



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

# BOARD OF LIBRARY COMMISSIONERS

## Members

Katie Sullivan, Chair

Matthew Hervey • Susan Atkins • Judy McCarty • MaryAnne Pintar • Mel Katz

## MINUTES

### BOARD OF LIBRARY COMMISSIONERS

#### SAN DIEGO PUBLIC LIBRARY

Wednesday, August 06, 2008

## ATTENDANCE

### Commissioners:

**Present:** Katie Sullivan Susan Atkins, Matthew Hervey, Mel Katz , MaryAnne Pintar

**Absent:** Susan Lew, Judy McCarty

**Staff:** Deborah Barrow, Library Director; Meryl Balko, Deputy Director; Bruce Johnson, Deputy Director; Jay Hill, Director of Development; Pam Whitfield, Administrative Aide II; Brian Ruark, Technical Support Program Manager; Mark-Elliott Lugo, Library Curator; Cynthia Meinhardt, Project Officer II; Darren Greenhalgh, Deputy Director; Carol Tellez, Executive Secretary

**Public:** Brenda Mason, Shelia Padgett

## CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m. in the Commission Room of the Central Library. Commissioner Sullivan introduced the new Library Director Deborah Barrow, and stated she was looking forward to working with her. Ms. Barrow thanked everyone for the warm welcome.

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

### Correction to June 2008 Minutes: 9.a Library System Update, Cont.

Mr. Katz stated he hopes to be at City Council in December 2008 with \$50 million in *private* contributions.

The June 2008 minutes were approved unanimously.

## REQUESTS FOR CONTINUANCE

None.

## NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

**REPORT FROM THE FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY:** Shelia Padgett

The Friends of the Library are receiving special recognition for 30 years of service by the Association of Fundraising Professionals. The event will be held on Wednesday, November 12 at the Sheraton San Diego Hotel and Marina. The Friends Annual Meeting will take place on Saturday, September 13, 2008.

**SERRA SYSTEM ADVISORY BOARD:** Brenda Mason

Serra will be holding its 14<sup>th</sup> annual Multi-Lingual Book Fair at the Oceanside Library in October. The fair is for librarians, elementary teachers, and the public, and will have books in all languages. Two students will be awarded scholarships.

**AGENDA ITEMS**

**9.a Library System Update**

Cynthia Meinhardt reviewed the written Capital Improvement Project Update report. On May 14, 2008, the Development Services Department issued a foundation permit for the new Central Library. The electrical revisions requested by the State Library are being finalized and will be resubmitted to the Development Services Department for approval.

Construction on the Logan Branch Library is about 25% complete. Completion date is expected to be fall 2009. Engineering staff is working with Library staff member Pam Whitfield on the furniture package. Ms. Barrow introduced Ms. Whitfield, who is temporarily acting as the Library's Capital Improvements Analyst.

The Balboa Library is in design phase, and will be two stories.

The Skyline Hills Library is partially funded. The San Diego Public Library Foundation has committed \$3.5 million to the project. Land has been purchased next door to the library for expansion purposes. Commissioner Hervey stated that there is no longer a condition on linking the old branch with the new construction, and that the funding has been increased to \$5 million.

First Five Funding agreement is being updated and the term has been extended to November 2008. If necessary, the agreement can be extended a second time.

The architect has completed the schematic design for the Mission Hills Library. Commissioner Hervey stated that the donors have specified that the building be 20,000 square feet minimum, craftsman style, and two-story.

**CHAIR'S UPDATE:** Katie Sullivan

Commissioner Sullivan stated that the Library's summer reading program was featured on KUSI television on August 5. She also mentioned that the San Diego Public Library was named one of the top 25 "Most Modern Libraries" in the world due to our technology and its availability to the public. We were one of the first libraries in the nation to have complete WIFI access for our patrons.

Ms. Barrow introduced Brian Ruark as the newest member of our technology team. Mr. Ruark mentioned that staff is continuing to learn the new Integrated Library System. He stated that 21 express-check machines have been installed, and that the Library plans to purchase a total of 49. Logan and the new Central Library were mentioned as two sites that will need to have the express-check machines.

Commissioner Sullivan reported that she had received a letter of resignation from Commissioner Pintar. Ms. Pintar accepted the position of Chief of Staff to Council Member Scott Peters.

**DIRECTOR'S UPDATE:** Deborah Barrow

- Ms. Barrow handed out the press release that San Diego Public library was named one of the top 25 "Most Modern Libraries," and complimented staff for a job well-done.
- Ms. Barrow mentioned that the KUSI television spot went very well.
- Ms. Barrow stated that she has a KPBS interview next week on Tuesday, August 12, from 9:40-10:00 am. The segment is called, "These Days," and the interviewer will be Alan Ray.
- Ms. Barrow reported that on Tuesday, September 16, at 10:00 am, Council Member Madaffer will be presenting the Library with a Special Order of Business for being named one of the top 25 "Most Modern Libraries."
- Ms. Barrow introduced the Library's Art Curator, Mark-Elliott Lugo. Mr. Lugo gave a brief update on the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Invitational Drawing Show currently on exhibit at the Pacific Beach Library. Commissioner Atkins asked about donating art work to the Library. Mr. Lugo explained that the policy is in the process of being revised to allow the Library to have autonomy in accepting donations.
- Ms. Barrow stated that she will be holding three Town Hall Meetings next week to further get acquainted with staff.

**9.b Budget Update**

The City Council voted to reinstate 21.75 Library staff positions. The Library's proposed budget was \$35 million, and the final was \$37 million, for an increase of \$1.6 million. Commissioner Sullivan reported that \$500,000 of that amount was an increase in matching funds, and that City Council has raised the matching funds limit to \$1.5 million.

Ms. Barrow announced that the State Budget has not been passed yet which may have a serious impact on the City's budget. Commissioner Sullivan thanked the Friends of the Library, and Commissioners Katz and Hervey for their support during the budget process.

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

Ms. Barrow reported a new, \$4 billion library construction and renovation bond measure proposed by State Senator Joe Simitian is working its way through the legislative process. It may go to the voters in 2010, and letters of support are being requested. Commissioner Sullivan recommended that the Library Commissioners send a letter of support.

### **MOTION:**

Motion made by Commissioner Pintar and seconded by Commissioner Atkins to draft a letter of support for the proposed \$4 billion library construction bond measure. The motion was passed unanimously.

### **9.d Foundation Update**

Mr. Hill stated that on Wednesday, November 12, the Association of Fundraising Professionals was honoring the Friends of the Library for 30 years of service.

Mr. Hill received a check for \$50,000 from Mr. de Llamas (former San Diego resident), to be used exclusively for improvements, supplies and programs at the San Ysidro Library.

Mr. Hill showed a brief video of the new Central Library, narrated by the architect, Rob Quigley.

Mr. Hill gave a power point presentation to update the Commissioners on the San Diego Library Foundation.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

None.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Sullivan adjourned the meeting at 10:25 a.m.



DEBORAH BARROW  
Library Director

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