



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

BOARD OF LIBRARY COMMISSIONERS

Members

Mel Katz, Chair

Matthew Hervey • Susan Atkins • Susan Lew • Judy McCarty • MaryAnne Pintar • Katie Sullivan

MINUTES

BOARD OF LIBRARY COMMISSIONERS

SAN DIEGO PUBLIC LIBRARY

Wednesday May 1, 2007

ATTENDANCE

Commissioners:

Present: Susan Atkins, Mel Katz, Matthew Hervey, Katie Sullivan

Absent: Susan Lew, Judy McCarty, MaryAnne Pintar

Staff: Anna Tatár, Library Director; Meryl Balko, Deputy Director; Cynthia Meinhardt, Project Officer II; Jay Hill, Director of Development; Carol Young, Senior Management Analyst

Public: Tom Jamieson, Brenda Mason, Joy Sunyata

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 9:10 a.m. in the Commission Room of the Central Library.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The April 2007 minutes were approved unanimously.

REQUESTS FOR CONTINUANCE

None.

NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT

Joy Sunyata stated that she will be speaking in support of the Library's budget at City Council on Wednesday. She also commented on how wonderful the Looking at Jazz grant funded program has been, and in particular how much Art, Music & Recreation librarian Vic Cardell had contributed to the program.

REPORT FROM THE FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

Commissioner Katz reported that the essay contest awards ceremony will be held at 6:30 pm on Thursday May 3 at the Balboa Park Club.

SERRA SYSTEM ADVISORY BOARD: Tom Jamieson

Mr. Jamieson introduced Brenda Mason, who will be taking Tom's place on the Serra Advisory Board. The May board meeting has been postponed until mid-June.

Commissioner Katz thanked Mr. Jamieson for his dedication and many years of service.

CHAIR'S UPDATE: Mel Katz

Commissioner Katz noted that the new Main Library site has been leveled and is ready to go.

ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHIEF UPDATE

No report.

DIRECTOR'S UPDATE: Anna Tatár

- Jay Hill presented a Development Program update. He reported that all revenue goals had been met this fiscal year. The Library Foundation gave over \$400,000 to the Library for its matching funds this year. Planning for next year is occurring, with the focus being on increasing the visibility of the Library. The Library will be continuing its relationship with the San Diego Chargers and Padres next year.

Commissioner Katz reported on work to establish an advisory board for the Library Foundation. The goal will be to show support from high visibility advocates whose names will appear on Foundation letterhead.

- Ms. Tatár reported that One Book, One San Diego will be continuing, with KPBS a partner.

Commissioner Hervey challenged Library Commissioners to attend next year's Carnegie Society event and to bring a guest.

- As mentioned above, Vic Cardell is coordinating the Looking at Jazz program.
- North Clairemont Branch Library will celebrate its 45th anniversary on April 18.
- The Austin Chamber of Commerce made a preliminary visit to San Diego. Commissioner Katz, Ms. Tatár, Victoria Hamilton, Executive Director, Commission for Arts and Culture, and Kay Wagner, Executive Director, San Diego Children's Museum, met with several members of the Austin Chamber of Commerce to explore lessons learned from San Diego.

- Ms. Tatár attended a Mayoral press conference on April 10 concerning the budget. Another press conference will be held today at the Point Loma/Hervey Branch Library, which Commissioner Hervey will attend.
- The Harry Potter bus will be visiting San Diego in early July.

AGENDA ITEMS

10.a Library System Update

Cynthia Meinhart reviewed the written Capital Improvement Project Update report. A quarterly report on the new Main Library has been sent to the State Library for review.

The North University Community Branch Library and the community park will both open at the end of August.

10.b Budget Update

Commissioner Sullivan reported that the Commission's budget subcommittee and the Friends of the Library treasurer met with Library and Mayoral staff to discuss the FY 2008 proposed budget. It appears that the Public Library Fund grant will be secure. Approximately twenty positions have been converted to the hourly pool and will not be lost. Technology will help to offset some staff reductions.

Concern remains about the 3 Youth Services Librarians being eliminated. Consideration is also being given to requesting an increase in the money appropriated to match donations to the matching funds. Commissioner Sullivan also noted that the library materials budget was reduced significantly in fiscal years 2005 and 2006, and we are starting to see the long-term impact of the cuts.

Commissioner Sullivan added that the Mayor's staff promised to proactively involve the Library Commission in the budget process next year, as well as to involve them in the Library's BPR process.

Commissioner Hervey suggested acknowledging their appreciation that the proposed budget does not cut core services.

Commissioner Atkins recommended that the Commission not minimize the impact of the reductions. She suggested that they agree to support the budget given the difficult budget year, and with the understanding that the Library cannot give up more.

Commissioner Katz suggested putting a letter together from the Library Commission for Wednesday's budget hearing.

Ms. Tatár distributed a report and PowerPoint from the Independent Budget Analyst concerning the proposed Library Department budget. She noted that the City Heights Performance Annex

will not be closed. Community groups will be allowed to continue to sign up and use the facility through the staff of the City Heights Library. However, the proposed budget includes the elimination of the Public Art Assistant whose responsibilities have included the planning, coordination, and implementation of programs.

10.c Legislative Update

The proposed \$4 billion library bond is currently going through the legislative hearing process for placement on the ballot in 2008.

OTHER BUSINESS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Katz adjourned the meeting at 10:30 a.m.



ANNA TATÁR
Library Director

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