.

**Update on Library Facilities and Equipment**

The planning of the Pico Branch Library is moving forward. On September 27 staff will present City Council with the design development plans for approval and request authorization to move ahead with construction documents. On October 11 staff will present the parking and Conditional Use Permit for Council's approval. Finally, on October 17 the architect, Koning Eisenberg, will present the design to the Architectural Review Board.

Library staff received authorization from Council to negotiate and execute a contract for the new integrated library system with the company Polaris. Staff plans to launch the new catalog in November and the transition to Polaris is expected to be completed by February.

**Update on Library Security and Safety**

The keycard access system for staff is being updated at the Main Library. The Library is converting to the city's standard system.

Bicycle thefts are a continuing problem at the Main Library. The Santa Monica Police Department is coordinating enforcement efforts.

**Library Statistics**

Staff distributed the June and July 2011 Library statistics. Board discussion followed.

**Agenda Building**

The Library Board asked that the following items be included in the next Library Board agenda: update on the Pico Branch Library; a presentation on the new integrated library system; a report on the 2011 Summer Reading Program; and Library Board elections.

The Board asked to meet at the Fairview Branch Library for the October Board meeting.

**Adjournment**

Vice Chairperson Stern adjourned the meeting at 8:40pm.

Attest:

Approved:

Greg Mullen

City Librarian

Dan Stern

Library Board Vice Chair

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