

Library Advisory Board Minutes June 11, 2013

For Multnomah County Library Advisory Board (LAB)

The Multnomah County Library Advisory Board (LAB) met on Tuesday, June 11, 2013 at Central Library in the U.S. Bank Meeting Room. Chair Katie Lane called the meeting to order at 7:36 am.

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

Staff members present were: Becky Cobb, Deputy Director; Rita Jimenez, Neighborhood Libraries Director; Cindy Gibbon, Access & IT Services Manager; David Ratliff, Central Library Director; Terrilyn Chun, Public Programming & Community Outreach Manager; Katie O'Dell, Youth Services Director; Shawn Cunningham, Policy Advisor; Javier Gutierrez, interim Collections Services Manager; Jeremy Graybill, Marketing & Communications Director; Shelly Kent, Human Resources Manager; Stephanie Miller, Access Services Librarian; Kate Schwab, Library Assistant; and Jamie Owens, Administrative Specialist, Director's Office.

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

The May 14, 2013 minutes were approved.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Katie announced that this meeting is the last for two members. Marian Creamer has been with the LAB for eight years. Marian chaired the Nominating Committee, served on the Finance Committee, participated in the Access Committee, (which is now the Electronic Access Policy Advisory Committee), and served as the Chair of the LAB from 2010 to 2011. Katie noted that Marian has an unshakable commitment to literacy and libraries which is inspiring and her voice will be missed. She thanked Marian for her leadership.

Lori Irish Bauman started in November 2009 and finishes her first term this month. She served on the Nominating Committee and the Finance Committee. Lori provided her commitment and insight to some of the most important decisions the LAB made: how to best represent the community in the Board's membership, and the careful review of the library's finances to ensure this wonderful public resource meets the needs of the community, but will also be available for years to come. Katie thanked Lori for her service.

Keeping with tradition, the LAB will be donating books in honor of the outgoing members' service and will work with Marian and Lori about choosing books that are meaningful to them.

Marian stated that it gave her great pride to serve on the LAB, and she hopes to stay connected.

Henise Telles-Ferreira stated that Marian's contribution to the board was invaluable; from her close reading of the minutes and mentoring the youth members to representing the LAB at city and county hearings and hosting gatherings.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Becky Cobb shared that Vailey is in Boston, attending the Harvard Kennedy School of Government. The budget was adopted last week by the Multnomah County Library District Board. That was a very exciting and historic step for Multnomah County Library District (MCLD).

Monday hours will be restored on July 1, 2013 and there will be modest celebrations at all locations. Poet Kim Stafford, who has composed a special poem for the occasion, will join elected officials on the steps of the Central Library at 9:45 a.m. The Library Foundation (TLF) and Grand Central Bakery are providing cookies for the event. All are welcome.

The Everybody Reads selection was announced last week. It is My Beloved World by Sonia Sotomayor. Her appearance is made possible by Literary Arts and TLF will be providing books. March 11, 2014 is the date of the author's appearance; please mark and save that date.

The Summer Reading Program (SRP) starts next week. Katie Lane asked what the goal is for the number of children to sign up. Katie O'Dell answered that the goal is 90,000 and that it has already been met. Last year 110,000 students signed up, which will probably be matched again this year. Bernadette Janét inquired about private school access to SRP. Is outreach being done to include them? Katie O'Dell answered that private schools are not associated with one governing body as school districts are, but each school can individually sign up their students, which many of them do. MCLD is

working on incorporating system wide promotions with the county's private and parochial schools.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT AND ELECTION

Sola Whitehead announced that the Nominating Committee recommends the reappointment of Carlene Weldon and Danika Stochosky for second terms. The motion was seconded and passed.

Henise Telles-Ferreira, on behalf of the Nominating Committee, presented Jose Padin's name to the Multnomah County Library Advisory Board. Padin is an Associate Professor of Portland State University's Sociology Department. His interests, besides the arts, also encompass mentoring high school students. Padin's experience, interests and love of books will make him an excellent addition to the board.

Etsegenet Ayele, on behalf of the Nominating Committee, presented Megan Irwin to the Multnomah County Library Advisory Board. Megan has been part of the library for many years, showing passion and dedication.

A motion was made to recommend Jose Padin and Megan Irwin to the BCC for appointment to positions on the Library Advisory Board. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

John Potter presented the nominees for LAB leadership for the coming year: for Chair, Sola Whitehead and for Vice Chair: Danika Stochosky. Sola has served on all of the LAB's committees and understands how the LAB works. In her professional position administering research for the VA hospital, she has experience in leading committees and groups. The committee also recommends Danika Stochosky for Vice Chair. Danika has served on the Nominating, Futures and Finance committees which provides a good background for the position. Both nominees' appointments were seconded and passed.

Sola congratulated Hallie Blashfield for her recent high school graduation; she will attend Clark University located in Massachusetts in the fall. Henise added that Hallie's work was instrumental on the Nominating Committee.

CENTRAL CENTENNIAL DIGITIZATION PROJECT

Steph Miller and Kate Schwab updated the LAB about the progress of the Central Library Centennial digitization project. A digital collection is a treasury of photos, documents, audio and video that has been digitized. When completed, this collection will be a part of the MCLD catalog. The project started with four boxes of photos dating from the beginning of the Central Library. Images were kept but with little documentation, so part of the work involves deciding which images to use, researching

copyrights and creating browsable fields. Kate explained that one of the challenges of the project is creating metadata for each digitized item. Metadata is data about data organized in a structured way. A catalog record is an example of metadata; meaning it's not the text of the book, it is information text about the book that is organized in a thoughtful way. Currently there is no structured context in place for digital content, so project members create the metadata for library patrons. Project members are deciding the best way to present this material in order to share it as broadly as possible, and make the information a meaningful experience for users. Bernadette Janét asked if there is a plan to contact older library users for help with context of this project. Jeremy answered that there is a plan for neighborhood libraries to be involved in the larger digitization project and TLF funds have been requested. George Feldman suggested adding the sounds of Portland, much of it stored reel to reel, as it would make a good backdrop to the collection. Marian Creamer recommended incorporating students in the process of adding data, along with outreach to schools. It would show students what the process is about, which in turn would create interest. The Central Digitization Centennial project should be completed by the end of July.

THE LIBRARY FOUNDATION

Wes Breazeale shared that Target provided a grant for Books 2 U in the amount of \$60,000. TLF is working on The Paul G. Allen Foundation grant which is funding the readers advisory focus groups that will be held this Saturday.

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

Earl Dizon reported the success of the FOL annual meeting that took place last Wednesday, June 5, 2013. Earl thanked Becky for speaking at the gathering and Jim Carmin for presenting rare books from the John Wilson Special Collections. New board members and officers were welcomed.

GOOD AND WELFARE

Commissioner McKeel shared that this would be Corie Wiren's last LAB meeting. She is re-locating to Berlin, Germany. Commissioner McKeel also shared that she was at a retreat for grandparents who are raising their grandchildren. MCLD was there sharing information about books, the SRP and other resources.

Commissioner McKeel thanked Katie Lane and John Potter for their leadership during the ups and downs of creating the district. She reiterated that the LAB's hard work made all the difference in getting the district passed.

Sola Whitehead thanked the library for the ability with My MCL to place a hold on a book that is on order. It is wonderful that it doesn't have to be in the collection yet in order to reserve it.

Adam Starr thanked Katie for the positive attitude and fantastic job she has done by starting and keeping meetings running on time, which is important. Adam also thanked John for his hard work and his leadership with the Finance Committee.

Becky recognized both Katie and John for their leadership during this very important time for the library, and being a steady voice during the funding ups and downs.

Katie thanked John for letting her talk him into serving a second term as Vice-Chair.

The next LAB meeting is on Tuesday, July 9, 2013.

Katie Lane, Chair, adjourned the meeting at 8:27 am.

Respectfully submitted by:
Jamie Owens
Administrative Specialist, Library Director's Office
Multnomah County Library, Oregon