

MINUTES OF THE LIBRARY BOARD

March 8, 2006
4:00 p.m.

Tucson-Pima Public Library
Nanini Branch Library
7300 N. Shannon Rd.
Tucson, Arizona

MEMBERS PRESENT: President Pat Peterson, Vice President Wendell Niemann, Sofia Abrams, Obdúlia González, Marjorie Gerdes, Carla Stoffle and Barbara O'Brien

ABSENT: Jack Kuhn, Dan Eckstrom, and Joel Valdez

GUEST: Nanini Branch Managing Librarian Jo Riester, and Teen Representative Amber Bailey

CALL TO ORDER

President Pat Peterson called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

MINUTES FOR February 8, 2006

It was moved by Marjorie Gerdes and seconded by Obdúlia González that the February 8 minutes be accepted as written; motion passed with one abstention.

INTRODUCTIONS

President Pat Peterson acknowledged Barbara O'Brien as a new Board Member and introduced members of the audience.

REPORTS FROM LIBRARY BOARD MEMBERS, FRIENDS GROUPS, AND FOUNDATION

TPPL Friends

Phyllis Dirksen reported that the Friends completed their 15 day major book sale acquiring approximately \$119,000 and the next book sale is scheduled for May. The book sale on-line is doing really well and they have met their goals for this fiscal year that ends in June. They closed the warehouse for a week to have a new roof installed.

Oro Valley Friends

Marjorie Gerdes reported that the Friends book shop is doing well with sales of approximately \$100 per day.

NEW BUSINESS

Teen Representative

Amber Bailey, Junior at Canyon del Oro High School, gave a presentation of her activities. She has a job working 20 hrs./wk. while keeping her grades up. She volunteers at three school organizations. One organization is called Link Crew that connects with new students enrolled in the high school to introduce them to other students, show them around the school, their classrooms, and is in charge of the new student orientation. Link Crew recently had a shoe drive for students at Keeling Elementary and collected over \$3,000 to purchase shoes for students in need. She is on the National Honor Society and is required to have an average 3.6 gk and has to do at least 15 hours of volunteer work. She also is in Tech Crew which does the grunt work for school plays/musicals, e.g., stage, lights, and costume set-ups. She has volunteered at the Library and she enjoys reading.

Nanini Branch Presentation

Jo Riester, Nanini Branch Managing Librarian, gave statistics of the branch, e.g., number of story times, adult book clubs, collection, circulation, etc. She also highlighted how staff connect customers to information.

Legislative Day Reports

Nancy Ledeboer gave a summary of her first visit to the Arizona Library Association's Legislative Day. Several branch managers also attended to visit the Senators and Representatives from Southern Arizona. The two issues that were stressed were to increase the per capita funding for the State Grants-in-Aid to public libraries and to discuss funding for school libraries. School librarians are not considered as teaching faculty. There is consideration of a new bill where 65% of funding will go for classroom education. School libraries would be excluded because they are not considered a classroom. She thought the response from the legislators was positive; they asked good questions, they wanted to know how things were going between the City and the County, and they were supportive of libraries.

Strategic Plan Update

Bonny Bruce gave an update on how TPPL is going to advance its Strategic Plan. Initially the plan did not look at reallocating resources in order to move the Library Department forward on a systemwide level. This past year we have developed systemwide goals and objectives to measure our progress as a whole..

Nancy said the whole point of this plan is to help us focus and identify the areas where we really make a difference. Some of the hard choices ahead will be deciding what we can stop doing; we need to focus on what our customers want and let go of some items. Libraries used to try to be everything to everyone and we can't do that anymore. We need to focus on the services that are most responsive and relevant to the community and put our resources to provide those services.

Pat Peterson inquired about the successor to the City's NETeam. Nancy clarified the updated version is called City Teams and they are divided into five regions of the City. Each City Team will identify a type of project/need and put resources together to solve the problem. The NETeams were called out to neighborhoods to do repeated clean up

projects/improvements. The City Teams are trying to empower the neighborhoods to do projects/improvements. The web address is http://www.tucsonaz.gov/dnr/Assistance/City_Team/city_team.html These teams are doing the same type of networking of service cooperation that already occurs in many of our County locations. We have excellent community partners in Ajo, Arivaca, and Catalina where the community comes together naturally.

OLD BUSINESS

Library Transition Update

Nancy Ledeboer said now that the IGA has been signed, there is a lot of work that needs to be done before July 1 to ensure a smooth transition. County applications have been distributed to staff and they are attending city/state retirement meetings this week. County hiring enrollment forms will be distributed to staff, followed by County Human Resources and Risk Management orientation meetings. In May staff will attend open enrollment meetings for health insurance. We are working with Procurement to get contracts in place so we can continue to purchase books, electronic databases, library cards, etc.

Pat Peterson referred to the Library Transition: Key Facts for Staffsheet that was included in the Library Board packet. Nancy clarified this was the sheet submitted to staff for the “all staff” meeting that was held February 10th. It provided quick facts for staff to answer questions from the public.

Carla Stoffle asked if there was anything in the IGA that should be called to the Library Board’s attention. Nancy said one issue that is causing some restlessness with staff is retirement. There are approximately 30+ people who are eligible to retire who are trying to make a decision about whether to retire before they go to the County or after they go over. If they retire first they can participate in the City’s medical coverage but their salary may be reduced. If they transfer and then retire, they keep their salary but lose the medical coverage option. Since they don’t know what their salary will be with the County, some staff are feeling stressed about making this decision. The County is still considering how to address salaries for retirees.

ACTION ITEM

None

LIBRARY UPDATE

Library Director’s Report

Nancy Ledeboer offered to answer questions about her written report and offered highlights about the 3rd Annual Nuestra Raices and the Convocation. The key note speaker at the Convocation was George Needham of OCLC talking about the transformation of libraries in an electronic age.

Marjorie Gerdes asked if “Google” hurts libraries. Nancy replied that we don’t compete with Google—we use it as a tool.

Carla Stoffle said the U of A Library will be doing a pilot project with OCLC to look at digitizing their collections. Libraries are looking at enhancing the digitization by linking things internally and add features like zooming in on maps, etc. U of A paid \$60,000 for Art Store database which will eventually have hundreds of thousands of images out of museums and out of historical collections.

Statistics

A revised Activity Measures report was distributed with the corrected Circulation sheet. Nancy Ledeboer said circulation is down possibly due to computer usage. She said we count the books but we do not count the database.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Tutor.com
- ADA Issues
- Evaluate Board Meeting Locations (May)

CALL TO AUDIENCE

ADJOURNMENT

Obdúlia González made a motion and Wendell Niemann seconded to adjourn the meeting, motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 5:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kay Fouts
Executive Assistant