

MINUTES OF THE LIBRARY BOARD

March 12, 2008

4:00 p.m.

Pima County Public Library
Joel D. Valdez Main Library
101 N. Stone Ave
Tucson, AZ 85701

MEMBERS PRESENT: Marjorie Gerdes, Obdúlia González, Tom Ward, Miley Clark, Pat Peterson, Carla Stoffle, Frank Antenori

ABSENT: Annabelle Nuñez

GUEST:

STAFF: Pat Corella, Deputy Director, Nancy Ledebøer, Library Director, Karen Thayer, Administrator, Jere Voigt, Administrator, Melody Ballard Deputy Director, Karyn Prechtel, Main Br Manager, Beth Matthias-Loghry, Adult Svc Coordinator, Rich DiRusso, Coll Dev Manager, Bonny Bruce, Administrator

1. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order by Frank Antenori, Vice President, at 4:10 pm

2. MINUTES FOR February 13, 2008

Miley moved minutes be approved as written, Obdulia seconded the motion.

Minutes were approved.

3. INTRODUCTIONS

Nancy Ledebøer went around the room and made introductions to include PCPL staff.

4. UPDATES FROM LIBRARY BOARD MEMBERS, FRIENDS GROUPS, AND FOUNDATION

Obdulia commented that Nuestras Raices presented author Malín Alegría to Pueblo High School. She read her Quinceñera book to juniors and seniors. Kids really enjoyed her reading and interacting with her.

Miley thanked Nancy for her presentation at the Bond meeting, which was great, very powerful and concise. Nancy said it was the community members who made the most compelling case

for libraries. She expressed her gratitude for the many supporters who turned out including Boar members, Tom Ward, Miley Clark and Pat Peterson.

Marjorie said Oro Valley Friends will have a spring book sale April 2-5. Also Woman's Day magazine featured 5 women and how they used their local public library to get started in business.

Carla stated that Pat Turrin won the American Library's Association Elizabeth Futus award for Innovation in Libraries. She was the person who started the Knowledge River program for Hispanics and Native American librarians.

5. NEW BUSINESS

A. New Phones

Main Branch Manager, Karyn Prechtel chaired the committee to provide input on the needs of the library for phones. She gave a review of the process to date and plans for the implementation of the new phone system. The new system will be installed throughout the library and will be supported by County Telecommunications staff. Libraries will be able to transfer from branch to branch,. Numbers will be changing with the cut-over to the new system. Each branch will have a unique number and many staff will have direct dial numbers.

Siemens will provide hands on training to staff starting in 2 weeks. All phone numbers will change except Infoline which has been a long standing number used by the public. Everyone agreed the library should start notifying patrons now of the change in library phone numbers.

Miley suggested Jack Neubeck to record the messages on our phone system.

B. Urban Library Council Report - Welcome Stranger

Nancy reported that last year ULC conducted a study of ways in which libraries serve new immigrants. She distributed a booklet "Welcome Stranger" which she encouraged Board members to read. These will also be sent out to all Library Managers. The study documents trends in immigration and migration across the United States. It identifies cities that have been major receivers historically, currently and that are projected to be future intake communities. In Tucson 500 families are relocated annually through different refugees and immigration services.

Nancy went over the 5 Strategies for Success:

- Understand local immigration dynamics
- Bring cultural and language sensitivity to service delivery
- Build English learning capacity
- Create connections to local institutions
- Encourage civic engagement

Adult Services Coordinator, Beth Matthias-Loghry noted the ways in which we are following these recommended strategies. The Library offers language classes in partnership with other literacy agencies. We are offering skills based programs in computer instruction, GED, and citizenship. The Library has purchased a variety of language learning materials including on line resources and print picture dictionaries. There are partnerships for immigrants and refugees

Staff are incorporating Mother Read programming to be used with new immigrants through "My United States". We recently applied for a grant for English classes called Realize Your American Dream @ the library. We are partnering with an agency that brings together services for immigrants called Risknet. Their representatives have done training for Public Service Managers to talk about issues in resettling refugees in Tucson. As part of her leadership project Sharla Darby, connected with Risknet. Nancy commented that Sharla reached out to the Martha Cooper community and found that many immigrants living in the area didn't use the library. By connecting with refugee support groups Sharla has established the library as a safe place for new immigrants.

C. Board Retreat Update

Retreat will include someone from all the Friends, Foundation including the Ajo Friends and Sahuarita. Each group will give a brief report on their goals. Nancy is still looking for a guest speaker. In the afternoon the Branch Managers will lead discussions, in groups, about what the library is doing to support community needs.

We will be discussing Economic Development, Literacy and Arts in relation to community building.

D. Playaways

Rich DiRusso discussed the playaways, which are recorded books in a digital format that requires ear buds or head phones to listen to. They are a portable MP3 player that fits in your pocket. They are packaged in a container with batteries included. PCPL has ordered about 600, with various titles, of the playaways from BWI. These will include something for children, teens and adults. These can also be used on the car radio. Prices range from \$30.00- \$50.00 each.

6. LIBRARY REPORTS:

Director's Report

Nancy highlighted the Weed-N-Seed program which has funded a Tucson Police Department officer at Quincie Douglas in the evenings. Security guards are not able to handle some of the problems. TPD has made a tremendous difference.

At the bond meeting the library presented the short list of projects that the subcommittee put on the priority list. The meeting went very long and to keep within the allotted time, Nancy

abbreviated her description of the libraries in order to ensure that community members would be able to speak. Representatives from the community appeared in support of each of the four new libraries and the two proposed renovation expansions.

Public Services Report

Melody stated that staff is presenting story times at the Ellie Towne Flowing Wells Community Center. There are deposit collections and the computer lab is now available to the community as of February 25th.

Nancy stated Library has been given approval to hire for Abbett.

Melody stated if ever in the southwest area stop by and visit our Southwest Branch Library.

Support Services Report

Pat commented that Abbett Marana will hold a soft opening the latter part of May. The dedication will be June 7th.

Flowing wells has the walls up, working on the landscaping. Will be complete by end of June. They are still a month ahead of schedule.

Working on Wilmot renovation with architect, working to finish sooner. Architect was instructed to make the best choices with the least amount of money.

Az Historical Society will get funding for their facilities which includes an E-Library. There will be an IGA between the Library and Az Historical Society and will state who pays for what.

Pat and Nancy have been working with County IT and have begun to move the Library over to County Network. Lots of glitches but making necessary corrections.

Community Relations Report

Steffannie handed out the media report for the past month. Also post cards and guide book for A walk to the library, a photo display and printed material on Nuestras Raíces schedule. Last printed calendar. Will only print on demand after this. Acrylic stands and Posters of "It's your library" have gone out to each branch. Library is also helping out the County in promoting the pharmacy discount card. Available to all Pima County residents. Information is on our website. Nancy commented that some of our libraries have already run out of these cards. These cards are more for under-insured and un-insured people.

Tucson Chamber of commerce talked to Nancy commenting about the different names – Tucson Pima Public Library, but seeing Pima County Public Library. Should they use Pima County Public Library?

The Literacy Summit turned out exceptionally well.

7. CALL TO AUDIENCE

None

8. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

9. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Laura L. Galvez
Executive Administrative Assistant