MINUTES
OC PUBLIC LIBRARIES – LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD
MEETING OF THE FULL BOARD
THURSDAY FEBRUARY 2, 2012 – 4:00 P.M.

Tustin Library – Professional Training Room
345 E. Main Street
Tustin, CA 92780

MEMBERS PRESENT

OCPL – CITY REPRESENTATIVES
Brett Murdock (Brea), Prakash Narain (Cypress), Lara Anderson (Dana Point; LAB Chair), Mark McCurdy (Fountain Valley), Dr. Steven Choi (Irvine), Henry Charoen (La Palma), Gary Capata (Laguna Niguel), Milt Robbins (Laguna Woods), Kathryn McCullough (Lake Forest), Jesse Petrilla (San Juan Capistrano), Laura Freese (San Juan Capistrano), Gordon Shanks (Seal Beach), Rebecca Gomez (Tustin), Bob Fauteux (Villa Park), Frank Fry (Westminster).

COUNTY STAFF ATTENDING
Steve Franks (Director, OC Community Resources), Helen Fried (County Librarian), Paula Bruce (Asst. County Librarian), Andrea Cowell (Budget & Fiscal Services, OCCR/OCPL), Nicole Nguyen (Budget & Fiscal Services, OCCR/OCPL), Mercedes McCarthy (Senior Librarian, OCPL).

GUESTS
Cindy Duncan (Friends of the Westminster Library), Miep van Tyen (Friends of the Westminster Library).

MEMBERS NOT ATTENDING

OCPL – CITY REPRESENTATIVES
Greg Ficke (Aliso Viejo), Wendy Leece (Costa Mesa), Steve Jones (Garden Grove), Rose Espinoza (La Habra), Jane Egly (Laguna Beach), Barbara Kogerman (Laguna Hills), Marilynn Poe (Los Alamitos)

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS REPRESENTATIVES
 Supervisor Bill Campbell (OC Board of Supervisors, 3rd District), Supervisor Patricia Bates (OC Board of Supervisors, 5th District)

EX OFICIO REPRESENTATIVE
Tim Casey (City Managers’ Association).

I. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
Chair Lara Anderson called the meeting to order when a quorum was established at 4:05 p.m., and led the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance.
II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF OCTOBER 6TH, 2011 MEETING
It was moved to approve the minutes of the October 6th, 2011 LAB meeting; the motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

III. NEW BUSINESS
A. Election of Officers and Committee Selections
   It was moved, seconded and unanimously passed to postpone the election of officers to the next LAB meeting on May 3rd 2012.

B. Approval of 2012 Proposed Meeting Schedule
   It was moved, seconded and unanimously passed to approve the proposed 2012 meeting schedule.

C. Impacts of Gov. Brown’s proposed FY 2012-13 State Budget
   County Librarian Helen Fried described the impact on OC Public Libraries. We will lose all of our state funding, a total of $611,000 ($526,000 from PLF [Public Library Fund] for general library operations, $80,000 for literacy program contract workers, $5,000 from CSLA in grants.). Despite this, in the coming fiscal year the county library will not reduce service hours or require furloughs; the eventual impact will be fewer staff. Because of the loss of CLSA (California Library Services Act) funding for universal borrowing, we will need to replace the ILL model. OC area library directors are meeting to develop MOUs and a new model of ILL delivery. OC Public Libraries may impose a charge for ILL request if approved by the Board of Supervisors.

D. Standardization of Branch Staffing
   Helen Fried reported on the newly implemented standardized branch staffing levels. The new system has improved efficiency and will help us to cope with budget cuts without laying off staff. There are still adjustments to be made over the next year to eighteen months.

E. Request by City of Santa Ana
   The City of Santa Ana has budget concerns and is exploring the option of having their library run by an outside agency. Santa Ana has asked OC Public Libraries to provide an estimate for the cost of running the Santa Ana Public Library. County staff is compiling the necessary information. The arrangement would be a contract service only; the Santa Ana library would not be absorbed into the county system but we would be able to share resources. This contract would be a policy decision by the Board of Supervisors. Enabling the Santa Ana library branches to stay open would be a benefit to everyone. If they closed, we would have to absorb their patrons.

F. Committee Ballots (Agenda Item A)
   Members were reminded to return their ballots indicating their choice of committee assignments.

BOARD COMMENTS
Dr. Narain asked if the January 17, 2012 California Public Library Directors Summit, held in Sacramento and attended by Helen Fried, had addressed the future form of libraries. Mrs. Fried said the Summit addressed the need for the public library to redefine itself, and the participants had agreed that the focus and theme of future planning should be “the library as a starting place.” Statewide options such as database collaboration and a state-wide library system were also discussed at the summit.

Brett Murdock commented on the important and growing role of public libraries as community centers and as points of access to information technology for lower-income individuals.

Lara Anderson commented on the increase in library usage reflected in robust statistics.

Lori Donchak noted that patrons increasingly want electrical outlets for their personal devices. Steve Franks concurred that electrical and bandwidth resources are a significant issue, and he noted that libraries also provide librarians to help people with research.

Laura Freese pointed out the importance of the public library as a community center and a safe place for children and the elderly. Helen Fried noted that libraries function as a “third place” (the first being the home and the second being the work place.)
Steven Choi mentioned the ongoing effort in Irvine to develop and build a new type of metropolitan library in the Great Park.

Kathryn McCullough mentioned the upcoming Section 8 Housing pre-application filing period of Feb 15 – Feb 29, and she urged members to encourage their local libraries to post this information.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 p.m.