

SANTA MONICA PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD



Minutes of the REGULAR Meeting of April 5, 2012 To Be Approved

- Call to Order** A REGULAR meeting of the Library Board was called to order by Chair Ken Blackwell, at 7:05 p.m., Thursday, April 5, 2012 at the Main Library, Administrative Conference Room, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., Santa Monica.
- Roll Call**
- PRESENT:** Chairperson Ken Blackwell, Vice Chair Gene Oppenheim and Boardmember Kathie Sheldon
- ABSENT:** Boardmember Ken Breisch and Boardmember Dan Stern
- ALSO PRESENT:** Robert Graves, Librarian I, Public Services; Cynni Murphy, Image Archive Librarian, Reference Department; Andrea Engstrom, Development Director and Image Archives Manager, Santa Monica History Museum; Jenna Chandler, Santa Monica Patch Editor; Greg Mullen, City Librarian; Rachel Foyt, Administrative Analyst
- Public Input** No report.
- Approval of the Library Board Minutes** Motion by Boardmember Kathie Sheldon seconded by Vice Chair Gene Oppenheim, to approve the minutes of the Library Board meeting of March 8, 2012. The motion was approved by the following vote:
- AYES: Chairperson Ken Blackwell, Vice Chair Gene Oppenheim and Boardmember Kathie Sheldon
- NOES: None
- ABSENT: Boardmember Ken Breisch and Boardmember Dan Stern
- Report on Santa Monica Citywide Reads** Robert Graves, Librarian I, Public Services, gave a report on the tenth anniversary of Santa Monica Citywide Reads. The book selection of *The Lady in the Lake* by Raymond Chandler was popular. For the first time a Citywide Read Kids book was added to the program. The book, *Trouble Is My Beeswax*, by Bruce Hale complemented the adult book selection.
- The 2012 Citywide Reads kickoff event held on February 25 with authors Michael Connelly and Robert Crais drew an audience of 464. This was the

second highest single program attendance for a Citywide Reads event in the history of the program.

Other Citywide Reads programs included: a local history-oriented program, *Bay City and Beyond*; a live reading of *The Lady in the Lake* scripted by Judith Freeman and featuring more than a dozen nationally-recognized authors; a discussion, *Masters of Noir*, considered the careers of Chandler, Dashiell Hammett and Ross Macdonald and included Judith Freeman, Julie M. Rivett and Tom Nolan; a staged reading of *The Pencil* by the Ruskin Group Theatre Company; and movie screenings of Chandler's films.

Citywide Reads Kids programs included: *Chet Gecko Detective School* programs at the Libraries; a trio of author visits by Bruce Hale at Grant and Roosevelt Elementary Schools; and a finale event at the Main Library.

Mr. Graves reported that Citywide Reads was a success. Turnout for special events this year almost matched attendance for the last four years combined. The attendance total for special events and discussions was 1,716. There were ten more book discussion participants than last year, despite having one less discussion. The Friends of the Library financial support is invaluable to the program and deeply appreciated.

Demonstration of Images Available on the Santa Monica History Museum's Website

Andrea Engstrom, Development Director and Image Archives Manager for the Santa Monica History Museum gave a demonstration of the images available on the Museum's website (<http://www.santamonicahistory.org/>). The Museum's collection consists of over 600,000 images, 6000 of those are digitized and 1800 were recently made available online through the Museum's website.

The photograph archive comprises:

- The *John P. Jones Collection* a photographic archive of the co-founder of Santa Monica;
- The *Outlook Collection* consists of the complete archive of images for Santa Monica's daily newspaper from 1965 to 1998;
- The *Bill Beebe Collection* provides a daily record of the area from the 1930s to the 1960s, composed of negatives by professional photographers for the Pacific Press photo service;
- The *Fred Basten Collection* - Fred Basten, a specialist on early Santa Monica and the author of over thirty books donated historical photographs;
- The *Museum Collection* includes photographs and negatives donated by pioneer Santa Monica families during the city's Centennial in 1975.

Visitors to the Museum can access through a database over 6,000 digitized images. Other images are accessible through a research request. Contact the Museum's Research Library for details. Photo reprints are available for sale, for personal or commercial use.

Report from the Friends of the Library, a Library

Mr. Mullen, City Librarian, gave a report on the Friends of the Library March Board meeting. Jon Arenberg, President, was invited to participate in a panel discussion at the American Library Association conference in Anaheim in June.

Support Group

The Friends Board elected two new boardmembers, Christine Healy and Paul Schackman. They will work with Adele Clarke and Edward Edwards on the membership committee.

Update on the Southern California Library Cooperative and the Impact of State Budget Cuts

The state grant funding for the California Library Services Act (CLSA) was eliminated this year and it is not in the proposed budget for next year. Elimination of CLSA funding has both a direct and indirect effect on Santa Monica Public Library.

Santa Monica Public Library participates in one of the CLSA supported regional systems, the Southern California Library Cooperative (SCLC). SCLC funds the interlibrary deliveries, second level reference service and training opportunities

SCLC member libraries include most libraries in Los Angeles, Orange and Ventura Counties. Without the state funding SCLC is dependent upon member dues and reserve funds. Strategic planning is underway.

The cuts also impact federal funds available through the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA). There is a projected 20% reduction to state library services in 2013 and an 80% reduction in 2014.

Nationwide Current Library Trends - Review of Library Journal Articles

No report.

Secretary's Report

Update on Library Services and Programs

Beginning Friday, April 13 the Santa Monica Public Library Branches will be open from 12 noon until 5:30 p.m. The additional day of branch library service will provide greater access to materials, computers, programs and public space within convenient distance to Santa Monica's neighborhoods.

The Pico Branch construction management firm has been selected and approved by City Council. Library staff has begun planning for the Pico Branch opening day collection.

The Reference staff at the Main Library has started a new roving reference service. A Reference staff member roves around the Library and interacts with patrons who have questions or need assistance.

Update on Library Staffing

The Library Service Officer Supervisor interviews are complete. Staff expects to have the new supervisor in place beginning in May.

The University of Southern California is starting a Masters in Library and Information Management program online in Fall 2013.

Update on Library Facilities and

New de-casing stations were installed at each self-checkout station at the Main Library.

Equipment

Update on Library Security and Safety

The city Emergency Operation Center is temporarily being housed at the Main Library during renovation of the space in the Public Safety Building.

Main Library staff held the annual evacuation drill on March 20.

Library Statistics

Staff distributed the February 2012 Library statistics. Board discussion followed.

What Are You Reading?

The Boardmembers discussed what books they are reading.

Agenda Building

The Library Board asked that the following items be included in the next Library Board agenda: report on the California Archivist Convention, the process of developing a Pico Branch Opening Day Collection, and presentation about the new electronic services launching in June.

Adjournment

Chair Ken Blackwell adjourned the meeting at 8:36 p.m.

Attest:

Approved:



Greg Mullen

Ken Blackwell

City Librarian

Library Board Chair