

Minutes
SAN BERNARDINO PUBLIC LIBRARY
Board of Trustees
September 14, 2006

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the San Bernardino Public Library was held in the Board Room of the Norman F. Feldheym Central Library, 555 West Sixth Street, San Bernardino

Call to order:

The meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to order by President Garcia at 2:10p.m.

Roll Call:

Present: Dr. Dorothy Garcia, President
Marion Vassilakos, Secretary
Dr. Milton Clark, member
Gary Saenz, Vice President (arrived @ 2:14p.m.)
Carolyn Tillman, member (arrived @2:19p.m.)

Ophelia Georgiev Roop, Library Director

Public: None

Minutes: The minutes of July 13th and August 10th were approved as presented (Saenz, Clark, unanimous)

Consent Items:

- ❑ Monthly Financial Statements:
 - The Board reviewed the financial statements of the previous month.
Motion: Authorizing Dr. Clark to vote on the bequest investments if necessary. (Saenz – Vassilakos, unanimous)
- ❑ Communications/Correspondences:
- ❑ Personnel:
 - Accept resignation form Devin Ball, Library Page, and effective 9/01/06
 - Accept resignation form Caitlyn Hall, Library Page, and effective 9/01/06
 - Approve salary adjustment for Veronica Lopez, part-time Intern, Literacy Division, and effective 8/01/06
 - Confirm appointment of Katherine Arrowmaker, Library Page, and effective 9/01/06
 - Confirm appointment of Pedro Aguilar, Library Page, and effective 9/01/06
 - Confirm appointment of DeLisa Williams, Library Page, and effective 9/01/06
 - Confirm appointment of Sarah Freeman, Library Page, and effective 9/01/06
 - Confirm appointment of Samantha Boyd, Library Page, and effective 9/01/06

The consent items were approved as presented (Vassilakos-Clark, unanimous)

Old Business:

- Library budget: FY 2006/2007 –
 - Appropriations Report: The Library Director reviewed the Appropriations Report with the Board.
- Review of water bottles in the library rule:
The Library Director read policies from surrounding libraries about the use of water bottles inside. The Board moved to allow patrons to bring water bottles inside the library. (Vassilakos – Clark, unanimous)
- Meeting Room Fees Policy:
The policy for collecting fees for the use of the meeting rooms at Feldheim will be revisited as an agenda item at the February 2007 regular meeting of the Board. The Board would like to meet with D'Ann Lanning prior to the February meeting, possibly in early January 2007.

New Business:

- Local History Digital Resource Project:
The Library Director summarized this project funded with a grant from the State Library, which will provide digital access to San Bernardino historical photographs of the city's pioneers. Placing it on the board agenda fulfills one of the obligations of a successful grant applicant which is a community meeting. According to the grant guidelines, "a community meeting can be a meeting of your library advisory body (Library board of Trustees, for example.)"
- The Library Director's attendance at the California Library Association Conference November 11-14, 2006 was approved. (Saenz-Clark, unanimous)
- The Library Director's attendance at the International Book Fair in Guadalajara, Mexico, November 25 - 30, 2006 was approved. (Tillman-Clark, unanimous)

President's Report:

In discussing the September 15th planning workshop Dr. Garcia expressed concerns if the Board would have adequate time to establish actual goals according to the agenda presented by the moderator, Victoria Jenkins.

Library Director's Report:

- Meeting with First 5, re: funding/grant for Early Literacy projects.
- PLF (FY 2006-07) funding.
- MDF air-conditioning causing further down time for servers.
- Security Guards situation.
- Frank Plash bequest to the library: two original Demeter Koko paintings and his collection of recordings (cassettes and CDs).
- Discussion with SBPD representatives, re: the homeless on the park surrounding the library:
On Friday, September 8th, the library management team met with Marci Atkins, Homeless Court Coordinator and Crisis Intervention and her sergeant Bielaszka for the SBPD to discuss possible solutions to the problems for the Feldheim library patrons created by the homeless congregating on the park surrounding the library. The discussion underscored the sad fact that neither the city nor the library can solve this problem due to numerous constraints.

According to Ms. Atkins the great majority of the homeless outside the library have behavioral problems usually as a result of not taking their prescription medications. She routinely comes to the library park to look for the homeless who need medical and other assistance. There are several clinics around the city

that provide non-emergency, non-crisis help to the homeless and there are other agencies that provide counseling, food, housing, etc. But the biggest problem we all face is the fact that no one can force the homeless to either go to a clinic or to any other facility for help. The majority simply does not want to go. The other problem is that these are only daily services and the few people who take advantage of them one day are back on the street again the next day.

Ms. Atkins distributes cards with a free of charge phone number where the homeless can obtain information for all the services they need. The library will reproduce these cards and make them available to everyone.

The fact that the area around Central Library is a city park also presents problems. Unless the people lounging around on the park grounds engage in inappropriate behavior such as drinking alcoholic beverages, exposing themselves or harassing patrons passing by, the police cannot remove them because parks are for loitering and having picnics.

One possible solution might be to make the park library property so that the city can have a “no loitering” ordinance. Another possibility would be to investigate if the municipal enforcement police assigned to Carrousel Mall could be transferred to the library when the mall is converted into something else and they are no longer needed there.

The Lutheran Mission will be opening a “winter” shelter for men only from October 1st through April 30th. No one had any information on the building of the one-stop homeless mall for which the county received a large federal grant last year.

Ms. Tillman suggested that the library management team investigate the possibility of removing the cement circle around the flowerbed in the middle of the walkway to the front door on which currently many homeless men sit. Eliminating it would take away the ability for the homeless to sit right in the middle of the walkway and the patrons would be able to walk into the library without the intrusion of throngs of homeless.

San Bernardino City Library Foundation:

At the Foundation’s meeting on Thursday, September 7, 2006 library director Ophelia Georgiev Roop presented to the Foundation Board ten proposals of needs for funding that the staff had prepared:

- “One Book, One City” reading program with guest author speaker Isabel Allende
- Refurbishing of the Upper and Lower Art Galleries at Feldheim
- Children’s books for the collection to support “Every Child Ready to Read”
- Early literacy stations at the branches
- Wireless Internet Access
- Electronic databases – Reference USA
- Spanish language materials
- Artistic development for the story nook
- Phil Yeh murals in children’s room amphitheatre
- Reference standing orders

Judge Cynthia Ludvigsen questioned the legality of having a bequest to the Foundation managed by someone else: According to June McDade, past president, a bequest (the Jones bequest) was made to the Library

Foundation with the stipulation that the Gorian Investment Group manages the investments. Judge Ludvigsen wanted to know what sort of authority does the Foundation have over these funds and what might the repercussions be for the members of the Foundation Board if they are not the ones managing the funds. The Foundation does not have any documents pertaining to this bequest. President Maureen Godfrey said that she would consult with Julie Peccorini, also on the Foundation Board and an estate attorney.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 4:12 p.m.

The next meeting of the Library Board of Trustees will be on Thursday, October 12th, 2006 at 2:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by David Mendoza, Computer Center Coordinator, on behalf of:

Marion Vassilakos
Secretary