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**Library Advisory Board Minutes January 8**  
For Multnomah County Library Advisory Board (LAB)

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The Multnomah County Library Advisory Board (LAB) met on Tuesday, January 8, 2008 at Central Library in the U.S. Bank Meeting Room. Chair Mark Garber called the meeting to order at 7:35 a.m.

Board members present were Joe Arellano, Marian Creamer, Gwen Farnham Hyland, Stephen Feltz, Mark Garber, Dean Gisvold, Virginia Koontz, Jon Kruse, Diane McKeel, Alice Meyer, Donna Oden-Orr and Garrett Shephard. Board members: Robert Brading, Martha Gies, Ruth Gundle, Rick Gustafson and Ellen Wallin were excused.

Staff members present were: Molly Raphael, June Mikkelsen, Becky Cobb, Ellen Fader, Cindy Gibbon, Penny Hummel, Rita Jimenez, Lance Murty, Vailey Oehlke, Leila Wrathall, Terrilyn Chun, Vicky Oglesbee, Abigail Elder, Javier Gutierrez, Yvonne Chambers, Virginia Tribe, Haley Isleib and Deanna Cecotti.

Also in attendance was: Erin Barnhart, Friends of the Library.

The minutes of the November 13, 2007 meeting were approved.

**CHAIR'S REPORT**

Chair Mark Garber opened the meeting. The Chair asked if the LAB would be interested in a planning retreat for fiscal year 2008-09 and a tour of neighborhood libraries in East County.

LAB members indicated an interest in having a planning retreat that would last from 8:00 to 12:00 noon, possibly on a regularly scheduled LAB meeting day, and at a location other than Central Library. Molly Raphael suggested Midland Library as a location and indicated that a facilitator could be made available.

The retreat will focus on Multnomah County Library goals over the next three to five years, including the short term goals of the library, the LAB's goals and the long term funding of the library.

The tour of East County neighborhood libraries will include Fairview-Columbia, Gresham, Rockwood and the new Troutdale library site, and will be scheduled for May or June of this year. The tour will be held during an afternoon with a social gathering of LAB members immediately following.

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

On behalf of the Nominating Committee, Marian recommended Dr. George Feldman, a practicing physician in Portland, for position #4 on the LAB.

A motion was made to forward the recommendation of Dr. George Feldman from the Nominating Committee on behalf of the LAB to the Multnomah County Chair and Board of County Commissioners (BCC). If confirmed by the BCC, Dr. Feldman's term will begin in July of 2008 and expire June 30, 2011, at which time he will be eligible to serve another four year term.

The motion was seconded and unanimously approved by the LAB.

### **LIBRARY FUNDING TASK FORCE (LFTF)**

Dean Gisvold reported on behalf of the LFTF. Task Force members, Dean Gisvold, Rick Gustafson, Susan Hathaway-Marxer, Terry McCall and Molly Raphael met with Multnomah County Chair Wheeler in December 2007 to discuss the feasibility of having a measure on the 2008 ballot that would address permanent and stable funding for the library.

The LFTF has a meeting scheduled for January 30, 2008 after which they will create a report on their findings and recommendations for permanent and stable funding for the library. Chair Wheeler has asked the Task Force to present their findings to other governmental entities in the community including the City of Portland, The Library Foundation, Friends of the Library and AFSCME Local 88.

The Task Force remains focused on providing an option to the voters for permanent and stable funding for the library on the November 2008 ballot.

### **TEEN INVOLVEMENT**

The Library Director's office is coordinating a meeting with the youth representatives on the LAB, key members of the youth services staff at MCL, and select members of the LAB. The goal of their meeting is to report to the LAB with ideas for how to have the youth representatives more actively involved on the Board.

### **TROUTDALE SITING COMMITTEE / NORTH PORTLAND AREA SITING REPORT**

Diane McKeel reported on behalf of the Troutdale Siting Committee and noted that the Board of County Commissioners chose not to go forward with the Troutdale Thriftway site. Molly Raphael reported that meetings will be taking place in the near future between representatives from the County and potential developers of two sites in Troutdale.

Molly reported on the progress of the new North Portland area library which will be located in the Kenton neighborhood. Mike Sublett, Multnomah County Asset Management Lead, will begin having conversations with the developer of each site regarding the financial implications of their projects. Mike Harrington, June Mikkelsen

and Mike Sublett will then meet with an architectural firm to evaluate each of the proposals. June stated they are hoping to receive proposals back from developers of the various sites by the end of February, which would enable them to brief the BCC and make a recommendation for the two specific sites by the end of March 2008.

The timeline for opening the new libraries is approximately one year after the sites are chosen. The original goal for opening the libraries to the public was January 2009. MCL will gradually begin to develop collections for each of the new libraries and will assign staff prior to opening each library.

### **FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Stephen Feltz reported on behalf of the Finance Committee, which will hold its first meeting on Friday, January 11, at 7:30 am. There is no update on the County budget process. LAB members who would like to attend the meetings are welcome.

### **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Molly recognized Vailey Oehlke as the new Deputy Director for Multnomah County Library. Vailey was formerly the Central Library Director for MCL. Her start date was January 1, 2008 and she is currently transitioning into her new position. A temporary replacement will be appointed to Central Library Director and a nationwide recruitment will take place in the near future.

Molly highlighted the MCL's Learning 2.0 program for library staff which has also been made available for the Friends of the Library and the LAB. The program kicked off with a YouTube video of Molly introducing the program and inviting staff to participate. The Friends of the Library have purchased incentives for staff participation in the program. Eventually this program will be made available to the general public.

Molly shared the new ethics guidelines from the County Attorney's office which went into affect January 1, 2008. The most significant change was a reduction in the amount or value, from \$100 to \$50, for gifts received by employees or by LAB members when serving in their official capacities. Molly suggested Bernadette Nunley, the Assistant County Attorney for the library, could be asked to answer questions or provide clarification if needed. LAB members should contact Molly if they would like to speak with Bernadette.

In closing, Molly announced the Multnomah Education Service District presentation to MCL's Raising a Reader of the You Make The Difference recognition for giving the Multnomah Early Childhood Program the tools it needs to bring literacy to young children.

### **EVERYBODY READS**

Terrilyn Chun, Programming Supervisor for MCL, announced the kick-off for the Sixth Annual Everybody Reads. This year's event was made possible by funding from The Library Foundation. Four thousand copies of the book *A Long Way Gone* by Ishmael

Beah have been distributed to all library locations along with the project guide. Five hundred of those copies went directly to high school students throughout Multnomah County.

This year's programming includes a partnership with the 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Cascade Festival of African Films. The African Women's Coalition has made it possible for former military youth to share their real-life experiences during select book discussion groups. Information regarding which book groups they are attending will be made available through the Everybody Reads blog. This is the first time a blog will be used in a MCL Everybody Reads program to give updates, share information and solicit opinions from the public.

Terrilyn invited everyone to read the book and come to the events over the next two months.

### **FRIENDS AND FOUNDATION UPDATE**

Erin Barnhart reported on behalf of the Friends of the Library. The Friends will provide incentives for library staff to complete the Learning 2.0 program and continue to support library programs by providing books for the 2008-09 Pageturner book groups.

The Friends are currently looking for a site to hold their annual book sale in East Multnomah County.

There was no report from The Library Foundation.

Molly Raphael noted the recent publication of The Library Foundation's annual report. Copies of the report were made available to the LAB and members of the public.

### **GOOD & WELFARE**

Virginia Koontz requested the criteria for being acknowledged on the plaque at Central Library. June Mikkelsen noted the individuals and groups acknowledged on the plaque participated in the Capital Campaign for Central Library during its renovation ten years ago.

The next LAB meeting will be on February 12, 2008. The meeting adjourned at 8:32 am.

Respectfully submitted by:

Yvonne Chambers  
Multnomah County Library, Oregon