



LIBRARY COMMISSION MINUTES

Regular Meeting of Tuesday, October 7, 2003
Woodland Library
1975 Grant Road, Los Altos, California 94022

ROLL CALL

Chairperson Thurber called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.

Present: Chairperson Thurber, Vice-Chair Iskow and Commissioners Gerich, Iskow, Johnson, McNulty Winkler and Dr. Takle Quinn.
Absent: Commissioner Lopez
Also Present: County Librarian Melinda Cervantes, Jean Nei, Donna Drako, Cynthia Wilson and City of Los Altos Liaison Donna Legge.

MINUTES

COMMISSIONER JOHNSON MOVED that the minutes of September 2, 2003 be approved as amended. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER GERICH AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE.

Amendments:

Add "Johnson" to the ROLL CALL. Correct name spelling of Phil Giarrizzo.

REPORTS

Jean Nei, Acting Children's Program Librarian

Jean announced that the Hennen American Public Library Ranking placed the Santa Clara County Library #1 for excellence in services and collections for the third consecutive year for libraries serving the population size of 250,000 to 499,999. The ranking is based on data reported by libraries in 2002 for activities in 2001. The lecture/slide presentation attracted 140 participants. Kris Casto participated in the Nursery Story Time program that was very successful. She announced upcoming events and library attractions including the Teen Poetry Open Mic Night, Word for Word, Storytelling Fest and slide lecture by Francisco Jimenez. Jill Lakstigala will begin next week as the newly appointed Children's Program Librarian.

Melinda Cervantes, County Librarian

Melinda is planning on releasing an article regarding the Hennen American Public Library Ranking. She added that the Santa Clara Library went from 7th place last year to fourth place this year. The Library JPA Board has asked polling consultant Gene Bregman to conduct a second public opinion survey to provide them with additional information prior to the October 23rd Library JPA/Election Committee meeting. At that meeting the JPA Board will discuss this rate, term and escalator for the March 2004 Library measure. The top three nominations for the Silicon Valley Reads program are: *Life of Pi* by Yann Martel, *Daughter of Fortune* by Isabele Allende and *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury. Patrons are invited to vote for a finalist and read the book prior to February. Events will be held at libraries, bookstores and other venues throughout the month of February to celebrate reading and literacy in Silicon Valley

Donna Drako, Friends of the Library

Donna announced that the Friends made an \$18,600 at the book sale held on September 12, 13 and 14. The Friends have sent a letter to the editor to thank the buyers and those who made contributions to the book sale. This particular book sale had the largest number of books in the history of the book sales.

Dr. Karen Takle Quinn, LALE

Commissioner Gerich attended the last LALE meeting and reported that the parcel tax campaign donation is pending legal review.

NEW BUSINESS

Youth Commission Status Report

Cynthia Wilson summarized the discussion held between her, Larry Condit and the Youth Commission on September 15, 2003 at the library. In general, the Youth Commissioners felt that the teen services were being well met. Commissioners McNulty Winkler had shared some ideas of a "Library Lab" that would feature keynote speakers and recommended books related to a pre-planned topic. The program would utilize a standard presentation template to include two reference books, career-oriented, and other desirable features. Much discussion continued. Based on the input from the library staff's experience and input from the Youth Commission, it was recommended that the staff and commission consider planning for middle school age.

STAFF/COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Parcel Tax Election Update

Cervantes reported that the Library JPA will be hosting a special meeting to review the Mello Roos property tax status. On October 23, the Board is proposing to pass a resolution to form a District. A public hearing is scheduled for December 3. The ballot language, including the rate and length of the measure (10 years) and an escalator (2%), must be determined 90 days prior to the election date. General information will be made to the public beginning in November. The JPA is preparing factual information to help educate the staff and the public about the Measure proposed for March 2, 2004. The county will be informing staff about how they can or cannot participate in the campaign either on or off duty. The current assessment is scheduled to expire in June of 2005.

DISCUSSION AND ITEMS OF INTEREST

1. The Annual Los Altos – Los Altos Hills Volunteer Service Awards Committee is now accepting nominations through November 3, 2003. Nomination packets are available at City Hall.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by
Donna Legge, Recreation Supervisor
Liaison to the Library Commission