

The Multnomah County Library Board met on Tuesday, April 12 2005, at Central Library in the U.S. Bank Meeting Room. Chair Dean Gisvold called the meeting to order at 7:36 a.m.

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

Staff members present were: Sharon Bart, Becky Cobb, Ellen Fader, Cindy Gibbon, Mike Harrington, Penny Hummel, June Mikkelsen, Lance Murty, Susan Egan, Fun Martin, Brenda Clark, Peg Solonika, Steve Armitage, Renea Arnold, Marcia Anderson, Carol Rogers, Karen Eichler, and Monique Coleman. Also in attendance were: Merris Sumrall and Jenna McDormand – The Library Foundation, Ginny Benware – Friends of the Library, Commissioner Serena Cruz and her staff assistant Mary Carroll, and Maureen Wright and Sandra McDaniel of the Montavilla Neighborhood Association.

The minutes of the March 8, 2005 meeting were approved.

LIBRARY CHAIR'S REPORT

Dean presented a brief report of the activities of the Nominating Committee. Mark Garber and Jon Kruse will join Dean and Alice Meyer on the Committee. There is currently one vacancy. Additionally, terms for two members (Alice Meyer and Rick Gustafson) are ending and will need to be renewed.

Dean then introduced Maureen Wright and Sandra McDaniel of the Montavilla Neighborhood Association. Maureen explained the Association's proposal for a volunteer library in Montavilla neighborhood. She encouraged board members to testify at the April 14 Board of County Commissioners' hearing regarding the matter. Dean said that the Library Advisory Board would follow its policy of forming a subcommittee to study the issue further and report back to the full board before taking a position on the matter.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Molly Raphael noted that April 10 - 16 is National Library Week and the meeting is taking place on April 12, National Library Workers' Day. She expressed appreciation for staff's continuing commitment to excellent public service.

Molly Raphael also mentioned the front page of the Food Day supplement to the Oregonian featured an extensive article on MCL staffer Pauline Baughman and the variety of cookbooks available at the Library.

From her Director's Report, Molly Raphael noted the leading item regarding Renea Arnold's and June Mikkelsen's awards from the Oregon Library Association.

Molly Raphael also talked about the success of the Library Gala held Saturday, April 2nd. She asked Gwen Farnham Hyland, as Gala co-chair, to talk more about the Gala. Gwen noted the great band, the "Dewey Decimators", and wonderful caterers. Gwen said she has already received great feedback regarding the success of the Gala. The Foundation is hoping to greatly increase its contribution to the Summer Reading Program, especially programming to reach at-risk youth. Foundation staff and trustees are already planning next year's event. Merris Sumrall, the Foundation's CEO, expressed a special thank you to the staff at Central Library.

NEW TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCES IN CATALOGING

Cindy Gibbon and Lance Murty talked about the replacement of Dynix, the current cataloging and circulation system, with Millennium, a new system produced by Innovative Interfaces, Inc. Cindy explained what an integrated library system is (an online catalog, circulation and patron record database) and the Library's decision to install a more technologically advanced system in response to patron requests. She stated the new system will be paid for from the remaining proceeds of the 1996 bond for library renovation and technology. Cindy concluded by talking about the new features and efficiencies Millennium will provide to both patrons and staff.

Lance talked about the process of the "migration", or transfer, from one system to the next. He provided a timeline of the process that identified key dates, roles and responsibilities. September 15 is the date the system will go live to the public. The library will close September 12-14 to prepare for this change.

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEW FILTERING POLICY -- UPDATE

The new filtering/internet access policies went into effect on March 21. Cindy provided an update on the implementation and reviewed the changes in policies allowing more options for parents. She acknowledged the Information Technology and Public Services staff for their work on this project. She also stated the Board of County Commissioners will receive periodic updates about the progress on the policy implementation.

Cindy said she would like to reconvene the Access Services Policy Committee to review policies regarding behavior of patrons using internet access. She will contact committee members about a meeting date.

2005-2006 BUDGET PROCESS REPORT

Molly Raphael said the County continues to work on the budget. Molly and Becky Cobb talked about and provided handouts of the Commissioners' Round 2 rankings for library programs in the Education and Vibrant Communities priorities. Molly Raphael said there should be more detailed information to report at next month's meeting.

LIBRARY PLANNING PROCESS UPDATE

June Mikkelsen gave a brief report regarding of the first Planning Committee meeting. She provided meeting notes and talked briefly about the service responses (roles public libraries fulfill) identified by Planning Committee members. June noted a community survey is scheduled to go on-line April 13 or 14. The next meeting will be Friday, May 6 at Central Library. June said the plan will be finalized this summer.

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 a.m. These minutes are subject to approval at the next scheduled board meeting.