
MINUTES
MEETING OF THE NORTH COUNTY LIBRARY AUTHORITY

July 27, 2011 - 5:00 P.M.

Neutra House

181 Hillview Ave, Los Altos, California 94022

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 5:06 P.M. by President Mordo

ROLL CALL

Members present:

Jean Mordo (President)
Ron Packard (Vice President)
Jim Lai (Secretary)
Val Carpenter
Lenelle Smith

Members absent

None

Staff /Representatives present:

Russell Morreale/Liaison/Treasurer
Jolie Houston/Legal Counsel
Melinda Cervantes/ County Librarian
Jane Cronkhite/Local Head Librarian

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

CONSENT CALENDAR

1) Minutes From The Meeting of June 29, 2011

The minutes for June 29, 2011 were approved with a motion from member Smith and a second by Secretary Lai. The motion passed unanimously

DISCUSSION

2) County Non-Resident Fee Update

Local Head Librarian Cronkhite provided an update of the progress and process established with the Friends of the Library (Friends) and Los Altos Library Endowment (LALE), in the distribution of non-resident fee discounts to eligible volunteers. In this regard Cronkhite provided drafts of "award announcement letters" compiled in concert with the Friends and LALE to be distributed to all identified volunteers. These letters identified the required criteria which had been tailored to the relevant needs of both granting organizations. Cronkhite reported that the charitable funding provided by the Friends and LALE appeared to be more than enough to cover the anticipated demand, not expected to exceed 35 in number. In terms of process, free-card enrollments would be input by Library staff based upon the actual number of selected awardees to avoid the need to hold advance funds- essentially funding will be provided

by LALE and the Friends on a pay-as-you-go basis with the contemporaneous enrollment of awardees by Library staff.

3) Discussion of Library Services

Continuing on a discussion from the prior public meeting, President Mordo introduced the item and updated the group. He reported that a legal opinion had been obtained in support of the use of available NCLA funding for the performance of a library services study – in particular the use of parcel tax funds accumulated prior to the most recent measure L passage.

President Mordo expressed the need to initiate a two-pronged study. The first being an exploratory legal analysis inquiring into the contractual options available and open to Los Altos and Los Altos Hills. Such a study was estimated to cost \$8,000 and require about 80 hours of research. In this regard, President Mordo recommended establishing a sub-committee to receive and review the legal analysis to be followed by an open-meeting review of the findings. President Mordo indicated that the legal review would hopefully illustrate the various operating models open to both jurisdictions. He further clarified that this first phase of a study would look at legal framework and options to be followed potentially by a second phase to include a financial and operational analysis.

Member Carpenter voiced her concern that the potential end result of such a report may be misinterpreted or misused especially as it relates to the fungible nature of General Fund dollars.

Vice President Packard motioned that a sub-committee made up of himself and President Mordo be established and that the subcommittee be allowed to work with special counsel Steve Mattas and that \$7,500 be allocated within the budget to accommodate such a legal analysis. This motion was seconded by Secretary Lai and approved four to one with the dissenting vote being made by member Carpenter.

Vice President Packard indicated a willingness to compensate Los Altos staff for time spent on this extraordinary project and/or to work out a work sharing arrangement with Los Altos Hill's staff. Packard made this motion which was seconded by member Carpenter and approved unanimously.

Public comment was accepted on this item. Various members of the public expressed concern that NCLA funds were to be used for a study of Library services and encouraged the Board to seek funding from the respective member cities. In this regard the main concern revolved around the funding of phase II of the study.

COMMISSION REPORTS AND DIRECTIONS ON FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

ADJOURNMENT

President Mordo adjourned the meeting at approximately 5.44PM and all members concurred Respectfully submitted,

Russell J. Morreale
Liaison to NCLA