



LIBRARY COMMISSION MINUTES

Regular Meeting
February 12, 2007 6:30 pm
Menlo Park Library
800 Alma Street
Menlo Park, Ca. 94025

CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Traum called the meeting to order at approximately 6:35 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Traum, Chair (P), Friedman (A), Goyle (P), McDonough (P), Tedrow (P),
Wellner de Veer (P), Zara (P)

STAFF PRESENT:

Susan Holmer, Director of Library Services

OTHERS PRESENT:

Kristi Breich, Project Read Advisory Board
Phil Lumish, Project Read Advisory Board
Betty Meissner, PLS Advisory member and Menlo Park Library Foundation board member

A. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Betty Meissner reported that Project Read had its first quarterly gathering on Feb. 10 on the campus of Belle Haven Community School, 12 adult learners attended. Mrs. Meissner also noted that more advanced Project Read adult learners will be participating in the Henry Huffman Leadership Institute. The Institute is a 6-month literacy program that not only includes improved literacy but also builds skills in concepts of democracy and government. Information on this program will be in the Project Read newsletter.

Lastly, Mrs. Meissner noted that there will be a CalTac workshop on March 20 at the Los Altos library from 1:00-3:00p.m. The topic of the workshop will be *Future of Libraries with Steve Abram*. Visit <http://www.plsinfo.org/workshops/steveabram.htm> for details and registration.

Kristi Breich, Project Read Advisory Board, noted that the November Library Commission minutes should have reflected Project Reads goals to diversify its funding and curricular development. The crucial need for Project Read, however, is to have a program director.

Ms. Breich also announced that Project Read has received a grant from Menlo Park Presbyterian Church and will be a part of the church's Compassion Weekend in April. During this weekend church members and neighborhood families will build bookcases

that the families will take home. Families for Literacy and Reading is Fundamental (RIF) are also participating in this weekend.

B. INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Commission Priorities for City Council Priority Setting Process
 - As noted in the January Commission meeting, a letter was written by Chair Traum to the City Council outlining the need for a demographic study of the Belle Haven neighborhood to help determine future library needs. Mrs. Holmer will include this letter in the City Council report from the Library. The packet will go to the City Council on March 6, 2007.
 - Mrs. Holmer noted that other city departments indicated that they would benefit from a demographic study as well.
2. Commissioner Reports:
 - Foundation:
 - i. No report this month.
 - Friends:
 - i. There will be a book sale in April.
 - ii. The Friends 2007 budget has been approved; the Friends have pledged \$142,000 to the Library in 2007.
 - iii. Currently book collections are up.
 - iv. The Friends are also looking to increase their membership.
 - PLS Advisory Board:
 - i. The Library Issues breakfast will be in May.

C. BUSINESS ITEMS

1. Commission minutes:
 1. The minutes of the January 2007 Commission meeting were unanimously approved.
2. Staff communications:
 1. Mrs. Holmer reported work is moving forward on the planned renovation of the Children's room and the circulation front area of the main library. Currently Mrs. Holmer has met with two architectural design firms and negotiations on the cost of the design have begun. The renovation project will be funded in part using some of the remaining funds from the last library bond.
 2. Mrs. Holmer also reported on research into using the email addresses of library patrons to announce library events and new. Discussion ensued regarding the provider of library computer services. Mr. Goyle will follow up with Mrs. Holmer on this topic.

D. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:55 p.m.

Next regular meeting is scheduled to take place on Monday, March 12, 2006 at the Menlo Park Library main branch.

Respectfully submitted,
Anna Zara, Secretary to the Library Commission