
Library Advisory Board
Minutes – July 11, 2006

The Multnomah County Library Board met on Tuesday, July 11, 2006, at Central Library in the U.S. Bank Meeting Room. Chair Alice Meyer called the meeting to order at 7:32

Board members present were: Joe Arellano, Rob Brading, Molly Gloss, Jon Kruse, Dean Gisvold, Donna Oden-Orr, Stephen Feltz, Mark Garber and Virginia Koontz. Board members Gwen Farnham Hyland, Marian Creamer, Martha Gies, Rick Gustafson, Diane McKeel, and Diane Xiong were excused.

Staff members present were: Molly Raphael, June Mikkelsen, Becky Cobb, Ellen Fader, Cindy Gibbon, Vailey Oehlke, Pat French, Yvonne Chambers, Virginia Tribe, Jim Carmin, Patrick Blane. Also in attendance were: Katie Lane, Assistant County Attorney; Eric Meltzer, County Attorney's Office; Karie Trumbo, Library Foundation; Stephanie Vardavas and Anne Pearsons, Friends of the Library; and Brenda Clark, community member.

The minutes of the June 13, 2006, meeting were approved as written.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Karie Trumbo reported on behalf of The Library Foundation. She noted that the Foundation has raised over \$1,000,000 in donations for the library this year.

Stephanie Vardavas introduced the Friends of the Library President for 2006, Anne Pearson, who reported on behalf of the FOL. She noted contributions the Friends have made to the library and the dates of the fall book sale, October 6-9. Anne also reported that FOL is putting much of its effort into the levy campaign and, also, is looking for new board members to fill current vacancies.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Alice Meyer reviewed the agenda, noting that the format for future agendas will be more detailed. Changes will include, but are not limited to, hearing from the Youth Representative(s) and sending out LAB minutes from the previous meeting two weeks in advance of the next scheduled meeting. She also reviewed a summary of the County Ordinance that established the LAB, highlighting the need to address the community's changing needs.

Alice outlined the current committee assignments as follows: **Levy Committee: Jon Kruse, Chair** (Dean and Alice); **Nominating Committee: Mark Garber, Chair** (Martha Gies and Molly Gloss); **Budget Committee: Stephen Feltz, Chair**, (looking for LAB volunteers) to focus on reviewing programs and providing more detailed information on program offerings. A suggestion was made to identify this committee as **Finance, rather than Budget**, to which there was general assent.

Additional committees depend on the levy passing: **Long-Range Permanent Funding co-chaired by Dean Givold and past LAB Chair, Susan Hathaway-Marxer** (Rick Gustafson, other interested LAB members); and **two other committees that will build support for the two new libraries** and will address funding for the build-out of those two new branches.

Noted later, **Access Services Committee: Joe Arellano, Chair** (Molly Gloss, Martha Gies, Alice Meyer from LAB).

Alice said it was her goal to have every member of LAB on at least one committee; to add committees as the need arises; and to have a board discussion, at the August meeting, defining the goals and strategies for each committee.

PRESENTATION: ASSISTANT COUNTY ATTORNEY

Katie Lane, Assistant County Attorney, discussed the parameters of the election law and how it applies to LAB members who, as public officials, must follow the same guidelines county employees follow.

Katie provided board members with a reference guide, better to understand what can and cannot be done if there is an initiative on the ballot, specifically when acting as a LAB member. Katie reminded LAB members that it is best to differentiate between serving as a LAB member, or as a private citizen, when discussing or facilitating anything having to do with a ballot measure.

Stephen Feltz asked that Katie be present at future Board meetings, until the levy has been voted on, to monitor what is appropriate or not appropriate to discuss at the LAB meetings.

Katie Lane's contact information is:
503-988-3138 Ext. 22174
katie.a.lane@co.multnomah.or.us

LEVY UPDATE

Jon Kruse gave an update on the levy: he had had a discussion with the commissioners, regarding referral language, and within the next couple of weeks, the language of the levy will be complete. The referral will be made on July 20.

Jon noted the support of the Friends of the Library and the Library Foundation and provided contact information for the *Libraries Yes!* campaign:

123 NE 3rd Ave., Ste. 321

Portland, OR 97232

503.232.0780

503.232.0799 (2nd line)

Jon also addressed talking points from the *Libraries Yes!* campaign, a copy of which will be forwarded to all board members. The *Libraries Yes!* website, after July 20, will provide up-to-date information (www.librariesyes.com), and individual speaker training will be held in August.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Molly Raphael noted that Multnomah County's budget will be approved with current service level funding for the library. She shared her impressions of a recent trip to New Orleans, for the annual ALA Conference, and also presented a report on the changes to the library's internet filtering policy, copies of which were distributed.

PRESENTATION: JOHN WILSON SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

Jim Carmin, librarian for the John Wilson Room, was available for a tour of the current exhibit in the Collins Gallery, immediately following the LAB meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 a.m. These minutes are subject to approval at the next scheduled