

# SANTA MONICA PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD



## Minutes of the REGULAR Meeting of October 4, 2007 To Be Approved

A REGULAR meeting of the Library Board was called to order by Vice Chair, Dan Stern, at 7:00 p.m., Thursday, October 4, 2007 at the Administrative Conference Room, Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., Santa Monica.

**Call to Order**

**PRESENT:** Boardmember Blackwell, Boardmember Oppenheim and Vice Chair Stern

**Roll Call**

**ALSO PRESENT:** Carol Agate, Disabilities Commission; Claudia Fishler, Assistant City Librarian; Rachel Foyt, Administrative Analyst

Newly appointed Library Boardmember Ken Blackwell took the oath of allegiance and was sworn in to the Library Board.

**Swearing in of Newly Appointed Library Boardmember**

The Library Board reviewed a September 24, 2007 letter to the editor of the Santa Monica Daily Press regarding parking at the Main Library.

**Communications from the Public**

Boardmember Oppenheim made a motion to approve the minutes of the Library Board meeting of September 6, 2007. Vice Chair Stern seconded the motion. The minutes were approved in a unanimous voice vote.

**Approval of the Library Board Minutes**

Rachel Foyt, Administrative Analyst, gave a report on the September 10 Board Meeting of the Friends of the Santa Monica Public Library.

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

The Friends recently received several donations for collection development. One donation will build on a subsequent gift for a collection of architecture, urbanism and planning books.

The September 8 Bookstore volunteers' brunch catered by Border Grill was attended by 30 volunteers. The Brunch celebrated the Friends' Bookstore earning over \$100,000. Gift certificates and prizes were raffled.

The Friends are planning a volunteer brunch on December 2 to honor all Friends and Library volunteers.

Due to a merger between A&I and our current vendor Photo Impact there has been an increase in the cost of making prints from Image Archives photographs. As a result the Library will have to increase the fees it charges for prints from the Image Archives.

**Approval of Proposed Image Archives Price Increases**

The Board reviewed the proposed increases in fees for prints of the Image Archives photographs.

Boardmember Oppenheim made a motion to approve the proposed increases in fees for prints of Image Archives photographs. Boardmember Blackwell seconded the motion. The motion carried in a unanimous voice vote.

The Board reviewed plans for the proposed Big Blue Bus display located in the foyer at the Main Library. The display will contain a map, flyers about Big Blue Bus special events and Big Blue Bus schedules.

**Review of the Proposed Big Blue Bus Display**

Claudia Fishler, Assistant City Librarian, gave a report on recent Library program activities. On September 23 in conjunction with the latest Ken Burns' PBS documentary, *The War*, the Library held an afternoon of speakers, films and panel discussion, looking back at World War II.

**Report on Recent Library Program Activities**

On September 29 the Library hosted the first presentation of the Green Prize for Sustainable Literature Awards. Awards were presented for adult fiction and nonfiction; young adult fiction and nonfiction; and picture books. Locally grown refreshments were provided by the Santa Monica Farmers' Market.

Also on September 29 Alice Walker spoke about her new children's book, *Why War Is Never a Good Idea*, at the Martin Luther King Jr. Auditorium at the Main Library. A book sale and signing followed.

Ms. Fishler reported that the shortlist of titles for Citywide Reads 2008 has been chosen.

**Update on Citywide Reads 2008**

- [The Book of Lost Things](#), by John Connolly
- [The Stolen Child](#), by Keith Donohue
- [Water for Elephants](#), by Sara Gruen
- [Jamesland](#), by Michelle Huneven
- [Never Let Me Go](#), by Kazuo Ishiguro
- [The Namesake](#), by Jhumpa Lahiri
- [The Highest Tide](#), by Jim Lynch
- [The Book Thief](#), by Markus Zusa

The meeting to choose the Citywide Reads 2008 title will be on Tuesday, October 16.

Changes were made to the Library Rules of Conduct in an attempt to make the rules more specific and more easily enforceable. The Board discussed the changes to the Library Rules of Conduct.

**Changes to the Library Rules of Conduct**

In addition to changes to individual rules a preamble was added to the Rules of Conduct. The wording is as follows:

*The Santa Monica Public Library is open to the general public. Everyone has the right to use Library services and resources provided his or her behavior does not unreasonably interfere with the rights of other to do the same. Visitors are expected to follow these Rules of Conduct:*

Also added was a general policy statement: *The Library may be used for reading, studying, or using the Library's material, services, or equipment. Other use is not permitted. Please be considerate of others by refraining from activities that may disturb the peace of Library users and staff, disrupt Library activities or damage Library materials or equipment. Please keep all conversations hushed and put your cell phone on silent mode.*

No report.

Ms. Foyt reminded the Board that the California Library Association Conference will take place in Long Beach on October 26-29. Chair Edwards and Boardmember Oppenheim plan to attend as well as over a dozen Library staff members.

A Shape the Future Transportation Workshop is planned for October 6 at 9am at the John Adams Middle School cafeteria. The workshop will seek community input to help establish priorities for dealing with the critical issues of traffic, parking and pedestrian and bicycle safety. Staff will also look at establishing criteria for evaluating future uses of the city's streets and rights-of-way.

A report from the State Library on Public Libraries in California was distributed. The report identifies the different types of local public libraries and compares their characteristics, operations, service area, services, and revenues.

The Board asked that a discussion of the report be added to the November agenda.

Ms. Fishler reported that the vacant cataloger position in Information Management has been filled and that Administration has a new half time Office Assistant.

Following Nancy O'Neill's retirement there have been some staff changes in the Reference Department. Wright Rix was hired as Principal Librarian for Reference Services and Cynni Murphy was promoted to Librarian III in Reference Services. The Librarian II position vacated by Ms. Murphy will be filled through a promotional exam.

Judith Graham, Librarian I in Public Services and Susan Annett, Principal Librarian for Public Services will be attending a three-day institute on

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

**Secretary's Report**

**California Library Association Conference**

**Shape the Future Transportation Workshop**

**State Library Report on Public Libraries in California**

**Update on Library Personnel**

**Three-day Institute "Transforming Life**

“Transforming Life After 50 – Public Libraries and Boomers” in November.

**After 50 – Public  
Libraries and  
Boomers”**

The Library Board asked that the following items be included in next Library Board agenda: a technology report and update on the Information Management Department from Diane Bednarski, Principal Librarian for Information Management; a discussion of the State Library Report on Public Libraries in California; a report from the California Library Association Convention; and an update on Citywide Reads 2008.

**Agenda Building**

Vice Chair Stern adjourned the meeting at 8:10pm.

**Adjournment**

Attest:

Approved:

Greg Mullen

Edward Edwards

City Librarian

Library Board Chair