



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

# BOARD OF LIBRARY COMMISSIONERS

## Members

Katie Sullivan, Chair

Matthew Hervey • Susan Atkins • Judy McCarty • Mel Katz • Salvatore Giametta • Alan Ziegau

## MINUTES

### BOARD OF LIBRARY COMMISSIONERS

#### SAN DIEGO PUBLIC LIBRARY

Wednesday, September 02, 2009

## ATTENDANCE

### Commissioners:

**Present:** Katie Sullivan, Mel Katz, Salvatore Giametta, Alan Ziegau, Susan Atkins

**Absent:** Matthew Hervey, Judy McCarty

**Staff:** Deborah Barrow, Library Director; Christine Siegel, Deputy Director, Central; Darren Greenhalgh, Deputy Director of Engineering & Capital Projects; Zar Shain, OCA Executive Secretary

**Public:** Brenda Mason, Shelia Padgett, John McAllister, Dana Springs

## CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 12:32 p.m. in the Commission Room of the Central Library. Commissioner Sullivan announced that this would be the last Commission meeting for Commissioner Katz, and that Abby Silverman Weiss would be joining the Commission in October. Commissioner Katz was presented with a fore-edge painted book, a contribution to the Wangenheim Collection in his honor. Commissioner Katz was thanked and commended for his service to the Library Commission.

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**Correction to August 2009 Minutes: 9.b. Budget Update, added at end of 4<sup>th</sup> line:**

**Commissioner Ziegau disagreed that consensus had been reached regarding reducing hours versus branches and felt hours were more important because the Library's schedule is limited.**

A motion was made to revise the minutes and was unanimously approved.

## REQUESTS FOR CONTINUANCE

None.

## NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

**REPORT FROM THE FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY:** Shelia Padgett

John McAllister will be the new president of the Friends of the Library. The annual Friends meeting is on September 12, 2009. Ms. Padgett thanked Ms. Barrow for bringing staff to the last meeting and having an informative discussion on matching funds and centralized ordering, as there were many questions from chapters. This is Ms. Padgett's last Commission meeting, but she will still be involved with the Friends of the Library.

**SERRA SYSTEM ADVISORY BOARD:** Brenda Mason

On September 1, 2009, SERRA began accepting scholarship applications for students attending MLIS programs. The deadline for submission is September 30. SERRA is also accepting proposals from library committees for a \$1,900 competitive grant for a program to benefit public libraries. The deadline for submission is October 15.

**CHAIR'S UPDATE:** Katie Sullivan

Deferred to Agenda Items.

**AGENDA ITEMS**

**9.a Commission for Arts & Culture Presentation on Artwork by Serra Mesa-Kearney Mesa Branch Library:** Dana Springs

Ms. Springs presented an update on the artwork and educational space to be installed at the Serra Mesa-Kearney Mesa Branch Library. Handouts written by the designers were distributed. In 2005 a \$1 million grant was received from the First Five Commission of San Diego. A portion of this grant is being used to create a children's educational space designed for children ages 0-5 to help with early literacy skills. The total cost for this project is \$450,000. The educational space will be called "Fairy Tale Mesa". Artists were selected through a competitive process and several vetting procedures. Ms. Springs thanked Commissioner Katz for helping to select the team of designers and expressed that the team has been a dream to work with.

Commissioner Sullivan asked about the art in the New Main Library. Ms. Springs said that five art proposals have been designed and approved. Ms. Springs offered to come back with a presentation of visuals for the New Main Library at a future commission meeting.

**9.b Library System Update:** Darren Greenhalgh

Mr. Greenhalgh gave a detailed update on the New Main Library. Mr. Greenhalgh attended the CCDC Finance Committee meeting to request an authorization for \$500,000 of the funds already approved in order to get through the bidding phase. CCDC unanimously approved this authorization. Consultants have done an evaluation of all plans, specifications and equipment with only one change regarding mechanical systems, which are now too large for the space originally allotted. Important meeting dates are as follows:

- Rules Committee on September 16 at 9:00 am
- CCDC Board on September 16 at 1:00 pm
- City Council Redevelopment Agency/City Council meeting on October 6 or 13 for full City Council approval of all consultants, plans, specifications, and authorization to bid.

Turner construction is expected to have a guaranteed maximum price by February 2010. The approval of the construction contract will be out to bid shortly after October. The State Librarian has also extended the grant until November 15<sup>th</sup> to get approval of plans and authorization to bid and until May 1<sup>st</sup> to get a lease agreement done with the school district. Groundbreaking is scheduled to take place by August 1, 2010.

**Motion:**

Commissioner Katz made a motion for the Library Commissioners to send a letter to members of City Council urging them to put the New Main Library project out to bid to obtain accurate pricing, and that this is the best time ever to put this contract out to bid.

Commissioner Sullivan emphasized that the \$147 million that has been raised for the New Main Library is solely dedicated to this project at this site and that the money cannot be used anywhere else.

The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Greenhalgh reported that Logan Heights Branch Library is 94% complete. The grand opening is scheduled for December 11, 2009.

Ms. Barrow explained that the City will be considering projects for Development Impact Fees (DIF Funds), but there is not much funding in areas where libraries are planned. She gave an update on the following projects:

San Carlos Branch Library: \$175,000 in funding could be used for bridging documents or for purchasing the site, which still requires extensive environmental cleanup.

San Ysidro Community Plan Update: Input from the community needs to be received regarding public facilities, and where to place the library. One possibility is at Las Americas Shopping Center, where the City owns land for the project, but there may be other considerations.

Otay East: \$2.5 million in redevelopment money is to be used for a library there. However, there is not sufficient funding to build or operate the library at this time, and a site has not been selected.

Kensington Library/Storefront: Interest has been expressed by the Developer in locating the library there. Issues are community considerations and funding.

Mission Hills Library and Parking: DIF money is being pursued for this project and there are discussions with the Uptown Partnership related to funds for parking. The donors are interested in a minimum of 20,000 square feet and Craftsman style for this library. DIF funds, if approved, could be used to help develop the plan accordingly.

Commissioner Katz explained that on September 9, the City's Natural Resources & Culture Committee (NR&C) will meet to discuss the City's Energy Stimulus Program, which has \$12.5 million available. Through a series of subcommittee meetings, five projects were chosen to be considered for this stimulus money. The New Main Library was not one of these projects. Its energy saving proposal would cost \$2.3 million, and save considerable energy and money. The NR&C's recommendations will be heard by the full City Council at a later date.

**Motion:**

Commissioner Katz moved that the Commissioners ask NR&C to consider the New Main Library's \$2.3 million proposal for the City's Energy Stimulus Program. This proposal would be save 10-15% of the project's energy cost, would be publicly accessible, and would be very high profile and serve as a model for other projects.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Atkins and passed unanimously.

**DIRECTOR'S UPDATE:** Deborah Barrow

- The Summer Reading Program ended on August 14, and there were 27,000 participants. Ms. Barrow thanked the many sponsors who helped make the program so successful.
- A Staff Development Day for all library employees is being planned for early next year.
- The Library is in the process of hiring new staff members who should be coming on board in the next few weeks.

**9.c Budget Update**

None.

**9.d Legislative Update**

Ms. Barrow referred to a handout on the Google Books project, which scanned millions of books and converted them for online use. She explained that so far the agreement allows for only one computer per Library, no external access, and no tapping into a network through the library.

**9.e Foundation Update**

None.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

None.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Sullivan adjourned the meeting at 2:05 p.m.

***Deborah L. Barrow***

DEBORAH L. BARROW  
Library Director

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