



LIBRARY COMMISSION MINUTES

Regular Meeting

Tuesday, September 1, 2009 5:30p.m.

Los Altos Main Library

13 South San Antonio Road, Los Altos, 94022

ROLL CALL

Commissioner Lai called the meeting to order at 5:31pm

Present: Chairperson Lai; Commissioners Struthers, Tucker, Smith, Gerich, Poulos and Suelzle

Absent:

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

MINUTES

COMMISSIONER SMITH MOVED that the minutes of August 4th, 2009 be approved as is. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER GERICH AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Stan Morrest commented about the internet use at the Library and wanted to know if a survey had been done yet to see if people are happy with the service. Paul Miller, Community Librarian will speak with Stan outside of the Library Commission Meeting regarding this issue.

REPORTS

Melinda Cervantes, County Librarian

The Library is working on a short and long term plan to upgrade and reconfigure our computer network. While it will take several months to implement the entire plan, we hope to see incremental improvements to network performance in the coming weeks. The upgrade plan is our top technical priority.

- The slowness is not being caused by a virus. We have not found any evidence of a virus on the network. (There have attempted viral attacks that have been intercepted by our anti-virus protection measures.)
- There are multiple causes for the slowness. The root cause is inadequate bandwidth for existing traffic.

- The slowness is intermittent, but tends to occur during peak periods when the library is busiest. The Library is busier than ever and there is more internet use than ever.
- The Library's IS staff is working with the County's IS Department and an external network assessment consultant firm to identify and fix the problems.
- Our network upgrade plan has multiple phases and needs to be done one step at a time with testing along the way. There is not one simple fix to the slowness problem.

The Silicon Valley Reads book for 2010 is [In Defense of Food: An Eater's Manifesto](#) by Michael Pollan. "Eat food. Not too much. Mostly plants. That is the short answer to the supposedly incredibly complicated and confusing question of what we humans should eat in order to be maximally healthy." (Pollan, 2008)

"Food is the one thing that Americans hate to love and, as it turns out, love to hate. What we want to eat has been ousted by the notion of what we *should* eat, and it's at this nexus of hunger and hang-up that Michael Pollan poses his most salient question: where is the food in our food? What follows in [In Defense of Food](#) is a series of wonderfully clear and thoughtful answers that help us [omnivores](#) navigate the nutritional minefield that's come to typify our food culture. (Anne Bartholomew, Amazon.com)

The Silicon Valley Reads 2010 kick-off event is scheduled for Wednesday, Jan. 27, from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m., at the Campbell Heritage Theatre. www.siliconvalleyreads.org

The next meeting of the Library JPA Board will be October 22, 2009 at 1:30pm at the Library Administration Offices, 14600 Winchester Blvd., Los Gatos.

Paul Miller, Community Librarian

Woodland Library closed on August 13. Since then virtually every loose item has been taken out and stored either in commercial storage space, at HQ, or at Los Altos Library. In preparation for closing, half the SCCL had to do something in order for the closing to occur smoothly. Admin, procurement, circulation, systems, receiving, website, public relations, delivery, personnel...just to name the sections that come to mind right now. From my perspective, it all flowed very smoothly. There will be a pre-construction meeting tomorrow. Any time after that the contractor can begin work.

On August 26, the Los Altos Library Endowment (LALE), the Friends, and the library hosted a dedicatory ceremony for the Virginia Whipple Collection. It was an enjoyable, upbeat hour which showed the community that Ms. Whipple is being appropriately honored.

The North County Library Authority (NCLA) decided on August 5 to hold the election for continuing our local parcel tax next June. The precise tax that NCLA will ask voters to approve will be decided in November.

LSSI has been engaged in the RFID tagging project at Los Altos Library since mid-August. The very pleasant and hardworking crew goes about its work quietly and efficiently with minimum disruption to normal operations.

The slowdowns and disruptions in the various computer systems that the library has suffered recently are being tackled by broadly upgrading the network, with firewalls, routers and data lines due for replacement. Several months will be required by the several projects.

“Poetry and Music,” SCC Poet Laureate Nils Peterson and pianist Maureen Draper, Sept 18, 7:30 pm.

The Whodunit Mystery Readers Group, Discussion of *The Four Courts Murder* by Andrew Nugent. Sept 2, 10:15 am.

“Wild Things: New Plants from the California Outback,” a talk and slide show by author and horticulturist, M. Nevin Smith. Sept 3, 7 pm.

Senior Health Chat, “Preventing Identity Theft and Fraud,” Officer Paco Vergara, Sept 8, 1 pm.

“Argentine Tango: a Lecture and Dance Demonstration.” Jurek Mazur, Academia de Tango Argentino. Sept 9, 7 pm.

The Great Books Club, Sept 15, 6 pm.

“Women and Stroke,” Peninsula Stroke Association, Sept 23, 7 pm.

Master Gardener Series, “Cool Season Gardening,” Sept 29, 7:30 pm.

Programs for Kids include:

Afternoon Movie at Los Altos Library, Sept 12, 2 pm.

“The Incredible Magic Hat Show,” Benny and Bebe. Sept 23, 3:30 pm.

Fitness is Fun: Jazz with Jerome. Sept 30, 3:30 pm.

“Fall Into a Good Book Club,” 4th through 6th graders. This time discussing *The Mysterious Benedict Society and the Perilous Journey* by Trenton Lee Steward.

The Book Bugs!, a book discussion for 2nd and 3rd graders. Sept 17, 4 pm.

Baby Lapsit for non-walking babies up to 12 months old, Mondays, Sept 21 through Nov 16, 11:30 am.

Stepping Up for walking babies up to 24 months old, Mondays, Sept 21 through Nov 16, 10:30 am.

Friends of the Library

Ida Cohen reported that the Friends of the Library grossed \$18,749.00 at their August book sale.

LALE

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NCLA

The North County Library Authority (NCLA) decided on August 5th to hold the election for continuing our local parcel tax next June. The precise tax that NCLA will ask voters to approve will be decided in November. The next meeting of NCLA will be held on October 21st at 6:30pm at the Neutra House.

BUSINESS

DISCUSSION AND ITEMS OF INTEREST

Annual Report to Council – Joint Meeting October 13, 2009

The Library Commission reviewed the years accomplishments and discussed goals for the upcoming year in preparations for their joint meeting with city Council on October 13th.

Community Picnic Report

Commissioners made last minute preparations for their booth at the Los Altos Community Picnic.

Clarify Brown act as it pertains to Library Commission Participation in parcel tax

Commissioners discussed proper procedures for attending NCLA and/or JPA meetings when there is a quorum of commissioners in attendance. City Staff Liaison, Peggy Ford will post agendas whether a quorum is expected or not.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Set October 6th Meeting Agenda

ADJOURNMENT – 7:20p.m.

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