



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO
MAYOR JERRY SANDERS

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 January 2, 2008

ATTENDANCE

Commissioners:

Present: Matthew Hervey, Mel Katz, Susan Lew, Judy McCarty, Katie Sullivan

Absent: Susan Atkins, MaryAnne Pintar

Staff: Meryl Balko, Deputy Director; Bruce Johnson, Deputy Director; Jay Hill, Director of Development; Carol Young, Senior Management Analyst

Public: Brenda Mason

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m. in the Commission Room of the Central Library.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The December 2007 minutes were approved unanimously.

REQUESTS FOR CONTINUANCE

None.

NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

REPORT FROM THE FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

No report.

SERRA SYSTEM ADVISORY BOARD: Brenda Mason

No report.

CHAIR'S UPDATE: Mel Katz

Commissioner Katz noted that the Library was in the news a lot, and he distributed copies of articles.

The One Book One San Diego program will start on January 28. The Library will partner with KPBS.

Jay Hill reported that KPBS will be doing promotions on both radio and television. Press releases have been sent, and articles in the *San Diego Union-Tribune* are anticipated. Articles have been written for the *Library Connect* and Friends' newsletters.

Commissioner Katz suggested that the author and a Library representative make the rounds of morning talk shows to promote the programs and the San Diego Public Library in general.

DIRECTOR'S UPDATE: Bruce Johnson

- Jay Hill provided a fund raising update. Mailings were delayed due to the fires, but it appears that the results of the most recent solicitation will be good.

On February 26 the Estate Planning Council will be holding their annual dinner at the Serra Mesa Branch Library. It will be a good opportunity to promote the Library to estate planning professionals.

- Bruce Johnson discussed the *San Diego Union-Tribune* article on the relatively heavy use of libraries by "Generation Y." It was also noted that Internet users are twice as likely to use libraries as those who do not access the Internet.
- The journal *Public Libraries* has an interview with author Susan Vreeland, and in it she discusses the role that the San Diego Public Library has played in her life. Ms. Vreeland will receive the LOLA award at the Local Authors' event on Saturday, January 26.
- Library staff is working to finalize the Library's tactical plan.
- Mr. Johnson replied to a question from the December meeting regarding expanding Library internet service beyond the library facilities. Staff researched the issue but was told that the City has limited bandwidth and would not be able to accommodate this expansion.
- The next event sponsored by the City Club will be at the Point Loma/Hervey library with Richard Reeves on January 17.
- Mr. Johnson distributed updated Capital Improvements Program information that had been requested at the December meeting.

AGENDA ITEMS

10.a Library System Update

Commissioner Hervey asked how the Mission Hills project would be funded, and was told that private funds would be required. He requested updated project costs by the next Commission meeting that he can take to potential donors.

Commissioner Hervey also inquired about the status of the Skyline Hills project, and was told that the City Councilmember fully supported the project. There will be a meeting the following week with COO Jay Goldstone to discuss the funding gap.

Commissioner Sullivan stated that the Commission should consider supporting a policy that proceeds from the sale of library facilities or property should be limited to use in Library CIP projects. This will be discussed at the February Commission meeting.

10.b Budget Update

It was agreed that the Commission budget subcommittee will consist of Commissioners Sullivan, Hervey and Katz.

10.c Legislative Update

No report.

OTHER BUSINESS

Commissioners discussed the contents of a Library Foundation public relations piece on the need for public libraries. Commissioner Sullivan recommended that a number of sections be revised to make it more relevant to current users. Commissioner Hervey noted that there was nothing about the role of reference librarians and the guidance that they provide navigating through the information and misinformation available via the Internet. It was also suggested that donation information be added to the piece.

A revised draft will be provided at the next Commission meeting.

The Mayor's State of the City address will be held on January 10 at the Balboa Theater, and special seating has been arranged for the Commission and the Friends board.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Katz adjourned the meeting at 10:05 a.m.

Bruce Johnson/for
ANNA TATÁR
Library Director

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