

**OCPL LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD
MEETING MINUTES**

May 10, 2007 ~ 4:00 p.m.

**Tustin Branch Library ~ Conference Room
345 E. Main Street ~ Tustin, CA 92780**

MEMBERS PRESENT

OCPL-CITY REPRESENTATIVES

Greg Ficke (Aliso Viejo), Ron Garcia (Brea), Wendy Leece (Costa Mesa), Lara Anderson (Dana Point), Guy Carozzo (Fountain Valley), Bruce Broadwater (Garden Grove), Dr. Steven Choi (Irvine), Tom Beamish (La Habra), Ralph Rodriguez (La Palma), Jane Egly (Laguna Beach), Randy Bressette (Laguna Hills), Linda Lindholm (Laguna Niguel), Milt Robbins (Laguna Woods), Kathryn McCullough (Lake Forest), Marcia Rudolph (Lake Forest Alternate), Gary Thompson (Rancho Santa Margarita), Joe Soto (San Juan Capistrano), Gordon Shanks (Seal Beach), Jim Palmer (Tustin), and Deborah Pauly (Villa Park).

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS REPRESENTATIVES

Ex-Officio Board Rep - Elise Lampe for Supervisor Bates - OC Board of Supervisors, Fifth District

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

Leslie Keane, City Manager, Laguna Woods (Alt)

OCPL REPRESENTATIVE

Helen Fried - Acting County Librarian; Dave Sankey - Director, Fiscal & Budget Services; Steve Siemion - Manager, Fiscal Services; Christine Eastwood - Director Admin/Facilities Services; and Laura Lynch - Executive Secretary.

MEMBERS UNABLE TO ATTEND (PRIOR NOTIFICATION RECEIVED)

OCPL-CITY REPRESENTATIVES

Prakash Narain (Cypress), Dean Grose (Los Alamitos), Lori Donchak (San Clemente), Ed Royce Sr. (Stanton), and Tri Ta (Westminster).

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS REPRESENTATIVES

Supervisor Bill Campbell (OC Board of Supervisors, Third District)

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Choi called the meeting to order at 4:03 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led Milt Robbins (Laguna Wood).

MINUTES OF JANUARY 11, 2007 MEETING:

Motion to approve Minutes as presented made by Joe Soto (San Juan Capistrano), and seconded by Gary Thompson (Rancho Santa Margarita). Abstain noted from Bruce Broadwater (Garden Grove), Wendy Leece (Costa Mesa), Jim Palmer (Tustin), and Randy Bressette (Laguna Hills). Motion passes with no objections.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None noted.

NEW BUSINESS

Agenda Item A: Irvine/Katie Wheeler Branch Library – Construction Update

Christine Eastwood, OCPL Director Admin/Facilities Services (PowerPoint Presentation)

A photo/narrative presentation of the construction of the Irvine/Katie Wheeler Branch Library was presented to the Board. Construction commenced December 2006 and projected completion date is February, 2008. The new library will be located near the corner of Jamboree & Irvine Blvd on Old Myford Road.

Agenda Item B: Proposed Budget for FY 2007/08 – Helen Fried, Acting County Librarian

Helen Fried presented a brief history of major events which led to the establishment of the Library Advisory Board (LAB) in July 1996; with two amendments in September 2000 and September 2005. (See handout entitled *History of the Orange County Public Library's Library Advisory Board*.) It was noted that the LAB consisted originally with twenty-one member cities and has since grown to twenty-four member cities. As a result of numerous studies (noted on the handout) an Implementation Plan was developed that included an Equity Allocation Plan for participating member cities. The Equity Allocation Plan applies a budget allocation formula which can only be changed by the Orange County Board of Supervisors. (See handout entitled *OCPL Branch Library Operating Funds Allocation Formula*). Ms. Fried reviewed the handout entitled *OCPL FY 2006-07 Allocation Plan (8-14-06)* which applied the Equity Allocation Plan formula to each city and established the minimum level of service.

Ms. Fried reviewed the handout entitled *Orange County Public Library – Branches*, which listed by city the current ownership status, date branch built/constructed, and the interior square footage of each branch.

Dave Sankey, OCPL Financial Director, reviewed in detail the handout entitled *OCPL Proposed Fiscal Year 2007/08 Budget*.

The Board discussed the proposed Facilities Repairs expenses of just over \$2 Million for the fiscal year. It was noted that approximately half the branches are city-owned properties and the other half are county-owned properties. Most city-owned properties have lease agreements that were established in the 1970s and 1980s. Each agreement has unique terms and conditions including maintenance and repair.

STAFF DIRECTIVE: Ralph Rodriguez (La Palma) requested that by the next meeting OCPL staff provide LAB members with a listing of current maintenance/repair needs for each branch library. Approximate estimates of maintenance/repairs will assist LAB members in identifying priority items that they may possibly want to present for funding within their own city's budget, especially if it is a city-owned facility. Kathryn McCullough (Lake Forest) suggested revising the staff directive slightly. She requested that staff provide the report to members as soon as possible since city budgets are also being prepared. The information may help cities that want to fund specific improvements. A Controlled Inspection of each branch was done three years ago. Ms. Fried noted that a similar report was distributed at the October 2006 LAB meeting. Every effort will be made to provide the updated information.

A Motion to pass the FY 2007/08 budget as proposed was made by Randy Bressette (Laguna Hills) and was seconded by Guy Carrozzo (Fountain Valley). Hearing no objections, motion passes unanimously.

Agenda Item C: Announcement of Committee Members and Chair

Chairman Choi referred LAB members to a handout entitled *LAB 2007 Board Officers & Committee Members Listing*. Any additional members wishing to serve on any of the three committees can contact him, or any of the other Board Officers.

Agenda Item D: Orange County Metropolitan Central Library – Chairman Choi

Chairman Choi presented the LAB members with an overview of the Great Park Cultural Center vision, which could include a National Archive and a 300,000 square foot Metropolitan Central Library. The City of Irvine, the Great Park Commission, as well as many in the community are working on building this resource for the benefit of all of Orange County tax payers. Potential funding sources and revenue streams are being explored. The City of Irvine, with a growing population of over 200,000 residents, has formed a committee to study library needs within the city. The study shows that Irvine is far below the County's average for square footage per capita (SFPC) with .5 SFPC for other cities; compared to Irvine's .2 SFPC. He believes that the two, soon to be three Irvine libraries are inadequate to meet the City's population needs.

Chairman Choi recently met with Supervisor Bill Campbell (Third District) to discuss potential use of 100 acres of land that will soon be deeded over to the County. He indicated that Supervisor Campbell said that the Orange County Board of Supervisors (OC-BOS) are looking for potential uses for the land. Chairman Choi believed it would be beneficial for LAB members to contact Supervisor Campbell's office, as well as the other four Supervisor's offices, to propose support for the County building a Metropolitan Central Library in Irvine on a portion of the 100-acres available, or at the very least set aside a portion of the contaminated land so that a future library can be built when cleanup is done. He is not sure if the County will consider this plan, but he believed it is worth a try to hopefully improve future access to library services. He is also proposing building two "smaller" libraries if the larger Metropolitan Central Library is not approved.

Chairman Choi is also working with lobbyist in Washington, D.C. for an idea of building a second Smithsonian at the Great Park.

LAB members voiced opinions/concerns:

- A Metropolitan Central Library in Irvine would be most easily accessed by Irvine residents and not the rest of the County, especially residents in the northern O.C. region who already are using libraries that are quite a bit older than those found in southern O.C.
- Building a large library in Irvine would take away future funding from other cities that may only have one branch to serve their residents. Chairman Choi assured the LAB members that he would work with the County Librarian on these issues.
- It was suggested that Chairman Choi contact someone from the Veterans of Foreign War because approval for funding a small library may have been granted.
- It's a nice idea but under no circumstances would the LAB approve funding for staffing a 300,000 facility in Irvine if it means the rest of the cities would be receiving under the minimum level of service.
- The County would need to commit General Fund monies to support this project, otherwise it would/could adversely impact the rest of the member cities.
- It is an incredible dream for our County; however, not sure of funding sources.
- New homes are being built in Irvine and other cities. Redevelopment fees need to be negotiated between cities and builders in order to secure money for future library building projects.

Agenda Item E: Literary Orange Authors Festival – Photo Montage

This presentation was held over until the next Library Advisory Board meeting due to time constraints– No Board action required.

BOARD COMMENTS – None noted

PUBLIC COMMENTS - None noted

AGENDA BUILDING

The next proposed meeting of the Library Advisory Board is October 11, 2007 4:00 P.M., at the Tustin Branch Library conference room. There were not objections to this meeting date.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 5:25 p.m.