

MINUTES OF THE LIBRARY BOARD

March 3, 2014
4:00 p.m.

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

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

ABSENT: Clarisa Barcelo. Cheryl Langer

GUESTS:

STAFF: Executive Director, Melinda Cervantes, Service Managers Jen Maney, Beth Matthias-Loghry, Community Relations Manager, Kenya Johnson, Deputy Directors Pat Corella, Karyn Prechtel and Amber Mathewson, Dianna Thor, Martha Cooper Branch Manager, Librarians Jennifer Whitt and Dawn Gardner

1. Call to order and Pledge

Meeting was called to order at 4 p.m. by Obdúlia González

2. Minutes

Karyn Prechtel, Deputy Director, asked to amend minutes. Agenda item 6C should read “Children’s Services at South Tucson have improved due to Mary Margaret Mercado’s presence.” Motion was made by David Ellington to approve the February 3, 2014 minutes as amended, seconded by Libby Sullivan. Minutes were approved as amended.

3. Introduction

None.

4. Updates

David Ellington commented that the Friends tents for the Tucson Festival of Books are ready to go. They were placed at a new location this year. David asked for help setting up, if available.

5. New Business

A. Martha Cooper Branch Library Update:

Dianna Thor, Branch Manager, and Jennifer Whitt, Librarian II provided a PowerPoint of the services and programs provided at the branch.

B. Programs and Partners Office:

Librarian Dawn Gardner provided a PowerPoint of the Programs and Partners office (PPO). The PPO works with the Service Teams to coordinate educational system-wide programs in the branches such as Homework Help, ReadStrong, GED preparation tutoring and much

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more. The PPO also secures Library presenters, is involved in the system-wide coordination of the summer Reading program and is home to other priority projects such as the Youth Media Center grant.

C. HB 2379: Special Districts; Secondary Levy Limits Update:

The language in HB 2379 was amended to remove immediate threat capping Library District taxing authority at current levels, severely limiting the possibility to increase taxes in the future. The amended version puts in language stating the Library District will need to do additional public hearing prior to changes in the tax levy. If adopted the Bill would go into effect in January 2015.

Public forums organized by SEIU to inform community about HB 2379 are ongoing. Forums are to help people learn how library is funded and where to find the cost on their tax bill. The Library's portion is a very small part of the overall property tax bill. There are lots of other public services funded through property taxes. An invitation to attend one of the forums was extended.

Melinda provided a copy of a letter from former Advisory Board President, Tom Ward, sent on behalf of the Pima County Small business Commission opposing HB 2379.

D. Bond Advisory Committee Update:

The Committee met on February 21. The committee is composed of appointees by the Board of Supervisors from each jurisdiction. Melinda provided a PowerPoint presentation of the Library's proposed projects: Southwest, Sahuarita, Flowing Wells, Green Valley, and an east side location that could be located near Esmond Station or in the UA Tech Park.

E. 2014-15 Proposed Budget Update:

Deputy Director Pat Corella stated that the Library submitted a \$35M budget which is about the same as last year's. The Library is looking to increase the tax rate \$.05 - .07 cents. Final budget will not be sent until August when BOS set the tax levy. At this point it looks like it is likely to be increased.05 cents.

6. Library Reports

A. **Deputy County Administrator** Hank Atha was not available to report.

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

- For every new library, we need an additional \$.01 cent to operate, at minimum.
- Distributed a copy of the National Medal for Museum and Library Service news release.

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

- Met with TPD, Sheriff's Department, and their counsel to discuss Library security.
- Relaxed the food and drink policy; they are now allowed in the libraries.
- Working on space planning at Main Library.
- The Staff Exceptionality Awards ceremony was fantastic! It will continue annually.

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D. *Strategic Initiatives Report* – Deputy Director Amber Mathewson highlighted:

- Affordable Care Act has a deadline of March 31, 2014.
- Medicaid Expansion has been the best improvement for Arizona.
- Funds from National Library of Medicine help provide information on diabetes, nutrition, TaiChi and other health related programming.
- Mobilization grant partnered with Health Department and will provide \$500K a year for 3 years if received. The library would receive only a portion of the funds.
- PCPL is preparing an LSTA grant to begin developing innovative entrepreneurship services and spaces.

E. *Support Services* – Deputy Director Pat Corella had no additional comments about his report.

F. *Communications Report* – Kenya Johnson

- Handed out copy of Library Nurse Program article featured in the January/February 2014 Public Libraries Innovation Issue.
- Share your library story campaign is kicking off soon.

7. Call to the Audience

None.

8. Adjournment

Annabelle Nuñez motioned to adjourn meeting, Maureen Lueck seconded the motion Meeting adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: April 7, 2014

Joel D. Valdez Main Library

Respectfully submitted,

Laura

Laura L. Galvez

Executive Administrative Assistant