

MINUTES OF THE LIBRARY BOARD

April 13, 2009
4:00 p.m.

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

MEMBERS PRESENT: Marjorie Gerdes, Tom Ward, Pat Peterson, Obdúlia González, Miley Clark

ABSENT: Carla Stoffle, Annabelle Nuñez, Frank Antenori

GUEST:

STAFF: Library Director Nancy Ledebor, Deputy Director Pat Corella, Administrator Karen Thayer, Administrator Bonny Bruce, Marketing & Community Relations Manager Steff Koeneman, Branch Manager Margaret Guerrero, Community Partnerships Librarian Dawn Gardner, Administrator Jere Voigt, Pima County Deputy Administrator, Hank Atha

1. CALL TO ORDER

Marjorie Gerdes called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.

2. MINUTES FOR February 11, 2009

Motion by Obdulia González to approve minutes, seconded by Pat Peterson.
Minutes were approved as written.

3. INTRODUCTIONS

Marjorie went around the room with introductions.

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

Tom Ward commented he continues to hear praises for the Sahuarita Branch Library.

Marjorie Gerdes stated that the Oro Valley Friends Book Sale was very successful. Also, she spoke at the Oro Valley Library Committee and gave a brief explanation of the role of the Library Advisory Board. It was an informational meeting with Q & A. The Committee is exploring options for its future relationship with the Pima County Library District.

5. NEW BUSINESS

A. Martha Cooper Branch Update:

Margaret Guerrero, Branch Manager reported that the gate count is up 29% from last year. There are new signs on the street directing people to the library. Circulation is up 10%, Computer use is up 35% which is in part due to allowing adults to use the teen computers

when school is in session. There are 22 public use computers (use time 45 min) and several express computers (20 min).

Programming for adults includes English Language classes, senior art classes and multilingual story times. Librarian Mary Givens works closely with the refugee service organizations to better understand the needs of the new immigrant population.

B. Renovation of Main Library:

Karyn Prechtel, Main Library Branch Manager went over the remodeling projects going on at Main Library. The 1st floor will consolidate the circulation desk and the information desk to create one service point. New carpeting on the stairs and lobby area replaces the frayed carpet. Tables and chairs will form an informal café style seating area near the windows. Patrons will be allowed to bring in food and drink in that area only. They will have access to WiFi in this area. The backroom work areas will be consolidated. The 3rd floor will get a new computer commons. Lowering the shelves will create a more open feeling and splintered end panels will be replaced. Window shades will minimize sun glare and exposure. There will be some impact on the public due to the need to close the branch, May 2 and 3, to install carpeting and finish major demolition. Infoline will remain open during the closure.

C. Pima County Sustainability:

Karyn Prechtel reported on the unique partnership between the Library, Pima County and the City of Tucson. The Inner Connection is launching a first-of-its-kind map for the greater Tucson area: The Green Pueblo Map. This special map will offer a new perspective on the greater Tucson area with the help of all of us who live, work and play here. Residents and visitors of the greater Tucson area are invited to make their mark on the map by nominating sites that showcase the best of the region's cultural, social and environmentally sustainable features from community gardens and recycling centers to favorite recreation spots and historical sites.

D. Job Clubs/Mobile Career Center:

Dawn Gardner, Community Partnerships Librarian gave an overview of the Library's partnership with Pima County Onestop Career Center. The Library plans to provide classes for workers who have been laid off due to closures or reductions in force. These job clubs/career center will use computers to teach participants how to search for jobs, complete skills assessments to identify transferable skills and develop new skills needed in the current workforce. Classes will include how to submit employment applications and how to succeed in job interviews. Onestop and the Library are currently working together to assemble the curriculum for an eight hour employability skills workshop tailored for the dislocated workers based on Onestop's existing workshop menu and computer classes.

The Library is also working with partners in the community to retool this program toward other workforce markets. The Library has also applied for an LSTA grant to for a project to work with the International Rescue Committee Tucson, the largest of four refugee resettlements to provide multilingual job-search instruction via this project.

E. Strategic Plan Update:

Gina Macaluso and Amber Mathewson were not available but a draft of the Strategic Plan was passed out to board member for their review. Board will discuss at May meeting.

The Draft Plan will be discussed in meetings with the Board of Supervisors to get their input before the next Library Advisory Board meeting.

6. LIBRARY REPORTS:

Community Relations Manager Steff Koeneman passed out the Summer Reading material, designed by Tanya Fernandes. Steff has been very busy preparing the new calendar magazine that will replace the calendar of events for the library. The magazine will debut next month and will include May, June and July. After that the magazine will be published bi-monthly.

Deputy County Administrator Hank Atha compliments staff as always for doing a great job. Pima County established the sustainability position last year. He suggested that the Sustainability Manager Tedra Fox could speak to Board to bring them up to speed on plans to implement solar projects and other energy savings across the County.

Budget work is proceeding and it is likely that tax rates and department budget will be reduced. The County will continue to work with Departments to reduce expenditures. The Budget will go public in approximately 3 weeks. After a review the Board set the maximum amount for the budget in May and adopts a final budget in June. Thanks to Library staff for their efforts in completing a comprehensive budget review this year.

Library Director Nancy Ledeboer stated that the library hopes the tax rate stays where it is now. The Library does have reserves that can help bridge the gap between revenues and expenditures next year. The bond committee recommended that the Board of Supervisors delay a bond election until 2010.

Oro Valley meetings continue.

Last month we heard from Mr. Louis Mindes during the call to audience. Since we are not allowed to respond to an item that is not posted I have included information for the Board concerning his comments. The Library owns 19 titles on Homosexuality and many of these provide information on his point of view. In addition we added cross reference to the subject of unwanted same sex attraction. A committee has been formed to develop guidelines for selecting web links on our website.

The U of A is already booked for the next Tucson Festival of Books.

The Library will send staff to Legislative Day in Phoenix on April 30, setting up meetings with the senators and representatives. Nancy invited any Board members who are interested to come along.

The Library has received three complaints alleging illegal activity on our computers. The Library along with Count IT has investigated the complaints. Deputy County Attorney, Karen Friar is working with us on a response.

The Board Retreat will be May 2 at the Wheeler Taft Abbett Sr. Library Branch.

Deputy Director Melody Ballard was unable to attend.

Deputy Director Pat Corella stated that Murphy Wilmot continues to move forward, preparing to move into the temporary site in July. Green Valley and Nanini will be remodeled. Rio Nuevo Library is on hold.

Obdulía Gonzalez attended the Nuestras Raices program. She said there were lots of people and children. The Pueblo High School Mariachi performed. It was all great!

7. **CALL TO AUDIENCE**

None

8. **FUTURE AGENDA ITEM**

- Tedra Fox-Sustainability
- Naming Policy – Deputy County Attorney, Karen Friar

9. **ADJOURNMENT**

Tom Ward moved to adjourn the meeting. Miley Clark seconded the motion.
The meeting was adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Laura L. Galvez
Executive Administrative Assistant