

Santa Barbara Public Library System
Library Board

Minutes of the Meeting of March 11, 2010 held at Central Library

TRUSTEES PRESENT:	Catherine Radecki-Bush; Christine Roberts; Eric Friedman; Dorothy Brilliant
TRUSTEES ABSENT:	None
COUNCIL LIAISON PRESENT:	Councilmember Dale Francisco
STAFF PRESENT:	Irene Macias, Library Director
CALL TO ORDER:	The meeting was brought to order in the Faulkner East Gallery at 3:00 p.m. on March 11, 2010.
CHANGES TO AGENDA:	None
MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:	The minutes were approved as submitted.
PUBLIC COMMENTS:	None
ANNOUNCEMENTS:	Director Macias announced that she was invited, along with Eric Friedman to participate as guest speakers on Mayor Helene Schneider's first radio show. They will be discussing Eastside Library's grand re-opening.

Library Plaza Project

Director Macias distributed for review, the draft of the letter to be presented to the RDA Board With a few revisions, the Board unanimously approved the letter as amended. The letter will be sent out this week.

Irene reported on a meeting called by the staff of the City's Redevelopment Agency to discuss the Santa Barbara Art Museum's interest in the RDA project approved for the Library Plaza area. The Museum Director and the Board Chair were in attendance to discuss their interest in leading the design and construction of the Library Plaza Project that would include a sculpture garden. The City has requested a letter of interest from the Museum. The RFP is ready for release. Councilmember Francisco suggested to move forward and to let the Museum know that they have to move quickly on their proposal.

Special Evening Budget Meeting

The Special Board Meeting has been scheduled for April 13, 2010, at 6:00 pm. The Library will do a press release prior to the meeting. Linda Demmers, a library consultant that is working with the Library on its reorganization project will present the results of a recent user survey. Director Macias will describe recent trends in the usage of the City libraries. She will also discuss recent changes in service levels, the impacts of increased demands for services and materials, and some possible strategies for coping with anticipated budget reductions.

The public will have an opportunity to weigh in on which library services are most valuable to them.

LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Budget Update

Director Macias and the Library's Managers have reviewed proposed budget options with City Administrator Jim Armstrong. The City Administrator's Recommended Budget will be released on April 20 and the Library hearing will be May 13th.

We are partnering with the Friends groups to submit a grant proposal to the Santa Barbara Foundation for new computers for all branches (except Eastside). We were successful six years ago and are hopeful to obtain 26 computers here at Central.

Activities

We wrapped up the Santa Barbara Reads program, Enrique's Journey with an author appearance at Campbell Hall. There were approximately six hundred attendees.

The Year-end fund raiser initiated by the Central Library's Friends group wrapped up with a donation total of just over \$15,000 raised to support the library's book budget. Last year's total was about \$2,500, making this year's success even more impressive. The Friends are considering a Spring appeal as well.

The Adopt-A-Magazine program is not so successful with only a handful of magazines adopted so far.

Costco turned down the request to collect donated bestselling books to help reduce the long waiting lists for these high demand titles.

The Junior League Gala is April 10 at the Coral Casino.

Youth Outreach staff is working with City TV to create a short video that will publicize library services, especially youth programs.

A suggestion was made to distribute bookmarks that list different ways to make donations to the Library.

Another suggestion was to have a drop-box here at the Library for patrons to donate best-sellers

Staff Update

Nothing to report

The next meeting was scheduled as a Special Evening Meeting on Tuesday, April 13th at the Santa Barbara Public Library, Faulkner Gallery.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Gloria George