

**Library Advisory Board Minutes January 8, 2013**  
For Multnomah County Library Advisory Board (LAB)

---

The Multnomah County Library Advisory Board (LAB) met on Tuesday, January 8, 2013 at Central Library in the U.S. Bank Meeting Room. Chair Katie Lane called the meeting to order at 7:36 a.m.

Board members present were: Lori Irish Bauman, Erin Cooper, George Feldman, Bernadette Janét, Katie Lane, John Potter, Adam Starr, Mardy Stevens, Danika Stochosky, Henise Telles-Ferreira, Carlene Weldon and Sola Whitehead. Board members Marian Creamer and Maegan Vidal were excused. Board members Etsegenet Ayele, Hallie Blashfield, and David Blount were absent.

Staff members present were: Vailey Oehlke, Director of Libraries; Becky Cobb, Deputy Director; Dave Ratliff, interim Central Library Director; Javier Gutierrez, interim Collections Services Manager; Jeremy Graybill, Marketing & Communications Director; Cindy Gibbon, Access & IT Services Manager; Terrilyn Chun, Public Programming & Community Outreach Manager; Shelly Kent, Human Resources Manager; Shawn Cunningham, Policy Advisor; Lisa Canavan, Facilities and Materials Movement Supervisor; Stephanie Miller, Access Services Librarian, and Jamie Owens, Administrative Specialist, Director's Office.

Also in attendance were: Diane McKeel, District 4 Commissioner; Corie Wiren, Chief of Staff, Commissioner McKeel's Office; Althea Gregory, Multnomah County Budget Office; Nathan Brunette, Friends of the Library; and Elizabeth Beekley, The Library Foundation.

The December 11, 2012 minutes were approved.

**CHAIR'S REPORT**

Katie brought a plaque presented to the LAB and she shared its inscription: "In deepest appreciation from the Libraries YES campaign to the LAB for a tremendous contribution to our Multnomah County Library district campaign."

Katie said today's meeting items are in direct response to what LAB members requested to learn more about. If anyone has questions about MCL activities or services please contact Katie or Vailey.

Katie welcomed new member Bernadette Janét.

Katie suggested an LAB discussion group of the Everybody Reads book and asked for a volunteer to plan it. Danika Stochosky volunteered to organize it.

## **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Vailey announced the launch of the survey that the LAB participated in shaping during last month's meeting. She encouraged LAB members to take the survey. There are over 1400 responses so far, and it will remain posted until the end of this month.

Vailey announced a grant from the Paul G. Allen foundation, and expressed appreciation of TLF for their work in obtaining this grant. One of the MCL priorities is to champion reading for everyone. This grant will expand the "reader's advisory" which helps MCL meet the community's reading needs by making it a richer experience, through selecting reading materials and providing programming. This is an investigation and implementation grant.

Vailey presented the eleventh annual Everybody Reads books. She explained there are two different titles this year. The adult selection is "Ten Little Indians" and the youth selection is "The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian", both by Sherman Alexie. The heart of the program happens now though February, with the reading and sharing of the books. Vailey thanked TLF for the funding, and partners Literary Arts, Powell's, and Barnes & Noble. Terrilyn Chun said as of Friday four libraries are already out of the books. Terrilyn referred to the project guides, noting the partnership with PSU lecture programs, and the Everybody Reads library events. The author, Sherman Alexie, will be speaking at the Arlene Schnitzer Hall March 12; the event is sponsored by Literary Arts in partnership with MCL. Terrilyn will be organizing the author event tickets.

Jeremy Graybill and Stephanie Miller joined the discussion to preview and answer questions about the new website.

## **MY MCL PRESENTATION**

Jeremy announced that on February 6, MCL will have a new way of offering library services on line through its new website, My MCL. It is a full transition from what is currently available through the original classic site. My MCL is an in-house partnership between County IT, the library web team and the library Bibliocommons team. The current site is seven years old; the new site will be available to mobile devices, which will take MCL into the future. My MCL will be available in the library's target languages and meets accessibility standards for the hearing and sight impaired, so it is bringing MCL to patrons who could not use the current website. Because it is open-source, as new technology develops the site can be updated. Vailey added that the advantage to creating the site in-house was that it is a lot less expensive and MCL has the expertise to make the upgrades and adaptations to the site as needed. John Potter asked about

the difference between the current phone app that allows a mobile device access to the current site and the new My MCL. Jeremy answered that 14,000 people access the library through the library app every month, and they can continue to do that or they can go right to the My MCL website via the tablet or phone.

Stephanie Miller presented My MCL to the LAB, highlighting how My MCL integrates the services the library offers with everything in the MCL catalog. When the search option is used, the results shown on the left side are books, movies, and everything in the library catalog, while the right side provides resources, content, events, booklists and programs. This type of integration provides a user with access to all the library services and resources that are relevant to her search. The site is more user-friendly and intuitive; it uses smart search, it works with a screen reader, and it shows all of the formats MCL has for any subject. Bernadette Janét asked if classes will be available for those patrons who need help. Plans are being made to have My MCL fairs in open areas of libraries, and patrons can always ask for help on the spot or make an appointment with staff for a future time. Patrons can also continue to use the classic catalog, because it will always be available. LAB members strongly encouraged the library to reach out to patrons regarding the changes and not to assume all patrons will find the site intuitive.

## **LIBRARY SAFETY REPORT**

Lisa Canavan distributed the MCL Security Overview. Lisa explained that libraries, like all public buildings, are spaces where everyone can come through the door, whether they are having a bad day or having mental health issues. Library staff is trained to be welcoming, because the best safety and security is to let people know that you know they are there. The “Think Yes” program is the primary way to reduce problems. Staff is friendly, offering proactive help while roving within the building. The points of MCL behavior rules are: protect our assets, protect our patrons and protect the staff. Every location has staff trained to be the Person in Charge (PIC). The PIC can interpret the rules and help patrons to be successful in the library. MCL provides extra training and classes for the PIC staff; they are trained to ask questions in a way that encourage the best behavior while respecting people’s rights. Depending on the rule violation, patrons can be excluded for up to three years. MCL staff will take action when a patron does not behave appropriately. Facility Security Officers (FSOs) have an ongoing relationship with law enforcement. In 2012-13 MCL also conducted Active Threat Trainings for staff, which is one of the goals of the Workplace Violence Prevention Plan

Vailey stated that MCL has taken very seriously the responsibility to ensure everyone’s safety, and to avoid dangerous situations.

## **THE LIBRARY FOUNDATION**

Elizabeth Beekley reported TLF continued support of the Allen grant program.

## **FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY**

Nathan Brunette reported that the Friends now have one thousand titles listed on the internet for sale.

The next LAB meeting is Tuesday, February 12, 2013.

Katie Lane, Chair, adjourned the meeting at 8:39 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Jamie Owens

Administrative Specialist, Library Director's Office

Multnomah County Library, Oregon