



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

MINUTES
BOARD OF LIBRARY COMMISSIONERS
SAN DIEGO PUBLIC LIBRARY
WEDNESDAY, MAY 4, 2005

BOARD OF
LIBRARY COMMISSIONERS

Mel Katz, Chair

Matthew Hervey
Susan Lew
Judy McCarty
MaryAnne Pintar
Natalie Rencher
Katie Sullivan

ATTENDANCE

Commissioners

Present: Mel Katz, Judy McCarty, Natalie Rencher, Katie Sullivan

Absent: Matthew Hervey, Susan Lew, MaryAnne Pintar

Staff: Anna Tatár, Library Director; Meryl Balko, Deputy Director; Carol Young, Senior Management Analyst

Public: Christina Clifford, Thomas Jamieson, Cecily McEuen

CALL TO ORDER

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

REQUESTS FOR CONTINUANCE

None.

NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

REPORT FROM THE FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY: Cecily McEuen

The Essay Contest had 1,200 entries from 50 schools submitted to 28 libraries. There were 49 semi-finalists, and 12 grand prize winners.

The annual meeting will be held on September 10 at the Mission Valley Branch Library.

A total of \$90,000 has been raised by the College-Rolando Friends of the Library for the new branch. A billboard has been placed on College Ave. by the SDSU Foundation to support the Friends.

SERRA SYSTEM ADVISORY BOARD: Tom Jamieson

Mr. Jamieson reported that Sue Swisher will be leaving Serra at the end of June. Ms. Tatár noted that Ms. Swisher was always very responsive to requests from libraries. Commissioner Sullivan suggested that a motion be made to send a letter of appreciation from the Commission once a quorum was achieved.

CHAIR'S UPDATE: Mel Katz

Commissioner Katz reported that the City Council declared April National Library Month, and on April 19 voted to move forward with the Main Library by a vote of 8 to 1. He thanked the Commissioners who attended the April 19 Council meeting.

Commissioner Katz noted that the Mayor's resignation will not impact fundraising for the new Main Library. The Library Foundation is working on the goal of raising \$30 million by the end of the summer.

DIRECTOR'S UPDATE: Anna Tatár

- Ms. Tatár and Ms. Kazmer attended a conference at the Seattle Public Library in April. The main library is designed to separate the civic space from the library area. A large percentage of visitors to the new library are from out-of-state.
- Mr. Hill provided a Development Program update. The number of contributors is up slightly from the prior year. The Carnegie Society now has 53 members who will be providing the Library with a planned gift. A \$3.2 gift from the estate of Jane Cameron will be coming to benefit the La Jolla/Riford Branch Library.

Commissioner Sullivan suggested providing City Council with a report on the success of the Carnegie Society.

- The Library was ranked the number one City service for customer satisfaction.
- Ms. Tatár noted her gratitude for the number of supporters who spoke at the April 19 City Council meeting, at which \$6.5 million in funding for the new Main Library was approved.
- The Logan Heights Friends of the Library will be receiving a \$50,000 donation from the CP Kelco Company to purchase books for the new branch library.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The April 2005 minutes were approved.

Motion

Motion was made by Commissioner Sullivan to send a letter of appreciation to Sue Swisher at Serra. Seconded by Commissioner McCarty.

The motion passed unanimously.

CITY MANAGER'S UPDATE

No report.

AGENDA ITEMS

10.a Library System Update

The written report was briefly reviewed. Commissioner McCarty requested that staff work with her to set the opening date of the College-Rolando Branch Library.

10.b Matching Library Material Fund Update

Ms. Balko said that the written report was shared with the Friends of the Library. They did not take action on the recommendations. Ms. Balko reported that the Branch Managers unanimously supported the change increasing the number of branches receiving the pool due to the growth in the pool amount.

Motion

Motion was made by Commissioner Sullivan that the Board of Library Commissioners supports the recommended change in the Matching Library Materials Fund pool distribution. Seconded by Commissioner McCarty.

The motion passed unanimously.

10.c Budget Update

Ms. Tatár provided an overview of the printed budget document. She reported that the Associate Director of Development was added to the list of Library Department reductions.

Commissioner Sullivan said that the Commission's Budget Subcommittee met on Tuesday, and agreed to request the reinstatement of the Development Program position. Concerning branch library service hours, it was understood that a reduction was necessary due to the severity of the budget situation, but it was suggested that a few templates be provided to allow for some tailoring of library hours.

Commissioner Katz expressed concern that switching closed days would be confusing to the

public. Commissioners also expressed concern about closing Mondays, due to the impact on students.

Ms. Tatár reported that about 34 positions will be lost, including the grant funded positions. There are some vacancies to help offset layoffs, but not all of the positions match up.

Commissioners requested that an historical report on the funding of Youth Service Librarians be provided.

Motion

Motion was made by Commissioner McCarty to send a letter to the Mayor and City Council requesting: 1) reinstatement of the unclassified position in the Development Program, without cutting another unclassified position; 2) restoring the \$500,000 in library materials funding; 3) considering the establishment of a deferred maintenance matching fund, and providing \$500,000 for the match; and 4) reinstating the Youth Services Librarians cut due to the Public Library Fund and General Fund reductions.

Seconded by Commissioner Rencher.

The motion passed unanimously.

It was agreed that members of the Budget Subcommittee would follow up with either meetings or phone calls to City Councilmembers.

10.d Legislative Update

No report.

OTHER BUSINESS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Katz adjourned the meeting at 10:45 a.m.

ANNA TATÁR
Library Director

LIBRARY COMMISSION TO DO LIST
May 4, 2005

1. Work with Commissioner McCarty on the opening date for CH. (She requested that it not be when she will be out of town, which is the first 3 weeks of August.)
2. Provide an historical report on the funding of Children's/Youth Services Librarians.
3. Work with Commission budget subcommittee to draft a letter to Council requesting:
 - Reinstatement of unclassified position in Development – without cutting another unclassified position
 - Restoring the \$500,000 cut to library materials
 - Setting up a new matching fund for deferred maintenance, with additional funds for the match
 - Restoring the Youth Service Librarians.

May 6, 2005