

The Multnomah County Library Board met on Tuesday, April 13, 2004 , at Central Library in the U.S. Bank Meeting Room. Vice- Chair Alice Meyer called the meeting to order at 7:35 a.m.

Board members present were: Joe Arellano, Robert Brading, Gwen Farnham Hyland, Stephen Feltz, Mark Garber, Molly Gloss, Rick Gustafson, Susan Hathaway-Marxer, Donna Oden-Orr and Jeffrey Tashman. Board members Dean Gisvold and Diane McKeel were excused.

Staff members present were: Molly Raphael, Connie Christopher, Becky Cobb, Ellen Fader, Cindy Gibbon, Mike Harrington, Sharon Klemp, Lance Murty, Carolyn Myers, Steve Armitage, Nicole Newsom, Vicky Oglesbee, Nancy Areveson, Peg Solonika, David Miles, Brenda Clark, Rod Richards, Susan Egan, Martha Flotten, Delette Huffman, Virginia Tribe, Marcia Anderson, and Monique Coleman. Also in attendance were: Debby Simone of Friends of the Library, Commissioner Serena Cruz, Iris Bell of Chair Diane Linn's Office, Katie Lane - County Attorney's Office, Barbara Periera and Roy Burkett, interested members of the public, Sandra Corson, MLS student at George Fox University and Rich Swift – Library's Account Manager for Shared Services.

The minutes of the March 9, 2004 meeting were approved.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Alice requested the September Board meeting be moved to September 21 as both she and Dean will be out of town and unable to chair the meeting. Board members in attendance orally agreed. Monique will email confirmation of the date change to board members.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The Director's Report was discussed. Specific items discussed were:

- 1) Gwen Farnham Hyland talked about the Library Gala. She declared this the best Gala so far with approximately 530 guests attending. Raffle tickets sales reached \$20,000 and over \$200,000 in total were raised for the 2004 Summer Reading Program.
- 2) Molly briefly talked about Item 9, noting the letter of acknowledgment as a "Selected Site" from Tufts University regarding the Library's web site and Homework Center.
- 3) Molly also announced Molly Gloss' debut poetry reading at the Looking Glass Bookstore on April 30, 2004.
- 4) A brief report on the 16th Anniversary of the Title Wave Bookstore was presented. Molly noted in March of this year, the Title Wave brought in total sales of \$31,000. An average month brings in \$17,000. Rod Richards, Title Wave's supervisor, created several special promotions to market the Title Wave and increase sales.

2004-2005 Budget Process Update

Molly presented an update on the FY 2004-2005 budget request. She relayed that as part of the County FY 2004-05 budget process, Chair Linn's office requested department managers to meet with each commissioner to discuss highlights of their budget request. As arranged, she and Becky met 2 commissioners at a time and presented highlights and issues of discussion. Molly felt the meetings were good; the commissioners offered good feedback for each of their discussion points. She also said that almost without exception the commissioners expressed their concern regarding the increased costs for IT. Molly noted it was a good opportunity to have individual interaction with the commissioners. She also noted each department was scheduled for an individual budget work sessions with the Board in May.

Alice Meyer recounted the presentation she and Dean made at the Citizen Budget Advisory Committee Meeting on April 7. She said Chair Linn and John Ball, the County's Chief Operating Officer attended the meeting and heard from every department about their concerns. She said the Library CBAC was not alone in expressing its concern about the costs of Shared Services. Alice said that she and Dean also emphasized their deep concern regarding ongoing budget reductions.

There was also discussion about the implied commitment to add two new branches (North Interstate and Troutdale) in the levy. Molly said that there have been extensive discussions about how to make this happen. Molly added that Chair Linn is supportive of the idea but also realizes the reality of declining revenues. Commissioner Serena Cruz added her support of the two new branches and felt that there was a level of commitment implied in the levy that is important to remember.

Stephen Feltz stated that even though Board members have reaffirmed the statements set out in the Library's CBAC memorandum for FY 2004-2005, he questioned whether the language was strong enough to accurately portray the level of great concern expressed in both past and current discussion.

Several board members joined Stephen in expressing profound dissatisfaction with the cost allocation for Information Technology and other consolidated services provided by the Department of Business Services. Board members requested to have a review of the Business Services structure (County Shared Services) and allocation of charges as it relates to the Library. The board agreed a letter be forwarded to John Ball requesting his attendance at May's board meeting. In the letter, John will be requested to both clarify and expand upon the information provided in the Shared Services presentation of June 2003 and to explain and clarify the increased costs that are adversely affecting the Library's 2004-2005 Budget Request.

Access Services Policy Committee Update

Committee Chair Joe Arellano recounted the work of the committee since its inception in 1999. He talked about the committee's mission of more closely studying, and reporting back to the Library Board, on emerging issues affecting library patrons' access

to information. Since the Library first offered Internet access in 1996, library policy has evolved based on advice from this committee and experience in providing these services. He discussed some of the steps the library has taken to help library patrons navigate the Internet safely, e.g., offering patrons the option of filtering software on all computers, identifying appropriate starting points on our Web Page for Internet searches, and maintaining special Web pages for children (KidsPage), teens (Outernet) and students (Homework Center).

Joe went on to explain that the committee has met several times over the past year to obtain information about the conditions that would be imposed upon the Library in the future if it chose to continue to apply for federal E-Rate funds under the restrictions imposed by Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA). The Committee reviewed and analyzed the Library's goals and principles and examined whether these goals and principles were consistent with the CIPA conditions tied to the acceptance of E-Rate funds. The committee concluded the CIPA conditions imposed on federal E-Rate funds were inconsistent with the Library's mission of fostering intellectual freedom, freedom to information access, and parents' rights and responsibility to make decisions about their own children's access to library materials. The Committee recommended that the Library choose not to apply for federal E-Rate funds so long as the funds are tied to CIPA's conditions. The Committee also recommends the Library adjust its computer system to give parents or guardians the ability and discretion to designate filtered access at all times for their children under the age of 17.

Cindy Gibbon expressed great appreciation for both the Committee's work and dedication to researching this issue and for legal opinion of the ramifications of CIPA compliance provided by Katie Lane of the County Attorney's Office. Molly also noted the Library may not be eligible for future E-Rate funding in any case if the County transitions to a private network for internet access services. There was a call for a vote on the recommendation of the Access Services Policy Committee. The vote passed unanimously.

Nominating Committee Update

Alice said that after their presentation at the CBAC meeting on April 7, she and Dean spoke with Chair Linn about the status of the reappointments and nominations to the Library Advisory Board. Alice said the Chair assured them that she was committed to moving forward on this matter. In fact, the Library had received notice that the reappointments and nominations would be confirmed at the April 22nd meeting of the Board of County Commissioners.

In regard to the topic of a youth representative to the Library Advisory Board, Alice said that the Chair's Office has initiated a review of Ordinance 649 and the necessary changes that would allow for a youth representative to be appointed. Donna Oden-Orr, Rob Brading and others the Board should discuss the role of the youth representative and such matters as eligible age range, term of office, number of candidates and what would be necessary to ensure their success in their role as a board member. Ellen

Fader suggested Joshua Todd of the County Commission on Children and Family work with the Library Advisory Board to help shape their discussion of the matter. The Board decided to continue discussion of this item at next month's meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:54 a.m. These minutes are subject to approval at the next scheduled board meeting.