



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

BOARD OF LIBRARY COMMISSIONERS

Members

Katie Sullivan, Chair

Susan Atkins • Salvatore Giametta • Matthew Hervey • Judy McCarty • Abby Silverman Weiss • Alan Ziegus

MINUTES

BOARD OF LIBRARY COMMISSIONERS

SAN DIEGO PUBLIC LIBRARY

Wednesday, November 04, 2009

ATTENDANCE

Commissioners:

Present: Katie Sullivan, Susan Atkins, Matthew Hervey, Alan Ziegus, Salvatore Giametta, Judy McCarty, Abby Silverman Weiss

Staff: Deborah Barrow, Library Director; Christine Siegel, Deputy Director, Darren Greenhalgh, Deputy Director of Engineering & Capital Projects; Carol Tellez, Executive Secretary

Public: Brenda Mason, John McAllister, Ann McDonald

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 12:30 p.m. in the Commission Room of the Central Library. Commissioner Sullivan welcomed new Commissioner Abby Silverman Weiss.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Correction to October 2009 Minutes: Director's Update, 3rd paragraph, beginning of second sentence:

Rancho **Penasquitos** Branch Manager Barbara Schwartz...

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: John McAllister

The Friends were elated that City Council voted to put the New Main Library project out to bid. Questions arose regarding the new procedure for fingerprinting volunteers. Ms. Barrow will report back at the next Commission meeting. The Friends were sorry to hear that the Children's Book Festival had been postponed for 2010. Mr. McAllister introduced Ann McDonald, President of the San Carlos Friends.

SERRA SYSTEM ADVISORY BOARD: Brenda Mason

Over 150,000 children, teens and adults participated in the Summer Reading Program for 2009. A workshop to plan for next year's program will be held on December 10, 2009. The 15th Annual Multilingual Book Fair was held last week. Serra is awarding scholarships to 15 students attending MLIS programs.

CHAIR'S UPDATE: Katie Sullivan

Commissioner Sullivan reported that City Council voted 6-2 in favor of putting the New Main Library project out to bid. An energy efficiency component was added to the bid package as a separate bid.

DIRECTOR'S UPDATE: Deborah Barrow

- Ms. Barrow thanked Mr. Greenhalgh and the staff at Engineering and Capital Projects for their hard work in compiling documents and meeting deadlines for the New Main Library project.
- Ms. Barrow mentioned that one of the conditions of the \$20 million grant that the California State Library awarded us for the New Main Library project is that we must adhere to what was stated in the application, or provide reasonable alternatives and explanations. No more than 10% change is permitted, or a revised application is required.
- Due to the current budget challenges and limited resources, the 2010 Children's Book Festival has been postponed.
- The Grand Opening for the new Logan Heights Branch Library is scheduled for Friday, December 11 at 11:00 am. There will be a pre-opening event for staff and honored dignitaries on Thursday morning, December 10. The Foundation is conducting donor tours of the new library.
- *Outcasts United* by Warren St. John has been selected as 2010 One Book, One San Diego program winner.
- Library staff did an outstanding presentation at CLA on the Library's *Got Homework? We've Got Help!* Program.

- The Foundation held a reception on October 22 for the Helen Suzman Exhibit. Ms. Suzman was a freedom fighter from South Africa, and an exhibit honoring her work is currently on display in the lobby of the Central Library.

AGENDA ITEMS

9.a Library System Update: Darren Greenhalgh

Mr. Greenhalgh gave a detailed update on the New Main Library. On October 27, the City Council voted 6-2 to renew the four consultant agreements (ordinances) and put the project out to bid. A second reading and adoption of the ordinances is scheduled for Tuesday, November 10. At that time six affirmative votes from City Council members will be needed to adopt the ordinances.

New Logan Heights Branch Library – the Fire Marshall has approved the first floor of the building, and will return in a few days to inspect the second floor. Library staff is getting ready to move in, and is preparing for the Grand Opening, which is scheduled for December 11.

Mission Hills/Hillcrest Library – Council Members Gloria and Faulconer are holding a Community Town Hall Meeting on Wednesday, November 18.

Commissioner Silverman Weiss suggested meeting with the community to explain the benefits of a Central Library System and how it supports the Branch Libraries.

9.c Budget Update

Commissioner Sullivan stated that the Budget Subcommittee met with Ms. Barrow to discuss reductions to the Library's budget. Ms. Barrow reported the Library was asked to reduce its budget by approximately \$7.5 million. This could potentially impact facilities, staffing, positions, and hours. Ms. Barrow will keep the commissioners updated on budget developments.

Commissioner Sullivan recommended contacting the Foundation's Market and Communications Council (MarCom) to help develop a marketable message for the public regarding the New Central Library project. Commissioner Giametta volunteered to take the request to the MarCom meeting on November 17.

9.c Legislative Update

None.

9.e Foundation Update

None.

OTHER BUSINESS

Commissioner Sullivan asked for volunteers to form a Task Group to investigate other sources of funding for the Library. Commissioners Giametta, Ziegus and Silverman Weiss volunteered and will report back to the commission at a later meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Sullivan adjourned the meeting at 1:50 p.m.

Deborah L. Barrow

DEBORAH L. BARROW
Library Director

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