



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

**MINUTES
BOARD OF LIBRARY COMMISSIONERS
SAN DIEGO PUBLIC LIBRARY
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5, 2006**

**BOARD OF
LIBRARY COMMISSIONERS
Mel Katz, Chair**

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

ATTENDANCE

Commissioners:

Present: Mel Katz, Matthew Hervey, MaryAnne Pinter, Natalie Rencher,
Katie Sullivan

Absent: Susan Lew, Judy McCarty

Staff: Jo Anne SawyerKnoll, Deputy Chief, Office of Ethics and
Integrity; Anna Tatár, Library Director; Esther Siman, Assistant
to the Director; Meryl Balko, Deputy Director; Afshin Oskoui,
Deputy Director; Jay Hill, Director of Development; Arian
Collins, Senior Public Information Officer; Dianne Parham,
Senior Management Analyst

Public: Vickie Church/Friends of the San Diego Public Library;
Thomas Jamieson, Serra System Advisory Board

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 minutes were approved unanimously.

REQUESTS FOR CONTINUANCE

None.

NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT

Commissioner Katz announced that April 2-8 is National Library Week,
and that a banner has been hung in the Central Library and buttons
distributed to staff.

Commissioner Hervey announced that public television will have a
program on April 20th at 10 pm which discusses the redevelopment of
City Heights, and includes William Jones, Sol Price, and Jack McGrory,
and does show the Weingart City Heights Branch Library.

REPORT FROM THE FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY: Vickie Church

The Friends have provided a letter of support for a flat budget, emphasizing no cuts and the importance of full staffing during core hours as well as the continuation of construction projects. Larry Donofrio was thanked for his presentation to the Presidents during their orientation meeting.

SERRA SYSTEM ADVISORY BOARD: Tom Jamieson

Serra passed its certified audit for FY 2005. Salary savings this year will be carried to FY 2007. Tom is recommending that savings be used to update the Serra library systems map. Serra Advisory Boardmember Bertha Meyers is very ill (she also on the Calexico Library Board of Trustees and the Camarena Memorial Library has a room dedicated to her).

CHAIR'S UPDATE: Mel Katz

There will be a fundraising letter going out under Commissioner Katz's signature on April 15.

Fundraising for the Main Library continues. A meeting will be held with Centre City Development Corporation (CCDC) President Nancy Graham next week to confirm their commitment to the project.

DEPUTY CHIEF'S UPDATE: Ted Martinez

Deputy Chief Martinez was absent, but sent his regrets.

DIRECTOR'S UPDATE: Anna Tatár

Director Tatár asked Senior Public Information Officer Arian Collins to show the public service announcement (PSA) of Doris Kearns Goodwin, author of *Team of Rivals: The Political Genius of Abraham Lincoln*, which is being distributed to the cable channels. Commissioner Sullivan inquired about the possibility of radio PSAs. Staff is in the process of reviewing a proposal from a vendor. Other authors will be approached to do additional PSAs for the City.

There was an article in USA Today regarding Miss Breed.

Grant funding of \$217,000 is being sought to continue Tutor.com.

Michael Gorden, co-author of *Cobra II : The Inside Story of the Invasion and Occupation of Iraq*, and a participant in the Great American Writers Series, said he wrote most of the book on a laptop in a library.

Jay Hill reported that the \$1 million match has been exceeded, and that there are 3,000 new contributors to the Library. On May 11th, there will be a Carnegie Society event at the La Jolla Branch Library.

AGENDA ITEMS

10.a Library System Update

Afshin Oskoui, Deputy Director, Engineering & Capital Projects, provided the update on library projects:

- Main Library environmental work has been completed. Demolition and site remediation will take place in April, and the design permits will be finalized. Costs continue to escalate for materials, which will have an impact on the project's costs.
- Otay Mesa-Nestor Branch scheduled to open on April 7. Mayor Sanders, Councilmember Madaffer, and Councilmember Ben Hueso will be in attendance.
- Serra Mesa Branch's outside exterior work is being finished.
- North University Community Branch is at 15% completion; the foundation is done.
- Logan Heights Branch Phase I is completed, and the State architect is now reviewing the plans. It is expected that bids for the structure itself will be solicited in late April/early May.
- Mission Hills Branch project has had three community meetings.
- Paradise Hills Branch project has had community meetings, with site selection still to be determined.
- Balboa, Mission Hills, North Park and Ocean Beach are in design.
- Skyline Branch had a community meeting. The balance of the project's funding still needs to be identified.

10.b Budget Update

Commissioner Katz said that in the next ten days, the City will be hearing from actuaries regarding the requirements to fund the pension. Anna Tatár distributed a memo from Andrea Tevlin, the Council's Independent Budget Analyst, showing the budget presentation schedule. The Library Budget hearings will take place on Wednesday, May 3. There was a discussion about the 2000 Financing Plan and changes that have happened in the City since that plan was approved by Council, and what impact those changes may have on the library system.

Katie Sullivan is chair of the Commission's budget sub-committee. MaryAnne Pintar and Mel Katz are also on the committee. The sub-committee members met with the Mayor and emphasized the importance of maintaining existing hours. In order to avoid reducing library service hours, the budget sub-committee members made a number of suggestions to the Mayor including the transfer for the cost of the library guard services to the Police Department and charging for the checkout of audiovisual materials. Anna Tatár noted that the best practices call for public libraries to provide access to basic services including the checkout of audiovisual materials without additional fees. She suggested an alternative of increasing fines for overdue materials.

The Commission will be meeting on May 2 in anticipation of the May 3 Library Budget hearing. Afshin Oskoui said that the Independent Budget Analyst's (IBA's) review would be issued at the end of April. Anna Tatár said that staff had met with Penni Takade, IBA Policy and Fiscal Analyst, presenting a department overview.

10.e Legislative Update

Mel Katz distributed information regarding Proposition 81 which will be on the June 6th ballot. If passed, the proposition would provide \$600 million, half of which would be dedicated to projects left unfunded but submitted for Proposition 14, and half would be for other projects with a continued emphasis on partnerships with schools. The previously submitted Skyline Branch Library would, therefore, be considered. San Diego Public Library received funding for the Main Library and Logan Heights Branch Library from Proposition 14. The projects require a 35% match from local funding, similar to Proposition 14. There was discussion about what other libraries could be considered for submission, including more funding for the Main library. The new Board will begin hearings and a rulemaking process should the proposition pass which will give us more direction on the submission process.

Jo Anne SawyerKnoll, Deputy Chief, Office Ethics and Integrity, presented information on what the Board of Library Commissioners could, and could not do on behalf of the library related to Proposition 81. She provided a PowerPoint handout, and responded to questions. It is acceptable to provide information about the possible effect of the bond measure on the library as long as it is accurate, fair and impartial. Neither City staff on City time nor any City resources can be used to advocate for the measure. A sign can be placed on City property if that sign states the facts of the effects of the bond measure, but does not advocate for a particular vote.

Jo Anne SawyerKnoll indicated she would be willing to review language on any documents the Commission might create. The City Attorney is also available to review language.

A motion was moved (Pintar) and seconded (Sullivan) to endorse the Bond Act. The motion was passed unanimously. Staff was directed to notify Mayor and Council of the Commission's action.

OTHER BUSINESS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Katz adjourned the meeting at 10:50 a.m.


ANNA TATÁR
Library Director

dlp