

MINUTES OF THE LIBRARY BOARD

February 3, 2014
4:00 p.m.

Pima County Public Library
Joel D. Valdez
101 N. Stone Ave,
Lower Level Meeting Room
Tucson, AZ 85706

MEMBERS PRESENT: Obdúlia González, Shirley Geile, Maureen Lueck, Libby Sullivan, Cheryl Langer, David Ellington, Annabelle Nuñez, Clarisa Barcelo, Nancy Puckett

ABSENT: Jeanne Bethel

GUESTS: Chuck Huckelberry, Pima County Administrator, Deputy County Administrator Hank Atha , John Byrnes, President, Library Foundation, Betty Staffer, Executive Director, Literacy Connects

STAFF: Executive Director, Melinda Cervantes, Service Managers Jen Maney, Beth Matthias-Loghry, Community Relations Manager, Kenya Johnson, Deputy Director Pat Corella, Deputy Director Karyn Prechtel, Librarians Margie Farmer, Emily Lane, Sharon Holzman-Cox, Main Manager, Sandra White, Admin Assistant, Kenneth McDonald.

1. Call to order and Pledge
Meeting was called to order at 4 p.m. by Obdúlia González
2. Minutes
Motion was made by David Ellington, to approve the January 6, 2014 minutes, seconded by Libby Sullivan. Minutes approved as written.
3. Introduction
None.
4. New Business
 - A. HB 2379: Special Districts; Secondary Levy Limits:
Chuck Huckelberry, County Administrator, explained that HB 2379 proposes to cap secondary property tax increases for library free districts and would be effective immediately in Tax Year 2014. This proposal will place a severe and immediate limit on the Library District revenue in FY 2014-15. Mr. Huckelberry stated that this has been an ongoing process; State legislature has always looked to limit taxing ability of special districts.

If HB2379 passes it will have a major impact on the Library and Pima County. Libraries will be closed, services and operating hours will be reduced, and the district will not be able to

build and operate any new branches or provide any new services. Pima County will not be able to provide adequate funds to maintain current Library operations.

Annabelle Nuñez moved that the Board draft and sign a letter opposing HB 2379 and encouraged Board members as individuals to do the same, as well as notify colleagues. Cheryl Langer seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

B. El Rio Branch Library Update:

Branch Supervisor Emily Lane provided a presentation on the history of the library and programs and services provided at the branch.

C. Tucson Festival of Books:

Librarian Margie Farmer provided a handout which included a background on some of the authors attending the Festival in the Library's Nuestras Raices Tent.

D. Programs and Partners Office:

Dawn Gardner was not available to report on this item. This agenda item was moved to March.

E. Horner Fellowship Funds:

Librarian Jennifer Caldwell provided a presentation about her 10-day trip to Japan as the recipient of the Horner Fellowship from the Arizona State Library Association.

F. Library Board Retreat:

The Board agreed to meet May 10, 2014 at the Kirk-Bear Canyon Branch. Members will submit topics for the agenda.

5. Updates

John Byrnes, Foundation President, commented on fundraising efforts, noting that the average donation has increased significantly. The Foundation made a presentation to Angel Charities requesting grant funding for Homework Help tutors and a new program to get library cards to students.

David Ellington commented that the Friends are preparing for the Tucson Festival of Books. The Friends will have two tents at the Festival. Zoning issues at the book barn should be resolved within two months.

6. Library Reports

A. ***Deputy County Administrator*** Hank Atha encouraged the Board to express their opinion to the Legislators regarding HB2379 as soon as possible.

B. ***Directors Report*** – Executive Director, Melinda Cervantes

- The library is preparing questions and answers about HB2379

- Reminded the Board of the Bond Advisory Committee meeting on February 21 at 8 am.
- There will be Public Health Nurses at Tucson Festival of Books to answer question about the Affordable Care Act
- The fire on January 17 was a car fire and caused Main Library to close Friday through Monday. There was a lot of smoke, and Facilities needed to clean the building due to smoke. County Facilities, Fire Department and City of Tucson were a great help.

C. **Public Services Report** –Deputy Director Karyn Prechtel added the following to her report:

- For many years the Library has been hosting a Foreign Policy discussion group, “Great Decisions,” at five libraries. The Library has decided to sponsor the program. The Library will purchase materials and sponsor the program.
- Children’s services at South Tucson have blossomed with the new children’s Librarian, Mary Margaret Mercado, a very popular children’s librarian.
- The Library is training new bookmobile drivers to fill in when needed.

D. **Strategic Initiatives Report** – Deputy Director, Amber Mathewson was not available.

E. **Support Services** – Deputy Director Pat Corella reported that the library was named a beneficiary of the William R. Matthews estate. Mr. Matthews donated 60 acres on Tanque Verde Road valued at \$1.7 M. It will take about a year to receive the funds.

F. **Communications Report** – Kenya Johnson added that an article that she wrote with the help of Karyn Prechtel and Amber Mathewson will be published in the upcoming innovation issue of Public Libraries magazine. The article highlighted the success of the library nurse program.

7. **Call to the Audience**

Betty Stauffer, Executive Director, Literacy Connects mentioned they have sent out 2,000 e-blasts in opposition of HB2379.

8. **Adjournment**

Annabelle Nunez motioned to adjourn meeting, Clarisa Barcelo seconded the motion Meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: March 3, 2014

Joel D. Valdez Main Library

Respectfully submitted,

Laura

Laura L. Galvez

Executive Administrative Assistant