



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

## BOARD OF LIBRARY COMMISSIONERS

Members

Salvatore Giametta, Chair

Susan Atkins • Ann Haddad • Katie Sullivan • Abby Silverman Weiss • Sarah White • Alan Ziegau

### MINUTES

#### BOARD OF LIBRARY COMMISSIONERS

#### SAN DIEGO PUBLIC LIBRARY

Wednesday, July 6, 2011

#### ATTENDANCE

##### Commissioners:

**Present:** Salvatore Giametta, Susan Atkins, Ann Haddad, Sarah White

**Absent:** Katie Sullivan, Abby Silverman Weiss, Alan Ziegau

**Staff:** Deborah Barrow, Library Director; Christine Siegel, Deputy Director; Megan Lim, Development Director, San Diego Public Library Foundation; Darren Greenhalgh, Deputy Director, Engineering & Capital Projects; Victor Westmoreland, Administrative Aide

**Public:** John McAllister

#### CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 12:39 p.m. in the Commission Room of the Central Library.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The June 2011 minutes were approved unanimously.

#### NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT

None

#### CHAIR'S UPDATE: Sal Giametta

Mr. Giametta introduced and welcomed new Library Commissioner Ann Haddad.

#### REQUESTS FOR CONTINUANCE

None.

#### REPORT FROM THE FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY: John McAllister

Mr. McAllister reported that one of the goals of the Friends of the Library in the upcoming year is to strengthen and rebuild the branch friends groups.

**SERRA SYSTEM ADVISORY BOARD:**

None.

**LIBRARY FOUNDATION UPDATE:** Megan Lim

Ms. Lim thanked Mr. McAllister and the Friends of the Library for working with the Library Foundation.

Mr. Giametta thanked Ms. Lim and the Foundation for their support during the recent advocacy efforts before the City Council.

New Central: The Foundation continues to meet with top donor prospects and has received a \$250,000 commitment from an anonymous donor.

Padres Event: The Library, the Foundation and the Padres are participating in Library Night at PETCO Park on Saturday, July 30. It will be a celebration of the Library's Summer Reading Program (SRP). During the pre-game ceremony and throughout the evening, participants of the SRP will be recognized.

**AGENDA ITEMS**

**10.a Library System Update:** Darren Greenhalgh

New Central Library: Waterproofing, site grading and pouring of concrete for Parking Garage levels P1, P2 and Level 1 are complete. Parking garage lighting is also complete.

There is a mock-up of the new Central Library on Park Boulevard near the construction site.

The commissioners expressed interest in a tour of the construction site, possibly in conjunction with a future commission meeting.

**DIRECTOR'S UPDATE:** Deborah Barrow

On June 6, City Council approved a Fiscal Year 2012 budget that restores library hours and keeps branch library hours open 36 hours per week. The budget took effect on July 1.

Price Family Charitable Fund generously donated \$40,000 to pay for Sunday hours at the City Heights/Weingart Branch Library. Starting on Sunday July 10, 2011, the branch will be open 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. on Sundays.

The end of Fiscal Year 2011 brings preliminary results showing good usage of the library, despite reduced hours. The difference in actual use was less than the difference in the reduction in hours. Hours were reduced from 1,556 per week to 1,316 per week, which was a 15.4% reduction. However, circulation had only gone down 7.5%, from 7,706,431 to 7,129,443.

The Summer Reading Program (SRP) kicked off on June 15. The theme for children is *One World, Many Stories*; the theme for teenagers is *You Are Here*; and the theme for adults is *Novel Destinations*. The Library is now using an online system for registration. The Padres have generously donated 20,000 tickets to the program.

Ms. Barrow and a few staff members recently attended the American Library Association's (ALA) annual conference in New Orleans. Ms. Barrow saw San Diego Public Library (SDPL) staff members speak at events. SDPL had a recruiter booth at the conference for the Deputy Director and Librarian I-IV positions currently open. The booth was well-attended and several potential candidates asked questions and expressed interest.

Mark Elliot Lugo appeared in the June 2011 online issue of *You Magazine*. The article discussed the Library's Visual Arts Program and vision for the New Central Library Art Gallery.

Ms. Barrow discussed three articles on libraries which appeared in the San Diego Union-Tribune on June 19, 2011.

Library Clerk Hoan-Vu Do was awarded the 2011 San José State University, School of Library and Information Science, H.W. Wilson Scholarship, which will support his MLIS studies and career goals in science librarianship.

Ms. Barrow distributed a copy of the letter from the Library Commissioners to the *Project Unknown* teen music group, congratulating them on winning second runner up in the ALA's *Why I Need My Library* video conference.

Ms. Barrow and ALA President Roberta Stevens appeared on the KBPS Midday Edition radio show on June 20, 2011, hosted by Maureen Cavanaugh. They discussed the restoration of library hours, and the continuing importance of libraries, even in the digital age.

### **10.c Legislative Update:**

Governor Brown is expected to sign the FY 2012 budget within the next day or two. The budget preserves \$15.2 million in library funding: \$8.5 million for California Library Services Act, \$3 million for the Public Library Fund, and \$3.7 million for literacy. The Legislature passed two measures that would enact very specific mid-year cuts to programs if revenues do not materialize, as anticipated, by December 15, 2011. Library funding would be in jeopardy if these revenues do not materialize.

### **10.b Budget Update:** Deborah Barrow

The FY 2011 budget was \$34 million, and the FY 2012 budget was \$37 million. Ms. Barrow explained and clarified the difference, in particular how the City categorizes and calculates the zero-based hourly budget. The matching funds budget is \$924,727 in FY 2012.

### **10.a Library System Update (cont):** Deborah Barrow

University Heights: There is interest from San Diego Unified School District regarding a joint-use facility in University Heights. It has been reported that School Board members proposed a task force on development of the Education Center and may be planning to request Library involvement.

Skyline Hills Project: Due to potential State budget cuts and the State's redeployment of redevelopment funding, \$1 million in funds from the First 5 San Diego County Commission for the Skyline Hills project has been rescinded. The Library will ask for the funds again once the project has other funding.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

The meeting for August 2011 has been cancelled. The next meeting will be in September 2011.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Giametta adjourned the meeting at 1:29 p.m.

***Deborah L. Barrow***

DEBORAH L. BARROW  
Library Director

/vrw