



LIBRARY COMMISSION MINUTES

Regular Meeting of Tuesday, July 6, 2004
Los Altos Main Library
13 South San Antonio Road, Los Altos, California 94022

ROLL CALL

Chairperson Thurber called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Present: Chairperson Thurber, and Commissioners Gerich, Iskow, Johnson and Dr. Takle Quinn
Absent: Commissioners McNulty Winkler
Also Present: Community Librarian Cheryl Houts, County Librarian Melinda Cervantes

MINUTES

COMMISSIONER JOHNSON MOVED that the minutes of June 1, 2004 be approved as amended. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER ISKOW AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE.

Amendment to County Librarian Report – ~~One~~ Wireless computer access will be installed per community library by March except at Alum Rock and Woodland.

REPORTS

Cheryl Houts, Community Librarian

Cheryl announced upcoming July events and library attractions and shared various June activities. Melinda announced that the California Special Districts Association has included an exemption for libraries from the new ERAF shift and is awaiting approval by the state Legislature. Twenty-four vacant positions were deleted July 1. A new fee for holds has been delayed a few weeks due to a bug in the software system. New fines & fees policy went into effect July 1. The Library JPA discussed returning to the voters in a special election on June 7, 2005. A Library Measure meeting was held on June 29 and was well attended. The vehicle in-lieu fees have caused a loss in revenue to the Library, estimated at \$370,000. The Public Library Foundation has caused a loss of \$421,000. The Library anticipates receiving \$1.4 million in revenue from the Transaction Based Reimbursement. It is estimated that the Library will lose 15% or \$3.8 million in annually if approved by the State Legislature. This is in addition to increased operating expenses (\$1 million) or potential losses when the Benefit Assessment (\$5.3 million) expires in June 2005.

Melinda Cervantes, County Librarian

Melinda announced the Silicon Valley Reads program will be held on February 2005. The State has not yet confirmed its budget impacts. The next JPA meeting is scheduled for August 26 at 1:30 p.m. The County is reviewing positions and is still considering closing on Mondays, system-wide.

Friends of the Library

Commissioner Gerich reported that many books are being donated. The next sale will be held in September.

LALE

Commissioner Takle Quinn announced that an event will be held on April 15, with Tobias Wolffe. Gerich reported that LALE doesn't plan to spend significant amount of funds because they are in the beginning stages of development.

NEW BUSINESS

New Project Ideas

Chair Thurber reported that Council member Curtis Cole presented five areas of concern:

1. Public Input on Library Hours – hold meetings in September or October
2. What happens when NCLA ends 2010 - \$900 k in reserve – wants the Commission to advise NCLA on what to do with reserves.
3. What are plans for the Endowment? Suggests that the commission and Endowment work together.
4. RFID (Radio Frequency Identification) – wants the Commission to work on task force that County Library is establishing.
5. Should Library stay in County system or look into City system?

Thurber announced that Council member Cole will be attending august 3 meeting.

DISCUSSION AND ITEMS OF INTEREST

Melinda explained the inter-library loan and Silicon Valley Library system. The commission also discussed the Library partnering with History Museum for a reading program in March

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

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