

The Multnomah County Library Board met on Tuesday, March 8, 2005, at Central Library in the U.S. Bank Meeting Room. Chair Dean Gisvold called the meeting to order at 7:34 a.m.

Board members present were: Joe Arellano, Gwen Farnham Hyland, Stephen Feltz, Mark Garber, Martha Gies, Molly Gloss, Rick Gustafson, Jon Kruse, Diane McKeel, Alice Meyer, Donna Oden-Orr and Diane Xiong. Board members Charlotte Beeman, Rob Brading and Marneet Lewis, were excused.

Staff members present were: Sharon Bart, Becky Cobb, Connie Christopher, Cindy Gibbon, Mike Harrington, Penny Hummel, Rita Jimenez, Lance Murty, Carolyn Myers, Vailey Oehlke, Susan Egan, Fun Martin, Brenda Clark, Ty Thompson, Virginia Tribe, Victoria Oglesbee, David Miles, Patricia Welch, and Monique Coleman. Also in attendance were: Merris Sumrall – The Library Foundation, Stephanie Vardavas – Friends of the Library, Commissioner Serena Cruz and Bob Holbrook.

Alice Meyer asked that the minutes of the February 8 meeting be changed to reflect her title as Chair of the Vibrant Communities Committee. Molly Gloss suggested using the last name for Molly Raphael and Molly Gloss to avoid confusion and for clarity of records. With these amendments, the minutes of the February 8, 2005 meeting were approved.

LIBRARY CHAIR'S REPORT

Dean thanked Alice for your work as chair of the Vibrant Communities Committee and as the Board's CBAC representative. Dean said that the Nominating Committee would meet soon. Dean has appointed a Nominating Committee consisting of members Mark Garber, Martha Gies and Jon Kruse. Alice and Dean will remain members of the Committee. He encouraged Board members to forward names of potential nominees to one of the three Committee members.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Molly Raphael asked Merris Sumrall to provide an update on Foundation matters. Merris reported the Foundation has a 4 year campaign to raise \$10 million. One of their goals is to increase financial support for the Summer Reading program. She also recounted several touching stories of how donations are made to the Foundation. She talked about a \$50,000 gift from a gentlemen who wanted to show his appreciation for the positive effect of libraries throughout his life.

Merris gave an account about a gift from patron Jessie Valentine Gilbreth. Valentine Gilbreth began visiting the library in 1920 at the age of 5, when she lived across the street from the then Albina Library, which is now the Title Wave Used Bookstore. She used both Albina and Central Library often, and today credits the library with inspiring a lifelong love of reading. On the invitation to her 90th birthday party last month, Jessie

asked that all gifts be donations to The Library Foundation. She collected \$275. She then visited Children's Library with her family to deliver the donation, along with the heart-shaped card which was distributed during Merris' presentation.

Merris asked Gwen to give an update on the 2005 Gala. Gwen clarified there would be no liability (insurance) for young people (those younger than 18) to attend the Gala; all attendees must have a ticket. Gwen noted that raffle tickets were still available for purchase. Only 2,500 tickets will be sold this year increasing the odds of winning one of the great prizes. Gwen concluded by describing the raffle's grand prizes (1 week stay in France or winery tour and dinner for winner and friends plus an overnight stay at a downtown hotel.)

Penny Hummel stated the final report and statistics of 2005 Everybody Reads event will be completed next month. She thanked the Library Foundation and other sponsors for their support. Donna Oden-Orr said she enjoyed the book group discussion she attended. Donna suggested the Board have a book discussion group of their own as they did the 1st year. Penny said she would arrange

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY STORE UPDATE

Stephanie Vardavas reported on the status of the Friends' store and gave a brief background about the reason for the three-month closure. She said the Friends are exploring a fresh new look for the store to increase profitability. The Friends will bring in new management and merchandise mix. New members are contributing their expertise. The store is scheduled to re-open on May 25th which is also the day of the Friends annual meeting. Stephanie thanked the various library staff who helped with the store's closing.

2005-2006 BUDGET PROCESS REPORT

Updated version of the library's program offers were distributed to each board member. Molly Raphael and Becky talked about the minor modifications to the program offers. Discussion ensued about the offers and their content. There was also some discussion about the proposed New Columbia and Troutdale libraries. Molly said while there have been some exploratory discussions regarding development ideas, both projects are still on hold until the necessary financial resources can be determined. Commissioner Cruz explained the Board of County Commissioners will complete it 1st ranking and compare their rankings with those of the Outcome Teams. The BCC will then re-rank and the Chair will purchase program offers until funding is depleted.

LIBRARY PLANNING PROCESS UPDATE

Molly Raphael gave a brief update regarding the planning committee. She said most committee members have been confirmed. There are still a few to confirm but the committee should be complete in the next week or two. The committee's first meeting will take place on April 8.

The meeting adjourned at 8:48 a.m. These minutes are subject to approval at the next scheduled board meeting.