

LIBRARY COMMISSION  
MEETING OF JANUARY 9, 2008  
SYNOPSIS

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Chair Martin at the Edenvale Branch Library.

Present: Chair Martin, Commissioners Karas, Tarpey, Nguyen, Candelas, Do, Graham, Ramos and Lydon.

Absent: None

Staff: Library Director Jane Light, Assistant Library Director Ned Himmel, Division Manager Carol Frost, and Secretary Lucinda Norman.

Others: Councilmember Oliverio, Council District 6, and seven members from the public were present.

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA – The agenda was approved as written.

3. CONSENT CALENDAR

a. For approval: Synopsis of the December 12, 2007 meeting was approved as written.

b. Correspondence read and filed for public record – 1) Monique A. le Conge, President of CLA, wrote about her support of San José Public Library’s current Internet Access and Computer Use Policy; 2) Letter from a resident concerned with the use of Dr. Roberto Cruz Branch Library; 3) Newsletter regarding the 2008 CALTAC workshop in March.

4. ORAL PETITIONS- None

5. TOUR OF THE EDENVALE LIBRARY- Branch Manager, Trina Richbourg, gave the Commission a tour of the Edenvale branch.

6. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

a. Library Internet Access Policy

The Commission heard comments from a total of four members of the public, three spoke against and one for Internet content filtering. Speaking against Internet filtering and as members of the public was: Tina Morrill, a volunteer tutor for Partners and Reading; Molly Westmoreland, Sr. Librarian at the Vineland Branch and Carine Risley, Librarian at Education Park Branch. Larry Pegram, President Values Advocacy Council spoke for Internet content filtering. Jane provided an update on the Internet Access Policy issue. Research is being conducted as to how other large public libraries handle Internet access including how the customer experience is affected and the possible impact on the library network if filtering software is used. Testing of three brands of filters will be performed to determine if over and under blocking is no longer an impediment to access. Community outreach has been carried out informing organizations of the Internet filtering issue which City Council will be

- considering. Jane will be providing a status report to the Council Rules Committee on January 16. Currently the Library's website has a survey asking for customer feedback. Jane will provide a report of the research analysis to the Library Commission on February 13. At that time the Commissioner may make a recommendation to Council or may request further information from staff.
- b. Adult Literacy Program update- Carol Frost, Division Manager, San José Public Library, provided information on Partners in Reading (PAR). PAR enables English-speaking adults and their families to improve their basic literacy skills so they can achieve their goals and function more effectively at home, in the community, at work and as lifelong learners. Carol provided hand outs to the Commissioners. About one in five American adults function at the lowest level of literacy. In San José, that means over 100,000 adults lack the basic skills to read the directions on a medicine bottle, find an intersection on a map, or fill out a job application. Established in 1989, PAR has trained over 1,000 volunteer tutors and served over 1,000 adult learners. As a member of the California Literacy Campaign, we are part of a State-wide network of over 100 public libraries providing adult literacy instruction. We work cooperatively with other literacy providers, social service agencies, and community groups.
- c. Library Commission Budget 08/09 Committee appointment and assignments- Jane reviewed with the Commission the *City of San José Development of Strategies to Address the City's General Fund Structural Budget Deficit January 2008*, prepared by Management Partners, Inc. She announced the following meetings: Neighborhood Budget Priority Setting Session, January 19; City Council regular session, February 12, where the structural deficit will be discussed. Jane discussed some of the staffing needs of future library branches. The Mayor's Budget Message will be published in March. Jane will keep the Commission apprised as to the budget process and Commission participation as it develops. The following Commissioners will serve on the budget committee: Commissioners Candelas, Karas and Martin. The budget committee will present a draft budget letter for approval at the next Commission meeting on February 13. COMMISSIONER DO MOVED TO REVIEW THE DRAFT BUDGET LETTER AT THE FEBRUARY 13 COMMISSION MEETING. MOTION SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER KARAS. ALL APPROVED.
7. COUNCIL LIAISON'S ANNOUNCEMENTS – Councilmember Oliverio provided some outreach recommendations for the Commissioners. He discussed the advantages of attending and participating in Council meetings during open forum and having communication with Councilmembers.
8. CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS – Chair Martin announced two All Friends meetings: March 8, Berryessa Branch Library and June 21, Almaden Branch Library.

9. LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S ANNOUNCEMENT – Jane made the following announcements:  
The Silicon Valley Reads kick-off event is January 17, 7:30 p.m. at the Campbell Heritage Theater. She also discussed tentative funding for federal appropriations including a one-year program for Library services for new Americans; Early Care grant: *An Early Start, A Great Start*; Grant for City Smart Start program.
  
10. COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
  - a. Friends Groups from Branches and Main Library – None
  - b. San Jose Public Library Foundation Board –Foundation meeting on 1/29.
  - c. Early Care and Education Commission – None.
  - d. Meetings Attended by Commissioners as Commissioners – Commissioner Do attended the Berryessa Friends meeting in November; attended Council meeting on 1/8; attended East Carnegie groundbreaking in December. Commissioner Tarpey attended East Carnegie groundbreaking on 12/18. Commissioner Nguyen attended Parcel Tax Oversight Review Subcommittee meeting on 12/12; attended East Carnegie groundbreaking on 12/18. Commissioner Lydon Parcel Tax Oversight Review Subcommittee meeting on 12/15-12/18. Commissioner Candelas attended King Library Friends meeting on 1/8. Commissioner Graham attended All Friends meeting; attended dedication of the Doris Dillon Children's Library. Commissioner Karas attended East Carnegie groundbreaking on 12/18. Commissioner Ramos attended East Carnegie groundbreaking on 12/18; attended Seventrees branch naming on 12/12; contacted Mayor Reed on 12/18; met with Budget Committee on 1/9; Seventrees and East Carnegie renovations issues on 12/10.
  
11. UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES FOR COMMISSION PARTICIPATION – Check website for list of upcoming opportunities. Chair Martin reviewed the list of upcoming events.
  
12. ITEMS FOR FUTURE COMMISSION MEETING AGENDAS – None.
  
13. ADJOURNMENT – The meeting was adjourned at 9:20pm

Jane Light, Secretary  
San Jose Library Commission

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APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_