

The Multnomah County Library Board met on Tuesday, January 10, 2006 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: Rob Brading, Marian Creamer, Gwen Farnham Hyland, Stephen Feltz, Martha Gies, Molly Gloss, Rick Gustafson, Jon Kruse, Marneet Lewis, Alice Meyer, and Donna Oden-Orr. Board members Joe Arellano, Mark Garber, Diane McKeel and Diane Xiong were excused.

Staff members present were: Molly Raphael, Becky Cobb, Ellen Fader, Cindy Gibbon, Penny Hummel, Rita Jimenez, June Mikkelsen, Lance Murty, Vailey Oehlke, Leila Wrathall, Brenda Clark, Steve Armitage, Susan Corrigan, Victoria Oglesbee, Virginia Tribe, Ty Thompson and Monique Coleman. Also in attendance were: Tami Parr - Friends of the Library; Sabina Chen, Coordinator, Library Gala - The Library Foundation; Matt Bellamy of 3M Corporation and Matthew Lashua of Commissioner Maria Rojo de Steffey's office. Matthew Lashua will be regularly attending Library Board meetings on behalf of the Board of County Commissioners.

The minutes of the December 13, 2005 meeting were approved.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Dean Gisvold gave a brief update on the nomination and confirmation of prospective Library Advisory Board member Virginia Koontz. The required documents have been forwarded to the Chair's Office. We are awaiting the scheduling of her confirmation which should occur prior to next month's meeting. The following reports were provided:

There were no reports from the Access Policy Committee, Finance Committee, Nominating Committee or the Friends of the Library.

Sabina Chen reported that in addition to the \$750,000 Meyer Memorial Trust grant awarded the Foundation last month, the Foundation has received a matching grant from the Children's Investment Fund for a total of \$1.5 million in grants for children's literacy programming and materials. The Foundation also received a \$150,000 grant from the James Miller Foundation. Sabina also talked about the upcoming Library Gala, noting Library Advisory Board members had or will soon receive a letter from Gwen Farnham Hyland encouraging them to host the event by inviting 10 people. Board members can also be "Friends" by inviting 6 people. Gwen also distributed "Save the Date" cards for the Gala on Saturday, April 8.

Jon Kruse provided an update on the levy renewal campaign. He reviewed the work completed to date: stakeholders have been meeting since June to plan the campaign; hired consultant Patricia McCaig (McCaig and Associates) to lead/shape campaign in August; completed environmental assessment, executed research and designed plan; met with relevant stakeholders – library advocacy groups (Friends, Foundation, Advisory Board), and County Commissioners. Key findings indicated favorable support of the Library if the levy amount maintains the current service levels. The Levy Committee recommends an early referral to the ballot to secure voter's interest and attention and to begin fundraising process now to raise the \$500,000, the amount which it is expected will take to support the levy campaign. Molly Raphael said she plans to hold staff meetings at various locations over the next 2 months to build support among library staff for the campaign. Staff may want to volunteer to work on the campaign.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The Director's Report was discussed. Molly Raphael talked about the diversity of programming, stating it is a good illustration of the ways in which the library pays attention to the community that we serve. Specific items discussed were:

- 1) Lunar New Year Celebration. Molly will participate at this event scheduled for Wednesday, Feb. 1 at the Holgate Library.
- 2) Urban Libraries Council Executive Leadership Institute. Laural Winter, reference librarian at the Hollywood Library, was selected to take part in this series of intensive workshops designed to prepare future leaders. Vailey Oehlke, Central Library Director, is a graduate of the Institute and will serve as Laural's sponsor/mentor.
- 3) Ellen Fader on the Today Show. Although it is not included in the Director's Report, Molly Raphael announced that Ellen has been invited as president of the Association for Library Services to Children, to appear with the winners of the Newbery and Caldecott Awards live on the Today Show on Tuesday, January 24 during the 9am-10am. In her role as president of ALSC, Ellen will announce the winners on Monday, January 23rd. This honor is usually reserved for the president of the American Libraries Association but was extended to Ellen by the ALA president. Ellen says her role is to draw attention to all of the awards and she will, of course, try to mention MCL also. This year also marks the premier of the Theodor Seuss Geisel Award, which honors both the author and illustrator of an outstanding book for beginning readers. Molly Raphael said if possible the segment will be shown at the February meeting.

EVERYBODY READS 2006 BOOK DISCUSSION

Penny Hummel made a brief presentation about the 2006 Everybody Reads program. Each board member received a copy of this year's selection, *The Kite Runner*, a program guide and book mark at their place. A potluck is scheduled for Wednesday, February 15 at 6pm at Jon Kruse's home. Molly Gloss will be group moderator. Penny noted this is the first time the selected book has been a current best seller and books are flying off the shelves in all locations. Penny also talked about a partnership with

Portland State University. She acknowledged the generous support of the Library Foundation and other corporate sponsorships. Jon Kruse will email/mail instructions for location and meal contributions to board members. Molly Raphael complimented the Public Relations staff, particularly Terrilyn Chun, for looking at creative programming for the event.

2006-2007 BUDGET UPDATE

Becky Cobb reported that library staff are working on program offers and preparing budgets for their departments. The budgets are due to Fiscal Services on Friday, January 13. The County deadline is Friday, January 27.

Becky said that she is looking for review and input from Board members on the budget. This review could take place as an email forum or as a meeting; there needs to be some way to gather to discuss library offerings.

Molly Raphael briefly reviewed the priority budgeting process; said library management would benefit from Board's input. Becky said Board members could refer to the materials distributed at last month's meeting, the priority outlines for Vibrant Communities and Education, to get an idea of what criteria the Outcome Teams will use to review the library's offerings. We will email another copy of those materials to those board members who need copies.

In response to Molly Gloss's question about how to volunteer to participate in the review, Dean said that we should send an email to all Library Advisory Board members explaining what/who/how.

Discussion ensued. It was agreed that a small group meeting is more effective than discussion in an email forum. The meeting will most probably be held the last week of January and will require a quick turnaround.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

Marian Creamer encouraged Board members to attend open rehearsals for Oregon Children's Theatre's March production of Lois Lowry's "The Giver" at Central Library. During rehearsal breaks, there will be the opportunity for a question and answer session with the director and cast members. For more information, board members can talk with Marian, call 503.988.5234 or search the Library's Event Finder at www.multcolib.org/events.

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 a.m. These minutes are subject to approval at the next scheduled board meeting.