

**Library Advisory Board Minutes May 8, 2012**  
For Multnomah County Library Advisory Board (LAB)

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The Multnomah County Library Advisory Board (LAB) met on Tuesday, April 10, at Central Library in the U.S. Bank Meeting Room. Chair Katie Lane called the meeting to order at 7:35 a.m.

Board members present were: Lori Irish Bauman, Kerline Brownell, Marian Creamer, Allie Donahue, George Feldman, Mark Jackson, John Potter, Mardy Stevens, Danika Stochosky, Henise Telles-Ferreira, and Carlene Weldon. Board members excused were: Heidi Beebe, David Blount, and Sola Whitehead. Board member Mark Garber was absent.

Staff members present were: Vailey Oehlke, Director of Libraries; Becky Cobb, Deputy Director; Rita Jimenez, Neighborhood Libraries Director; Sue Banks, Central Library Director; Cindy Gibbon, Access and IT Services Manager; Mike Harrington, Facilities Manager; Shelly Kent, Human Resources Manager; Ellen Fader, Youth Services Director; Jeremy Graybill, Marketing & Communications Director; Terrilyn Chun, Public Programming & Community Outreach Manager; Shawn Cunningham, Policy Advisor; Victoria Oglesbee, Holgate Library Administrator; and Jamie Owens, Administrative Specialist, Director's Office.

Also in attendance were: Shawn Files, Policy Advisor, Commissioner Diane McKeel's office; Elizabeth Beekley, The Library Foundation; Craig Cedros, Friends of the Library.

The April 10, 2012 minutes were approved with changes.

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Vailey shared that Multnomah County Library is an essential service for our citizens and students. The SUN program recently received grant funds to extend their summer service at critical, high-priority sites. This means Books 2 U will be able to provide services throughout the summer, connecting these students with Summer Reading.

Vailey continued about funding for at risk youth with the Raising a Reader program. At the last LAB meeting Karie Trumbo reported that the Foundation-funded Raising a Reader program lost all FY 2013 funding from the Portland Children's Levy, which provides a large portion of the funding for this program. Vailey announced that The

Library Foundation agreed to fully fund the program through FY13, and thanked them for their support.

## **CHAIR'S REPORT**

Katie Lane announced two committees with reports to make.

### **Nominating Committee Report**

Henise Telles-Ferreira, co-chair of the Nominating Committee reported that she received interest from two potential youth members. One is a freshman and one is a junior. Katie asked how long the committee will be accepting applications for the vacancies. Henise answered that at the next LAB meeting in June, there will be names for consideration.

Katie asked that if a current board member wants a leadership role to contact the Nominating Committee.

### **Access Committee Report**

George Feldman, chair of the Access Committee, reported the committee had met last week with staff member Cindy Gibbon. The committee discussed the Digital Public Library of American movement that is stemming from Harvard University. George explained the intent is to take the world's knowledge and digitize it to make it freely accessible to all. Vailey is a member of ALA's Digital Content Working Group that is working on this. She will meet with the Access Committee on June 8 to report on this effort. George noted that the Access Committee is crafting new responsibilities, clarifying and updating their charge. This will be reported to the LAB in July.

Katie continued her report with information about the newly released Chair's Executive Budget. She reminded members that she had sent information and links to the public hearings that are scheduled during May. Vailey announced that the library's work session with the Board of County Commissioners is on May 22 and she invited LAB members to show their support at that time. Their CBAC report will be presented at that work session. Mardy Stevens shared that there is quite a lot of information in the budget. Katie explained that the library's budget is just a portion of all the budget offers and the LAB's summary letter is helpful for understanding the Library's proposed budget. Vailey added that the library made 20 budget "program offers" that show the work of the programs and the results that they each contribute.

Vailey introduced Shelly Kent, Human Resources manager for MCL to talk about the changes in staffing needed in order to meet the constraints of the FY13 budget.

## **HUMAN RESOURCES UPDATE**

Shelly Kent explained the budget details of the reduction and how it will affect staff. One hundred twenty eight employees are impacted, which is 23% of the library's staff. Impacts include: reduction in hours, changing work locations, changing job class, transferring to the county, and being laid off. Right now the process is very fluid because any change that one employee makes will affect the choice of another. Shelly reviewed a list of the changes and the different impacts. Some of the impacts have been mitigated by vacancies, voluntary retirements and voluntary layoffs.

Shelly noted that Human Resources worked very closely with Local 88 and the Library Layoff Committee throughout this process. Vailey thanked Shelly and her staff for the work they accomplished during this difficult time. Vailey noted that for all the changes that the library will go through, most likely the public will notice that MCL is closed one day per week. Henise Telles-Ferreira asked what day the library will be closed. Vailey provided the background of analysis that led to the decision to be closed on Mondays, and the new hours schedule.

## **FY 2013 FUNDING REDUCTION**

Vailey reported that Chair Cogen has released his executive budget. The Chair did not change the library's submitted budget. The largest reductions came in staffing and the collection budget.

## **THE LIBRARY FOUNDATION**

Elizabeth Beekley reported about the letter of intent that was sent to the Paul G. Allen Foundation; they have made it through the first cut in the grant application process.

TLF is collecting stories now for the Children's Book Project.

Elizabeth also reported that the Libraries Yes! PAC has recently received donations of \$100,000, \$25,000, and a \$10,000 donation from Beverly Cleary.

Vailey thanked TLF for all of the hard work they have done for the library. Vailey shared that this hard work was recognized recently when Merris Sumrall received the Woman Executive of the Year (Nonprofit) award from The Portland Business Journal.

## **FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY**

Craig Cedros reported the great success of the recent east county book sale. They had \$33,000 in sales and 90 new members that joined the Friends.

George Feldman shared about recently ordering a book on-line from the San Diego Friends of the Library and asked if there are plans for website sales here. Craig answered that right now the Friends lack the space to hold the special items that they would be selling on the internet. The new Friends retail manager has been looking into this project.

### **GOOD & WELFARE**

Danika Stochosky shared that her Facebook page reminds friends to vote.

Vailey added that only 8% of the ballots have been turned in so far. The libraries collect about 25% of the ballots on election night.

With all the information that is out there Mardy Stevens shared that she is surprised that folks still have questions about the library levy and library district.

The next LAB meeting is June 12, 2012.

Katie Lane, Chair, adjourned the meeting at 8:29 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by:  
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