

Santa Barbara Public Library System
Library Board

Minutes of the Meeting of October 08, 2009 held at Central Library

TRUSTEES PRESENT: Dorothy Brilliant, Christine Roberts; Eric Friedman

TRUSTEES ABSENT: Catherine Radecki-Bush

COUNCIL LIAISON PRESENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Myra Nicholas, Library Public Service Manager

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was brought to order in the East Faulkner at 3:00 p.m. on October 08, 2009.

CHANGES TO AGENDA: None

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: The minutes were approved as submitted.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT: By Myra Nicholas

Budget Update

On October 13th, the Board of Supervisors may consider a 7% reduction to the County's per capita contribution.

Eric has requested that Budget information be sent to Board Members ten days to two weeks prior to the next meeting in order for Members to have time to review before the next meeting.

Activities

The Big Read: The Big Read continues to be a huge success. Ray Bradbury will be at the Lobero Theatre on October 11th, a free event for the public. Board members are invited.

This program was being considered for elimination due to budget issues, but an \$18,000 grant from the NEA allowed us to continue the program. Board members asked if Chris Gallery, program coordinator could capture points of 'Santa Barbara Reads' so that Board has good supporting information when trying to keep the program.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS: Eric suggested that the committee has been passive on the Library's budget. Other City committees are strong advocates and he would like to see our Board be that as well. Suggested evening workshops, inviting the public. Would like to ensure that there are no more cuts to the Library. Eric would like for the Board to be an advocate for funding the program 'Santa Barbara Reads'.

The vacancy for Co-Chair needs to be filled. Will be discussed at next meeting.

Eric met with Barnes and Noble Manager on a proposed fundraiser for the library. Still in formation, but if a customer bought a book and used their library card, Barnes and Noble would give the Library cash or store credit plus a 25% discount. They are open to placing a list of our top needs in their store. Chaucer's will also do the list, so customers will buy and donate. Spring will be a great time to do this (April is National Library Week). We should work with the Independent and build up to this event weeks before.

Christine talked with Costco and they too are receptive. They would agree to have signage "If you buy this book and bring it back to the store, it will be brought to the Library for a donation."

RDA Project: This year the City's RDA Board approved six projects out of a list of 42. Included was approval of \$150,000 for planning and design for a renovation of the Library Plaza for this fiscal year. Next year will be implementation, but there is no guarantee of funding. Eric said the Board will need to be more involved in RDA budget and advisory. Might be beneficial to have local merchants invited to RDA Board meetings as well. The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, November 12, 2009 at the Santa Barbara Public Library.

Meeting Adjourned.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Gloria George