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## LIBRARY COMMISSION MINUTES

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### Regular Meeting

Tuesday, February 2, 2010 5:30p.m.

Los Altos Main Library

13 South San Antonio Road, Los Altos, 94022

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### ROLL CALL

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

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

Absent: Commissioner Gerich

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

### MINUTES

COMMISSIONER SMITH MOVED that the minutes of January 5th, 2009 be approved as is. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER STRUTHERS AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE.

### PUBLIC COMMENT

### REPORTS

#### Melinda Cervantes, County Librarian

The Silicon Valley Reads Kick-off on Wed., Jan. 27 at 7:30pm at the Campbell Heritage Theatre was a great success. Nearly 1500 people showed up with only 800 seats capacity. More than 75 related programs will be offered throughout the county during February and March.

The Annual Library Friends and Commissioners Forum took place last Saturday with approximately 60 people in attendance. Using the results of the survey of 1,171 surveys, Adam Gay and Sandy Swanson of OrangeBoy, Inc. introduced the group to clusters of residents most likely to get a library card. Other sessions on new technologies and services found on the Library's website and the ever popular Money Matters were equally popular.

The Gilroy Library has moved to a temporary location and will open on Friday, Feb. 12, 2010. Groundbreaking for the new library is scheduled for spring 2010.

Save the Date! 2010 CALTAC Workshop in Library Leadership: Telling Your Library's Compelling Stories takes place Saturday, February 27, 2010 at the Berkeley Public Library.

The next meeting of the Library JPA Board will be April 22, 2010 at 1:30pm at the Library Administration Offices, 14600 Winchester Blvd., Los Gatos.

### Paul Miller, Community Librarian

The library system as a whole has been working hard at filling “holds” quickly. Holds are mostly items that are held at a distant library that must be pulled from the shelf and sent to the library of the requester. The vast majority of these are now filled within three days.

According to the JPA’s capital improvement budget that was approved last week, next year will see the library’s carpet replaced, the interior painted, and the reference desk area reconfigured, which, among other results, will see it taking up less room.

Woodland Library’s repairs are nearing completion. Books and computers and other items will be moved in this month. A reopening date—very likely in March—will be set as soon as we can guarantee its accuracy.

On or about February 25, the internet bandwidth available to Los Altos Library will increase from 6 megabytes to 20, due to the recent installation of fiber optic cable.

Neighboring public libraries are seeing greater cuts in their budgets than SCCL, and we expect that these will impact demands on our own services. Palo Alto Public Library, for example, suffered a 12% budget cut this year and expects another 5% cut next year. Its book budget had borne the brunt of this with large cuts. Sunnyvale Public Library has lost three positions. Mountain View Public Library’s budget was cut 5% this year and will probably lose another 5% next. The San Jose branches will be open only 3 or 4 days per week, and will lose up to 85 employees.

### Friends of the Library

The January book sale went very well with sales grossing \$19,630.00. Friday’s sales totaled \$11,424.00 alone. Bags of books sold for \$5.00 each.

### LALE

Commissioners invited Bob Simon, President of LALE to speak regarding the endowment. Mr. Simon gave a brief description of funds in the endowment over the years and an update on how the endowment is currently fairing. Commissioners thanked LALE for its support and gifts over the years to the Library.

### NCLA Report

Commissioner Lai reported regarding the NCLA meeting that took place on January 13. Parcel Tax election will be put on the June 8<sup>th</sup> ballot. The parcel tax will ask for an increase from \$52 to \$76 which includes books, hours of operation, staffing, programs, general expenses and will begin in 2011/2012.

## **BUSINESS**

### **DISCUSSION AND ITEMS OF INTEREST**

1. Jill Lakstigala, Children’s Librarian– Los Altos Library

Jill Lakstigala reported on her duties as Children's Librarian. She helps adults with reference questions, booklists, reviews and provides a variety of programming. Los Altos Library has the most story times in the Santa Clara County Library system. Story time is a model for parents and nannies. It helps children to work on skills such as listening, sitting quietly and paying attention. Children need to be read to on a regular basis in order to appreciate and comprehend reading themselves.

2. California Association of Library Trustees and Commissioners (CALTAC) Workshop

Agendas were passed out and reviewed. Commissioners Poulos and Smith will attend the workshop and report back to the Commission in March.

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

**Set March 2nd Meeting Agenda**

**ADJOURNMENT – 7:03p.m.**

Respectfully Submitted by

Peggy Ford, Senior Recreation Supervisor

Liaison to the Library Commission