

**MINUTES
LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

October 21, 2008
5:00 P.M.
Central Library
7111 Talbert Avenue
Huntington Beach, CA 92648

ROLL CALL:

MEMBERS PRESENT: Cox, Budwig, Hall and Lewis

MEMBERS ABSENT: Kuperberg, Miles, Moore

STAFF PRESENT: Gonzalez, Blassingame

COUNCIL LIAISONS PRESENT: None

PRESENTATIONS/COMMENDATIONS:

None

MINUTES: September 16, 2008

CHAIR COX ENTERTAINED A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES AS SUBMITTED: SO MOVED BY MR. BUDWIG AND SO SECONDED BY MR. LEWIS, THE MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 16, 2008 WERE APPROVED AS SUBMITTED.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS/PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS: Ms. Blassingame presented the September meeting minutes to Chair Cox for her signature.

Ms. Blassingame distributed reusable water bottles, produced for and issued by the City's Public Works department, to each member of the Library Board and encouraged use of tap water.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

F-1. HB Centennial

Mr. Budwig showed a brief presentation of the slideshow draft, taking suggestions from the attending Board members. He also distributed CDs containing the current draft of the presentation as well as various other documents used in generating the slideshow.

Mr. Budwig asked Ms. Blassingame if she could assist in locating still photos of the Central library project. She agreed to contact Laurie Payne, Community Relations Officer, and ask about historical photos.

F-2. Library Director Recruitment Profile

Ms. Gonzalez provided a status report regarding the recruitment for a new Library Director. She explained that initial interviews for seven candidates meeting with two panels, consecutively, took place during the week of October 13. She added that there will be a second interview for two finalist candidates with Fred Wilson, City Administrator, Paul Emery, Deputy City Administrator and Bob Hall, Deputy City Administrator. Ms. Gonzalez concluded that, allowing for selection, an offer, notice to current employer, background checks, contract negotiation and presentation of a Request for Council Action to Council, all taking place before and after the Thanksgiving holiday, the appointment of a new Director may occur between mid-December and early January.

Ms. Gonzalez further added that until a new Library Director is appointed and acclimated to the position, the Banning project will remain on the back-burner.

INFORMATION ITEMS:

Ms. Gonzalez presented information submitted to the Library Director from the Human Relations Task Force regarding cultural displays featured at the library during corresponding months. She added that currently the library includes displays for various heritage groups, such as Black History in February, in both the adult and children's sections. She was asked by the Director to present the request to the Library Board for discussion, and that the new Library Director would be included in the final decision. Ms. Gonzalez also mentioned that one of the designated themes for the Centennial celebration was a month of Diversity, which could include this kind of information. The Library Board briefly discussed the issue and then chose to table further discussion until the full board was present and a new Library Director was at the helm.

Ms. Blassingame distributed information from the Children's programs and Oak View literacy program, as well as a flyer promoting the annual Halloween magic show, children's costume parade and program calendar.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Library Support Organizations:

Ms. Blassingame distributed a flyer for the upcoming Friends of the Library Author's lunch, featuring Nicole Mones.

Mr. Budwig distributed an agenda for the Orange County, California Genealogical Society upcoming events and reviewed the various topic discussion being held at the library in November. He noted that the Genealogical Society will be dark in December.

CALTAC: There was nothing new to report at the time of this meeting.

LIBRARY BOARD COMMENTS:

Mr. Budwig recalled the attendance of Mr. Larry Parker at the September meeting and his inquiry regarding the reference to the "Number of Patrons" visiting the Banning library as listed on the Huntington Beach Public Library Fact Sheet on the www.hbpl.org website. Ms. Blassingame responded that on the day following the meeting she contacted Cam Ha and requested clarification of the information. Ms. Ha informed her that the "Number of Patrons" actually refers to how many library cards are issued for that particular branch. She added that a more accurate indicator of library use are the circulation amounts, also listed on the Fact Sheet. Mr. Lewis asked if the information headings on

the Fact Sheet could be made clearer for patrons who visit the website, and Ms. Blassingame replied that she would address the issue to Ms. Ha.

Chair Cox reported receiving the current issue of Public Libraries magazine. She mentioned an article, titled "Whose Job is it Anyway?", which sought to define the roles of Library Boards and their relationship to the Director. Mr. Hall stated that he also read the article and his take was that education is key, that the Board needs to be educated about the library and its operations, and the library staff needs to be educated about the direction and goals of the Board. Chair Cox also mentioned that the publication contained an article about Internet Training for Seniors. Ms. Gonzalez asked Ms. Blassingame to copy some of the articles from the magazine.

Mr. Lewis commented that he felt the letter presented by the Library Board to the Human Resources director regarding the qualities of a library director had a positive effect and he was honored to be chosen to serve on the interview panel of the Library Director candidates. He added that following the interview panels, the City Administrator, Fred Wilson, took the time to listen to each of the panelists during a debriefing session.

STAFF COMMENTS: None.

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

Respectfully submitted by,

Dionne Cox, Chair