



LIBRARY COMMISSION MINUTES

Regular Meeting of Tuesday, March 3rd, 2009
5:30p.m., Los Altos Main Library
13 South San Antonio Road, Los Altos, 94022

ROLL CALL

Chair Lai called the meeting to order at 5:30pm

Present: Chair Lai; Vice-Chair Struthers, Commissioners Poulos, Tucker, Smith Gerich and Suelzle

Absent:

Also Present: Peggy Ford; City Staff Liaison, Melinda Cervantes; County Librarian, Paul Miller; Community Librarian

MINUTES

COMMISSIONER STRUTHERS MOVED that the minutes of February 3rd, 2009 be approved with corrections. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER GERICH AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE.

PUBLIC COMMENT.

REPORTS

County Librarian Report
Melinda Cervantes

- ✚ California Library Association, CLA reported that the Governor did not make any reductions for FY2009-10 to the State Library or to its programs such as the Public Library Foundation, Transaction Based Reimbursement or the adult literacy program.
- ✚ American Library Association, ALA has compiled a list of the programs that libraries can benefit from included in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.
 - **\$7.2 billion for Broadband**
This includes \$2.5 billion for Rural Utilities Service and \$4.7 billion for the National

Telecommunications and Information Administration's (NTIA) broadband grant program to increase broadband access...[read more](#).

- **\$53.6 billion for the State Fiscal Stabilization Fund**

This program includes \$48 billion in block grants allocated among the states. Out of each state's allocation, 81.8 percent is reserved for education and 18.2 percent is reserved for the governor to...[read more](#).

- **An additional \$120 million for the Senior Community Service Employment Program**

This funding will provide community service jobs at nonprofit and public facilities, including libraries, for an additional 24,000 older Americans. The Senior Community Service Employment Program is a community service...[read more](#).

- **An additional \$130 million for the Rural Community Facilities Program**

The Community Programs is a division of the Housing and Community Facilities Programs at the United States Department of Agriculture. Community Programs includes the Community Facilities Guaranteed Loan Program...[read more](#).

- ✚ The County Board of Supervisors will appoint the first County Poet Laureate on Tuesday, March 24th at 1:30pm in the Board of Supervisors Chambers, 70 W. Hedding, San Jose. The County Library is a co-sponsor with the County Board of Supervisors and Arts Council Silicon Valley.

Community Librarian's Report Paul Miller

"Learning and Education" This was a refrain repeated several times by the firm that polled Los Altos residents in preparation for the Master Plan funding. They found that learning/education was the single most important value to Los Altos residents. This is also the value that jumps out of library surveys that have been conducted as far back as I can remember. While libraries do much more than cater to learning and education, it is their involvement with these that contributes most to their esteem. It would seem to me that the Los Altos/Los Altos Hills library community should remember and use this fact in the eventual bond campaign.

In preparation for closing the Woodland branch in the fall (and the possible packing up of the collection, laying of new carpet, etc.), staff is undertaking a thorough weeding project. The hiring of a ½ time professional librarian so that Woodland will have at least 20 hours of professional service every week is also in the offing.

Program attendance was extraordinarily large in February, with 100+ (turn-away crowd) for a program on lyme disease; 100 for an art program on the new Legion of Honor exhibit on Faberge, Tiffany and Lalique; 75 for Opera San Jose's preview of the season; nearly 100 to hear Pakistani military officers talk about their country's relations with the U.S. and Afghanistan; and 85 for the Brian Copeland talk. The latter elicited a most enjoyable and passionate discussion session.

In March we'll have two master Gardener programs (March 3 and 24). Our Senior Health Chats series continues on March 10 with a talk on planting spring gardens. On March 11 there will be an art lecture on the De Young's Andy Warhol exhibit. Our monthly World Affairs Council event is on March 18, and we will join again with the California Native Plant Society on March 27 for a talk entitled, "Native Plants, Native People." On March 30 the library is hosting a community forum on El Camino Hospital's recent acquisition of Los Gatos Community Hospital. The "Great Decisions" series, cosponsored with the LWV and the Foreign Policy Association, will host five programs in March: The Arctic Age (2), Egypt in the 21st Century (9), Global Food Supply (23), Universal Human Rights (23), and Cuba After Castro (30).

On the children's side, March 4 will witness "Japanese Culture Day @ Los Altos Library, a celebration of Japanese culture with dancers and singers in colorful kimonos cheering the cherry blossoms. March 18 will bring a hands-on art workshop by the Community School for Art and Music. Linden Tree is cosponsoring, on March 19, a visit by graphic novelist Jimmy Gownley, who will talk about *Amelia Rules*. Family Movies, Spring Book Club, Jazzercise with Jerome, and the almost countless toddler, preschool and bedtime story times round out the calendar.

Friends of the Library

Nothing to report

Commissioner Smith, LALE

Nothing to report

JPA Meeting

Nothing to report

NCLA

Nothing to report

BUSINESS

DISCUSSION AND ITEMS OF INTEREST

- 1) Presentation by Jay Baksa re: Gilroy Library
Jay Baksa is a former City Manager of the City of Gilroy. He reported on the process and work load to win an election to fund a new library in Gilroy. Jay as well as Carol De Sentis and Bob Sigala who also served on the election committee, talked about the specifics of running a successful campaign.

Update/Discussion of Community Center Master Plan

- 2) Commissioner Tucker gave a brief report on the Community Center Master Plan

Major Contributors

- 3) To be discussed at April meeting

CIP Review

- 4) Woodland Library update – project is moving along.

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FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS
Set April 7th Meeting Agenda

ADJOURNMENT – 7:20p.m.
Respectfully Submitted by
Peggy Ford, Recreation Supervisor
Liaison to the Library Commission