

**MINUTES
LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

February 19, 2008
5:00 P.M.
Central Library
7111 Talbert Avenue
Huntington Beach, CA 92648

ROLL CALL:

MEMBERS PRESENT: Miles, Budwig, Hall, Lewis and Moore

MEMBERS ABSENT: Cox, Kuperberg

STAFF PRESENT: Daugherty, Blassingame

COUNCIL LIAISONS PRESENT: None

PRESENTATIONS/COMMENDATIONS:

MINUTES: January 15, 2008

VICE-CHAIR MILES ENTERTAINED A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES AS SUBMITTED: SO MOVED BY MR. LEWIS AND SO SECONDED BY MR. MOORE, THE MINUTES OF JANUARY 15, 2008 WERE APPROVED AS PRESENTED.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS/PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS: Ms. Blassingame announced that Mr. Harold Hall was appointed to the Library Board of Trustees at the January 22 City Council meeting. She also distributed an updated Library Board of Trustees roster.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

F-1. Banning Branch Library

Ms. Blassingame reported on the status of the Banning project, explaining that the Library Board's scheduled time to meet with the City Council at the March 3, 2008 Study Session was removed from the calendar at the request of Interim City Administrator Paul Emery to allow more time for a Finance department presentation. Ms. Blassingame proposed alternate Study Session dates to the Board members. Following a discussion, the attending Board members agreed on July 7, 2008. Ms. Blassingame will contact Chair Cox and confirm her availability. She will then ask Mr. Hayden to notify the Interim City Administrator of the new date.

Ms. Blassingame also distributed hard copies of the revised Banning presentation to the Board members and instructed them to replace the existing presentation in their Banning project binders with the revised pages. She added that she mailed the electronic file of the Banning presentation on a Flash Drive to Chair Cox, and that she would also send a Flash Drive containing the revised Banning presentation to Vice-Chair Miles.

Mr. Moore handed Ms. Daugherty a print-out which listed points to consider when building a new library. He also distributed a print-out to each member of the Board which listed cities whose populations were similar to the population of Huntington Beach, the number of libraries in, and the total area of, each city. Mr. Moore explained various aspects that could be considered when proposing additional library locations within Huntington Beach, including accessibility, using the square miles and population to determine where to place new branches.

F-2. Downtown Specific Update

Ms. Daugherty gave a brief overview regarding an idea presented by the City's Economic Development department to create a cultural hub, which includes the Art Center and the Main Street branch, with the goal of providing enriching arts programs of all levels, including - but not limited to - the Huntington Beach Playhouse. She added that one of the proposals includes building on the open spaces surrounding the Main Street branch. She concluded that this concept is in the very early stages and the City will be holding Community Workshops to obtain feedback from residents, property owners, business owners and developers. Mr. Moore noted that a meeting was being held on Wednesday, February 20th, but he did not know the location of the meeting. He asked if anyone from the library was attending. Ms. Daugherty replied that she did not think anyone from the library staff was scheduled to attend.

Mr. Budwig reported that in the early 1970's, when Golden West College was completed, he heard a speech which told of a Huntington Beach in the near future that would become a resort community featuring coastal hotels, a large cultural center, and a walking mall downtown. Mr. Budwig noted this vision is slowly becoming a reality, but to keep in mind that speech was made in the early 1970's.

F-3. Library Director Recruitment Profile

Ms. Blassingame reported that Mr. Hayden stated he would remain Library Director at least until the 2008/2009 Library Budget is finalized, which could be late August, but that the City may begin the recruitment before then.

Mr. Lewis noted that the recruitment for a new Library Director would probably not begin until after a new City Administrator was selected. He also suggested that the Board of Trustees focus on areas of concern when selecting a new Director. He added that one of the purposes of the Board of Trustees is to advise the Council of their recommendations in this regard.

Vice-Chair Miles stated that he would like to see a 'home-grown,' long-time staff member step into the position of Library Director. Ms. Daugherty replied that none of the current staff are interested in the position, preferring to remain librarians, and that some of those staff members will also be retiring soon.

Mr. Moore asked who mentored Mr. Hayden into the position of Library Director and Ms. Daugherty replied that Mr. Hayden was not mentored. Mr. Moore stated that the Executive Search firm hired to find a new Director may like to know about the history of the previous Administration and the amount of work required to keep it running consistently. He added that the library would benefit from having an individual of a similar type to Mr. Hayden operating the library.

Ms. Daugherty stated that the result of the first recruitment did not yield any interested applicants, possibly due to the lack of an enhanced retirement benefit within the City's benefits package. She added that the City has since proceeded with implementing a 2.5% @ 55 enhanced retirement plan, which may entice previously hesitant candidates to apply for the position of Library Director. She stated that the "City of Huntington Beach was not competitive in that aspect."

Mr. Moore expressed concern that a new Library Director, with many years of experience, might remain in the position only a few years or more, accepting this position as the last in a long career. Ms. Blessingame pointed out that the new Director may not remain longer than five or ten years, regardless of that individual's experience, which is the current trend.

Mr. Moore also mentioned Mr. Hayden's leadership development and noticed that various senior management are participating in the management of the library. Ms. Daugherty stated that senior management will have the responsibility of training the new Library Director.

INFORMATION ITEMS:

Ms. Blessingame distributed the February/March Children's programs calendar and a flyer about an animal show scheduled on Wednesday, March 26 in the Tabby Theater. She also distributed information about the Children's Library and Oak View library programs.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Library Support Organizations: Ms. Blessingame distributed a flyer for an Author Talk and Book Signing presented by the Friends of the Library featuring Stephen J. Cannell, scheduled for Tuesday, March 25, 2008 at 7:00 pm.

CALTAC: Mr. Moore asked about the annual CALTAC memberships of the Board members and Ms. Blessingame replied that the membership renewal application for 2008 was completed and submitted. Mr. Moore also reminded the Board members the next CALTAC workshop is on March 15 at the Orange Public Library and History Center, featuring Susan Hildreth, *California State Librarian*, and Dr. Ken Haycock, *Director School of Library and Information Science, San Jose State University*.

LIBRARY BOARD COMMENTS: Mr. Budwig asked about the RV situation in the library parking lot. Ms. Daugherty explained that the police are patrolling the parking lot nightly, and the police reported RVs lining up at 4:45 am to enter the parking lot at 5:00 am.

STAFF COMMENTS: None.

ADJOURNMENT: Vice-Chair Miles entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Moore made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Mr. Budwig seconded the motion. There being no more business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by,

Dionne Cox, Chair