

MINUTES OF THE LIBRARY BOARD

September 10, 2008
4:00 p.m.

Wheeler Taft Abbett, Sr. Branch Library
7800 N. Schisler Drive
Tucson, AZ

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

ABSENT: Carla Stoffle, Annabelle Nuñez

GUEST:

STAFF: Library Director Nancy Ledebor, Deputy Director, Melody Ballard, Administrator Jere Voigt, Administrator Bonny Bruce, Miller Golf Links Branch Manager Ruth Grant, Adult Services Coordinator, Beth Matthias-Loghry, Deputy County Administrator Hank Atha, Youth Services Coordinator Gina Macaluso, Green Valley Branch Manager Amber Mathewson.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order 4:05 pm

2. MINUTES FOR September 10, 2008

Miley moved to approve minutes as written.

Tom seconded the motion.

Minutes were approved.

3. INTRODUCTIONS

Nancy went around the room and made introductions.

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

Marjorie Gerdes commented that the Oro Valley Library Friends are busy preparing for the book sale on October 22 – 25.

5. NEW BUSINESS

A. Miller-Golf Links Branch Update:

Ruth Grant, Branch Manager provided an overview of services offered at the Miller Golf Links Branch. This branch is a 15,000 sq ft building serving a very large geographic area. The

service area encompasses a growing population south to Rita Ranch and southeast to Vail. Circulation is the 3rd highest after Wilmot and Nanini. Registration is 4th highest. Services include many story times for youth, Read to a Dog and a pilot program that trains adults to

listen to children reading. Ms. Grant will be training other libraries on how to implement this program for volunteers at other libraries.

B. Security Report:

Staff documents violations of the library policy including incidents that require placing calls to 911. Any time a Code of Conduct violation occurs staff addresses the issue with the customer and logs the incident. Last fiscal year there were 126 911 calls for medical or security purposes. In the first quarter of this year 17 calls to 911 have been placed. Incidents that did not require a 911 call in 2007-08 totaled 602, this year (2008-09) 119 incidents have been logged in the first two and a half months. Computer Use violations, instances of asking a customer to close out inappropriate Internet sites, last year totaled 33; so far this year there have been eight instances recorded.

In addition to emergency situations staff deals with a large number of behavioral issues ranging from after school fights, vandalism, graffiti, and theft. Many of these incidents relate to verbal abuse by customers who are harassing staff or other customers. Library Director, Nancy Ledeboer commended staff for enforcing the Code of Conduct in order to create a welcoming, safe environment for customers.

C. Elections Partnership:

For several years now, Pima County Public Libraries have been a location where provisional ballots can be accepted. This election year, the League of Women Voters of Greater Tucson, the Pima County Recorder's Office and the Pima County Division of Elections are teaming up with the Library to help new and busy voters sign up to vote and get informed about candidates and issues.

PCPL approached the League of Women Voters of Greater Tucson (LVWGT) to do joint non-partisan election education and voter registration activities between July and the November general election. Materials for voter information displays, including posters and voter information registration handouts from LVWGT in English and Spanish went out to all libraries.

In addition, PCPL will also participate in Kids Voting USA/Arizona. Kids Voting Arizona will provide students with a Kids Vote Arizona "Voter ID card," and "I voted" stickers. Students can cast their ballots on-line using a public pc. Ballot designs are grade-appropriate, so when a student votes they will log in to the sight based by grade level. Voting will be open for students when early balloting is available for adults, which means a full 30 days prior to the General Election. Kids Voting will close at the same time the adult polls close, which is 7pm on Nov. 4th, 2008.

Finally, PCPL will provide some programs focusing on how important it is to be an informed voter. Librarians in Adult Services are working with the League of Women Voters to co-sponsor candidate forums and/or provide information on ballot measures at Main Library's Food for Thought and at least one other library location. LVWGT will provide voter information pamphlets explaining the pro and con of propositions on the ballot to all libraries.

D. Summer Reading Report:

Beth Matthias-Loghry, Adult Services Coordinator gave an update on the 2008 summer reading programs for children, teen and adults. This program provides a focused and fun way

for children to spend their summer. This year they added a Summer Reading component for adults. She stated that Pima County Public Library's annual Summer Reading Programs began May 22 with three new themes that captivated readers of all ages. Libraries hosted dozens of fun and educational activities at branch libraries throughout the summer. The programs ended on July 19.

Pima County Public Library's 2008 summer reading club, called "**Catch the Reading Bug**", was for children through the fifth grade. The program, "**A Midsummer's Night Read**", was open to teens 12 to 18 years old, or those in grades six to 12. And for adults, the theme was **Metamorphosis**.

E. Strategic Plan Update:

Amber Mathewson gave a short update on the progress of the Strategic Plan and the Community Forums. So far thirteen forums have been completed with sixteen more on the schedule. A Spanish forum was held at Valencia and 12 people attended. FMR Associates has been contracted to perform the online and phone surveys.

Nancy commended Amber, Gina and the community forum facilitators for a great job.

6. **LIBRARY REPORTS:**

County Administration

Hank Atha explained to the members that he has asked Nancy to hold off on taking a policy change to the Board of Supervisors to support the program for youth to read off their fines until we run a pilot test. He has asked the Library to implement a two month pilot to assess the budget impact of waiving fines for youth who read off their fines. Based on that pilot he asked the Library to develop procedures and control mechanism before taking it to the Board of Supervisors.

Tom Ward suggested that the Board write to the BOS to inform them of the pilot study since the Library Board had previously written to the BOS about the policy change. Hank Atha concurred with the suggestion.

Director's Report

Library Director Nancy Ledebor stated that the NASA program was amazing. Over 150 children participating in a live downlink from the International Space Station. The children asked questions and interacted with the astronaut. The Library and County IT staff supported this event so that it went off without a hitch.

Baker's Dozen is a new program to help introduce staff to new technology. The program has been designed by Virtual Branch Manager Jen Maney, her staff and the emerging technology team. The State Library is funding an intern who is taking the program to libraries across the Arizona.

The Library will be following a Zero based budget process this year. Staff will be engaged in itemizing all expenditures and creating measurable outcomes based upon the directions selected in the Strategic Plan.

Nancy reminded all of the Flowing Wells Grand Opening on Saturday and the Mission Branch 30th anniversary on September 16.

The Bookmobile is here and will be unveiled at the Get Fit event on September 27th on the Jácome Plaza.

Also invited the members of the Library Board to let Laura know if they are able to attend the Arizona Library Association's annual luncheon in Glendale. This will be in November.

Nancy passed out study from OCLC on funding in Libraries. She suggested that this might serve as a discussion point on how to build support for libraries in Pima County at the October meeting of the board.

Public Services Report

Deputy Director Melody Ballard encouraged members to read the Youth Services report to learn about the success of the Inside Out program and the National Night Out Block parties that were held at South Tucson and Quincie Douglas libraries.

Support Services Report

Deputy Director Pat Corella was not available to report. Nancy reported that Facilities is moving ahead with Sahuarita. This project is their first priority. It is taking time to arrange for adequate electricity, wiring and telecommunications for computer access.

Monuments signs are being installed at the branches. Look for the new signs that have the name of the branch and Pima County Public Library along with our logo. The Murphy Wilmot renovation and expansion is in the design phase. Facilities is working on solutions to the lighting issues at the Wheeler Taft Abbett Sr. Library. We are working with County to explore other lease options for the Catalina Library. The Nanini and Wilmot libraries will also be moving to one desk this year.

We have plans to use State Grants in Aid funds to purchase furniture for the children's area at Nanini and refresh the Main Library.

Community Relations Report

Steff Koeneman was not available. Nancy passed around news articles with photos of the Abbett Library opening event and community forums. She stated that Gina and Amber are doing a great job. The Get Fit event is being promoted via electronic blasting to all city and county employees, asking them to forward to everyone they know. We are also asking partners in the event to forward the email announcements.

7. CALL TO AUDIENCE

Tom Ward complimented Amber Mathewson on JA Jance's presentation at the Joyner Green Valley Branch. Ms. Jance very kindly repeated her presentation to a second group because the Green Valley branch's meeting room was too small.

8. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

OCLC Study
Out of County use

9. ADJOURNMENT

Tom Ward moved to adjourn meeting, Obdúlia González seconded the motion. Meeting was adjourned at 5:40p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Laura L. Galvez
Executive Administrative Assistant