

Santa Barbara Public Library System
Library Board

Minutes of the Meeting of September 17, 2009 held at Eastside Branch

TRUSTEES PRESENT: Catherine Radecki-Bush; Dorothy Brilliant, Christine Roberts; Eric Friedman

TRUSTEES ABSENT: None

COUNCIL LIAISON PRESENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Irene Macias, Library Director
Marivel Zambrano-Esparza, Senior Library Technician - Eastside

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was brought to order in the MLK Jr. Wing at Eastside Library at 3:00 p.m. on September 17, 2009.

CHANGES TO AGENDA: Added: Tour of Eastside Library

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: The minutes were deferred to the next board meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Eric met with Barnes and Noble about a fundraising event.. Will be on next month's agenda.

LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Budget Update

City Council had Budget Workshops in early September to consider proposals for balancing the shortfalls that are already anticipated to occur. The Library Department proposed not filling three vacancies that had occurred since July 1 to meet its target for reducing expenditures. Irene did inform the Council that library patrons may have to wait longer for service as a result of this action. The Budget cycle for the next fiscal will begin in November this year instead of December.

Eric suggested and Board Members were in agreement, that the October Board meeting should be more of a workshop- focused on budget. The Board will be more of an advocate for the Library and be more active. Eric suggested possibly inviting public people to the workshop.

Activities

The Big Read: With the \$18,000.00 grant from the NEA, we were able to do more than usual for Santa Barbara Reads. The program kick off is 9/25/09. Ray Bradbury will be at the Lobero Theatre on October 11th, a free event for the public. We have distributed free books to hundreds of students and are having an art show in Faulkner West for teens.

Eastside Renovation: Remodel of the adult room is scheduled to begin in November. Funding is from a bequest from Rose Karat, a community member. The Junior League raised money to remodel the MLK Room and Children's Area in March 2007.

The Scrabble tournament, a fundraiser for the Literacy Program, had a great turnout and raised approximately a \$5,000.00. The Summer Reading program had a larger participation than previous years.

Public computer training classes are being presented by the reference staff, and including workshops on how to use the new catalog and how to search the online databases offered by the library.

Irene has met with community members in Solvang and Montecito about the possibility of reopening the libraries on Mondays. Irene provided information on the cost of bringing back Monday hours.

Library Tour

Senior Library Technician, Marivel Zambrano-Esparza was introduced to the group. Marivel led the Board on a tour of the Eastside Library and grounds.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS: None

The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, October 8, 2009 at the Santa Barbara Public Library.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Gloria George