



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

Tuesday, December 01, 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; Kathleen Wheatley, Deputy Director; Kris Michell, Chief of Staff, Mayor's Office; Julie Dubick, Policy Advisor, Mayor's Office; Dominika Bukalova, Research Analyst, IBA Office; Cynthia Meinhardt, Project Officer II, Engineering & Capital Projects; Carol Tellez, Executive Secretary

**Public:** Brenda Mason, Gary Chapman, Vickie Church, Ann McDonald, Anna Daniels

## CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 12:36 p.m. in the Commission Room of the Central Library.

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The November 2009 minutes were approved unanimously.

## REQUESTS FOR CONTINUANCE

None.

## NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

**REPORT FROM THE FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY:** Gary Chapman

None.

**SERRA SYSTEM ADVISORY BOARD:** Brenda Mason

As part of a grant from IMLS, 14 scholarships have been awarded for the *Librarians for Diverse Communities* program. The Children's and Young Adult Committees are holding their sixth annual Serra Reading Conference on December 10. A flyer was distributed announcing this event.

**CHAIR'S UPDATE:** Katie Sullivan

Deferred.

**9.b Budget Update**

Julie Dubick reported that when initially considering reductions to the Library's budget, the Mayor had looked at the pairing of libraries, taking into consideration highest usage and closest proximity. However, input the Mayor received from the Commissioners, Friends, and Library supporters resulted in a proposal to reduce library hours to 36 hours per week, and keep all libraries open. The difference in cost will be made up in other ways.

Vickie Church stated she supports the new proposal, and that libraries are important resources. She mentioned the need to have quality service during the hours the libraries are open, and that libraries continue to be the face of the city.

Anna Daniels spoke in opposition to the budget, and expressed deep concern about the chronic, inequitable cuts to the Library Department. Ms. Daniels mentioned the need for advance signage notifying the public of reduced hours at the libraries.

Commissioner Sullivan explained that signage cannot be posted until the budget is actually voted on by the Council. The Commission's Budget Subcommittee met on Monday and was in favor of having libraries open 36 hours per week.

After a lengthy discussion between Commissioners and staff, the following motion was made:

**Motion:**

The Library Commission supports and appreciates the concept of equitable distribution of the 36 hour schedule at all libraries, with no additional layoffs, and look forward to hearing the details of how that will be implemented, and provide our full support at that time.

The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

**CHAIR'S UPDATE:** Katie Sullivan

Commissioner Sullivan wished everyone a wonderful holiday season, and thanked everyone for their support throughout the past year.

**DIRECTOR'S UPDATE:** Deborah Barrow

- New Central Library Update - on November 17, Council approved the second reading and adoption of the ordinances pertaining to the Architectural and Construction Manager at Risk agreements.
- Library staff worked with Channel 24 to develop a video for the new Logan Heights Library. In the video the architect talks about his vision and how he designed the library. Also included in the video are segments from Council President Ben Hueso and Ms. Barrow. The video can be viewed at the Grand Opening on December 11. A pre-opening event for staff will be held on Thursday, December 10.
- Mrs. Molina de Pick is a contributor to the new Logan Heights Branch Library, and on opening day, a significant gift will be announced.
- The Library has recently gone mobile. Patrons are now able to access our Digital Media Library from a smartphone, BlackBerry, or other Web-enabled device.
- *Leaves of Gold: an Exhibit of Illuminated Manuscripts*, will be on display in the Wangenheim Room through December 10. A reception is being held on Sunday, December 6, from 2:00-4:00 pm in the Wangenheim Room.
- A solo exhibition of works by artist Beth King is currently on display at the Pacific Beach/Taylor Branch Library.
- The Library received good publicity in a recent article in the Union-Tribune entitled, "Local Libraries Booked Solid." Marion Moss Hubbard worked with the reporter in getting this article published.

**AGENDA ITEMS**

**9.a Library System Update:** Cynthia Meinhardt

Ms. Meinhardt reviewed the written Capital Improvement Project Update report.

Mission Hills/Hillcrest Library – Council Members Gloria and Faulconer held a Community Town Hall Meeting on Wednesday, November 18, to discuss plans for this library. On November 18, \$250,000 of Development Impact Fee (DIF) money was recommended by the City's Capital Improvement Program Review and Advisory Committee (CIPRAC) to further the project in its design phase. Because the cost of underground parking at the new library is approximately \$3 million, Commissioner Hervey asked about the availability of parking at the elementary school directly behind the library.

**Motion:**

Commissioner McCarty moved to investigate the availability of parking at the elementary school directly behind the library. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

San Carlos Library – On November 18, 2009, \$62,000 of DIF money was recommended by CIPRAC to further the project in its design phase.

Commissioner Sullivan mentioned the new Logan Heights Branch Library, which is 25,000 square feet and technologically advanced, will open on December 11.

### **9.c Legislative Update**

None.

### **9.e Foundation Update – Jay Hill**

At the Grand Opening ceremonies on December 11, Council President Ben Hueso will be announcing a special gift to the Logan Heights Branch Library.

*Outcasts United* by Warren St. John was selected as 2010 *One Book, One San Diego* program winner.

The Library Foundation was featured on KPBS twice last month.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

None.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Sullivan adjourned the meeting at 1:45 p.m.

***Deborah L. Barrow***

DEBORAH L. BARROW  
Library Director

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