

SANTA MONICA PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD



Minutes of the SPECIAL Meeting of September 10, 2009 To Be Approved

Call to Order	A SPECIAL meeting of the Library Board was called to order by Chairperson, Edward Edwards, at 7:04 p.m., Thursday, September 10, 2009 at the Administrative Conference Room, Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., Santa Monica.	
Roll Call	PRESENT:	Boardmember Blackwell, Boardmember Breisch, Chairperson Edwards, and Boardmember Oppenheim present. Vice Chair Stern arrived at 7:08 p.m.
	ALSO PRESENT:	Wright Rix, Head of Reference Services; Greg Mullen, City Librarian; Rachel Foyt, Administrative Analyst
Public Input	No report.	
Approval of the Library Board Minutes	Motion by Boardmember Oppenheim, seconded by Boardmember Breisch to approve the minutes of the Library Board meeting of August 6, 2009. The motion was approved by the following vote: AYES: Boardmember Blackwell, Boardmember Breisch, Chairperson Edwards, Boardmember Oppenheim NOES: None. ABSENT: Vice Chair Stern	
Report from the Friends of the Library, a Library Support Group	Chair Edwards gave a report on the Friends of the Library August Board meeting. The Friends are planning the second program in their science and technology series for October 5 with the manager of the James Webb Space telescope.	
Report on Citywide Reads 2010	<i>Little Bee</i> by Chris Cleave has been selected as the 2010 Citywide Reads title. Citywide Reads will take place from February 6 – March 6, 2010. <i>Little Bee</i> presents a tale of precarious friendship between an illegal Nigerian refugee and a suburban London journalist. The story is told from the alternating and disparate perspectives of both women. Themes	

addressed in the book include immigration and deportation; coping with loss, grief, infidelity; parent and child relationships; and “migration and memory.” The book is discussible and young adult friendly.

Discussion of e-books

Wright Rix, Head of Reference Services, reported on e-books, the Kindle and the Sony Reader. Santa Monica Public Library has 3,400 text e-books available through Net Library. The Net Library collection is classics, language learning, and how to. The collection comes as part of the downloadable Net Library audiobooks package. These e-books work with any reader that can accept a downloaded .pdf file.

While the Kindle is tied to a single provider, Amazon, the upcoming Sony Reader will not be tied to any one provider. Currently, there is more usage of e-books at the academic level than for popular reading.

Overdrive is a popular platform for public libraries that supports e-books. Both Los Angeles County and Los Angeles Public Library use Overdrive which provides downloadable audiobooks, video and e-books. Staff distributed several articles on e-books. Board discussion followed.

Discussion of New Online Services

Mr. Rix reported on some new Library online services. Media Center from Net Library, a much more user friendly interface, helps users download audiobooks.

The library pays a subscription fee to Net Library which allows users access to unlimited simultaneous downloaded audiobooks.

The library’s newest system, My iLibrary, has digital downloadable audiobooks for MP3 and Apple players. Through MyiLibrary only one user will be able to borrow the audiobook at a time and patrons will need to place a hold on audiobooks if they are checked out. This is a different model from Net Library. After 21 days the downloaded file becomes corrupt and the audiobook is available for check out by the next person on the holds list.

Job Now is a new online service that offers career resources, resume assistance and live interview coaching. Users can take advantage of resume templates or electronically submit resumes to Job Now and receive feedback.

Report on the Ocean Park Branch Remodel

Mr. Mullen reported on the remodel at the Ocean Park Branch. Staff distributed photos of the newly improved area. The area to the right of the circulation counter was transformed into a popular materials area with new shelving, fresh paint and signage. Lounge chairs with tablet arms were added towards the west end of the building. The lounge chairs were purchased with funds from the Friends of the Library.

Nationwide Current Library Trends - Review of Library Journal Articles	No report.
Secretary's Report	Library staff met with the staff of Santa Monica Historical Society Museum regarding construction of the museum. The general contractor and the sub-contractors have been hired for the project. Work is expected to start in the museum in the next few weeks.
Report on the Santa Monica Historical Society Museum	
Library Facility Updates	The shelving in the Children's area at the Montana Ave. Branch will be replaced. The project is expected to take approximately two weeks.
Shelving at the Montana Ave. Branch Library	
City Computer Replacement Program	The city computer replacement program is scheduled to start in the next few weeks. The computers in the computer commons and at Library service desks will be replaced. The computer commons' computers will be replaced with a different style of computer called a thin client that has a smaller CPU.
Periodical Seating at the Main Library	Three, two person tables have been added to the second floor periodicals area.
Elevator Doors at the Main Library	The second floor doors on the parking garage elevators will be replaced because of sticking.
Bicycle Security	Library staff met with the police department Neighborhood Resource Officer and Lucy Dyke from transportation management to discuss some different options for bicycle security. The ideas being considered are; a new bicycle rack, security cameras, and an education component to encourage people to license their bikes.
Library Service Updates	The current newspapers have been relocated from the first floor popular materials area to the second floor periodicals area. Patrons can check out one newspaper at a time for an hour.
Relocation of Newspapers at the Main Library	
Headphones in the Computer Commons	The headphones in the computer commons have been eliminated because of hygiene issues and the high cost of replacement. The Board asked staff to revisit the elimination of the headphones.
Office 2007 for the Public Computers	The public computers will have Office 2007 installed next week. Staff will teach free computer classes on Office 2007.
Changes to the Holds Processing	Staff is investigating a more efficient way to wrap holds. This change is expected to save 1000 hours of staff time a year. Because of space

and Shelving	constraints the holds at Main will be relocated to the beginning of the fiction stacks.
Report on the Pico Area Branch Library	The request for proposal for design team services for the Pico Area Branch Library has been prepared and is being reviewed by staff.
Library Statistics for July 2009	Staff distributed the July 2009 Library statistics. Board discussion followed.
Agenda Building	The Library Board asked that the following items be included in the next Library Board agenda: a tour of the facilities at the Ocean Park Branch and a follow up on the removal of the headphones in the computer commons at the Main Library.
Adjournment	Chair Edwards adjourned the meeting at 8:50pm.

Attest:

Approved:

Greg Mullen
City Librarian

Edward Edwards
Library Board Chair

This document is available in alternate format upon request. The Santa Monica Public Library is wheelchair accessible. For special disability accommodations contact Library Administration at (310) 458-8606 at least 3 days prior to the scheduled meeting.