



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 April 2, 2008

ATTENDANCE

Commissioners:

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

Absent: Susan Atkins, Susan Lew, MaryAnne Pintar

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

Public: Brenda Mason, Shelia Padgett, Corinne Wilson

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 January 2008 minutes were approved unanimously.

REQUESTS FOR CONTINUANCE

None.

NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT

Corinne Wilson from the Center on Policy Alternatives distributed information on the Managed Competition Process. Her organization wants to ensure that the process is fair and that City employees are heard. She encouraged the Commissioners to become familiar with the process.

Mr. Johnson indicated that he will invite a representative from the Mayor's office to the next Commission meeting do a presentation on the program.

REPORT FROM THE FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY: Shelia Padgett

The ceremony to honor the essay contest winners will be held on May 1 at the Balboa Park Club.

The Friends are involved with getting volunteers to work at the Children's Book Festival.

Representatives from the Friends of the Library will attend all of the budget hearings.

On April 7 officers of the Friends met with Judith Harris of the Library Foundation to discuss the mission of the Foundation and common goals.

SERRA SYSTEM ADVISORY BOARD: Brenda Mason

Serra is anticipating budget cuts. Staff is working on a grant with San Jose State University for librarian training. They are also working with the law library on how the public can obtain legal information.

The Serra Public Relations Committee is working on a revised electronic and paper version of the library location map.

CHAIR'S UPDATE: Mel Katz

Commissioner Katz announced that Katie Sullivan has been appointed the next Chair of the Library Commission. He distributed an article concerning the \$1 billion New York Public Library campaign to improve the library system, which includes plans for a \$300 million endowment.

The San Diego Public Library scored well again in the City's customer satisfaction survey. In fact 42 percent of the total number of surveys submitted was from library patrons. Overall the Library scored 4.5 out of a possible 5.

Commissioner Sullivan noted that the score was down slightly from previous surveys, probably reflecting reduced operating hours and spending on library materials. Commissioner Katz responded that a different methodology was used as well. He reported that 13 Library employees were called out by name for their good work, which was the most from any department.

The Children's Book Festival is scheduled on May 4 from 10 am to 4:30 pm at the North University Community Library and Recreation Center.

The annual Carnegie Society Tea will be held at the Sera Mesa Branch Library on May 20 and will honor Library Director Anna Tatár for her years of service to the Library.

On June 19 from 5 to 7 pm at the Balboa Park Club there will be a recognition event for Ms. Tatár.

DIRECTOR'S UPDATE: Bruce Johnson

- The La Jolla Branch Library won the Environmental Services Director's Award for the third year in a row for their recycling efforts.
- The Mayor's \$103 million deferred maintenance plan will be going before the City Council in two weeks. Included is nearly \$2 million for the Library Department for elevator repairs at the Central Library and Rancho Bernardo, branch library re-roofing, and HVAC and plumbing retrofitting at the Central Library.

- National Library week begins April 13. Events include rolling out digital access library cards at City Schools for students without library cards.
- A new section entitled Check Out Treasures at the Library will be rolled out on the Library's webpage.
- The Library is launching a Digital Media Library with 600 downloadable audio e-books from Overdrive. Soon to come will be the ability to download them onto mp3 players including I-pods and I-phones. The download stations will be located at the Central and Carmel Valley libraries.
- April 16 is California Library Legislative Day, which Commissioner Sullivan and Library analyst Carol Young will be attending. They will focus on support for the library construction bond bill and funding of the Public Library Fund.

Commissioner Katz asked whether the Library would be running public service announcements during National Library Week. Mr. Johnson responded that he would explore the idea.

AGENDA ITEMS

10.a Library System Update

The written Capital Improvements Program update was distributed.

Commissioner Sullivan thanked the Friends of the Mission Hills and Scripps Ranch libraries for the funding they provided to install new carpets.

10.b Budget Update

Commissioner Sullivan will be meeting with City Councilmembers or their staff to brief them on the Library's budget.

The City Council budget hearing on the Library will be on April 30 from 6 to 9 pm. The Park & Recreation Department budget will also be discussed prior to the Library. Town Meetings are also being held in each Council district.

On April 15 the proposed budget will be released and sent to Commissioners.

10.c Legislative Update

There will be a hearing on SB 1516, the library construction bond bill, on April 9.

OTHER BUSINESS

Commissioner Hervey expressed concern about the high cost per square foot of the proposed Mission Hills Branch Library, noting that it is about \$900 versus \$300 for the new Logan Heights facility.

ADJOURNMENT

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Anna Tatár".

ANNA TATÁR
Library Director

CY