



LIBRARY COMMISSION MINUTES

**JOINT MEETING OF THE LOS ALTOS LIBRARY COMMISSION AND THE
NORTH COUNTY LIBRARY AUTHORITY**

Regular Meeting of Tuesday, December 6, 2005

Los Altos Main Library

13 South San Antonio Road, Los Altos, 94022

ROLL CALL

Chair, Gerich called the meeting to order at 5:33pm

Present: Chair Gerich, Vice Chair Poulos, Commissioners, Tucker, Thurber, Smith and Dr. Takle Quinn

Absent: Commissioner Johnson

Also Present: Cheryl Houts, Community Librarian; Citizen, Gerry Dunckel, Elayne Dauber, Friends of the Library; Jean Mordo, Roy Lave, Curtis Cole, King Lear, NCLA Board Members; Phil Rose, Starla Jerome-Robinson, City Staff; Peggy Ford City Staff Liaison

MINUTES

COMMISSIONER SMITH MOVED that the minutes of November 1, 2005 be approved. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER THURBER AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Citizen, Elayne Dauber gave detailed information regarding the formula the County Library uses to assess the amount per year the Los Altos Library gets for funding.

REPORTS

Cheryl Houts, Community Librarian

Cheryl asked if the commission would like to have a proclamation proclaimed for the Silicon Valley Reads Program during the month of February. All commissioners agreed that it was a great idea. Commissioners Smith, Poulos and Tucker agreed to attend the Council meeting in which the proclamation is read. Children's book week was celebrated with a special after school program featuring Professor Smart (fun physics). The regular book discussion groups met in November and

an art lecture was held. Woodland Branch Library had one of its heating/air units replaced in early December.

Melinda Cervantes, County Librarian

Melinda was unable to attend the commission meeting due to a conflict.

Dr. Karen Takle Quinn, LALE – No report given

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY - No report given

BUSINESS

JOINT MEETING WITH NCLA BOARD

Board members held a discussion with Commissioners regarding NCLA inability to continue funding the traditional 32 hours of supplemental funding at Los Altos Libraries. Revenue from the parcel tax is inadequate to offset the staffing costs. Expenses have been greater than revenues for the past two years, and the difference continues to increase since revenues are fixed and expenses growing.

NCLA requested guidance from the Library Commission on the best way to proceed. NCLA suggested that perhaps a Library Commission subcommittee could study the funding levels for staff and capital improvements as well as other sources of revenue and come up with some solutions to the problem. NCLA emphasized that a solution is needed quickly to develop a strategy without impacting Library service levels.

Discussion also involved whether or not to place a measure on the ballot at this time or to wait and gather more information about funding needs. Reduced staffing will require reducing hours of operation at the Libraries.

 LTAC Training Discussion  postponed until January 3rd meeting

DISCUSSION AND ITEMS OF INTEREST

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Set January 3rd Agenda

ADJOURNMENT - Meeting was adjourned at 7:20p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by
Peggy Ford, Recreation Supervisor
Liaison to the Library Commission