

Library Advisory Board Minutes: June 10, 2014

For Multnomah County Library Advisory Board (LAB)

The Multnomah County Library Advisory Board (LAB) met on Tuesday, June 10, 2014, at Central Library in the U.S. Bank Room. Chair Sola Whitehead called the meeting to order at 7:36 am.

Board members present were: Erin Cooper, George Feldman, Bernadette Janét, Katie Lane, John Potter, Mardy Stevens, Henise Telles-Ferreira, Maegan Vidal, Carlene Weldon and Sola Whitehead.

Board members excused were: Danika Stochosky.

Board members absent were: Etsegenet Ayele, Magen Irwin, José Padin and Adam Starr.

Staff members present were: Vailey Oehlke, Director of Libraries; Becky Cobb, Deputy Director; Don Allgeier, Neighborhood Libraries Assistant Director; Carolyn Baer, Cataloging Program Coordinator; Terrilyn Chun, Programming & Community Outreach Manager; Meg Eisemann, Materials Selector; Kady Ferris, Materials Selector; Erica Findley, Cataloging and Metadata Librarian; Cindy Gibbon, Access & IT Services Manager; Jeremy Graybill, Marketing + Online Engagement Director; Javier Gutierrez, Director of Collections & Technical Services; Shelly Kent, Human Resources Manager; Melissa Maier, Materials Selector; Katie O'Dell, Youth Services Director; David Ratliff, Central Library Director; Ty Thompson, Collection Manager; and Paige Hatcher, Administrative Analyst, Director's Office.

Also in attendance were: Althea Gregory, Budget Analyst, Department of County Management; Commissioner Diane McKeel, District 4, Multnomah County; Matthew Timberlake, IT Project Manager, Department of County Assets; Judy Lindley, Friends of the Library (FOL); and Wes Breazeale, The Library Foundation (TLF).

The Board approved minutes for the May 13, 2014 meeting.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Whitehead announced the cancellation of the August 12, 2014 meeting.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Vailey Oehlke reported on the progress of the My Librarian service, which she has shared with peers around the country. Ms. Oehlke thanked staff who collaborated on

the development and implementation of the service, as well as The Library Foundation, whose grant from the Paul G. Allen Family Foundation provided funding for the project.

Ms. Oehlke shared that the library had hosted an event on May 28, 2014 during which U.S. Senator Ron Wyden (D-OR) was presented with the Oregon Library Association's Intellectual Freedom Award. Following the award ceremony, Senator Wyden and guests, including Ms. Oehlke, held a panel discussion on the topic of net neutrality.

COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT AT MCL

Ms. Oehlke introduced Javier Gutierrez, Director of Collections & Technical Services to present on how MCL selects materials for its collections.

Mr. Gutierrez's presentation included an overview of the Collection Development Manual (available online) and information about collection development practices, vendor selection tools, vendors with whom MCL works, collection statistics and goals for the future.

Mr. Gutierrez introduced the roles and responsibilities of staff in the Selections Office and shared that Collections & Technical Services recently added We Speak Your Language staff to the department.

Mr. Gutierrez described the "weeding" process, which removes materials that are no longer suitable, due to condition or circulation status, from branch collections.

With respect to the library's digital collections, Mr. Gutierrez shared that MCL is moving from a print reference collection to an online database collection.

MCL's collection development practices include a centralized ordering process and a material selection process informed by vendor collection tools, purchase alerts (notifications to staff when materials are in high demand), patron suggestions (the library receives approximately 2,800 per month), replacement needs and staff feedback.

Mr. Gutierrez discussed several of the vendors that supply materials to MCL and shared that MCL's procurement practices uphold the library's principles. In response to an inquiry by Ms. Janét, Mr. Gutierrez noted that many materials in the We Speak Your Language collection are procured from smaller, overseas publishers. In response to an inquiry by Mr. Feldman concerning cooperative agreements between vendors and multiple libraries, Ms. Oehlke noted that vendor standards are typically prohibitive of this practice.

Mr. Gutierrez shared that future goals will continue to focus on meeting patrons' needs. An anticipated budget increase will provide funding to expand the Lucky Day program, bolster the process for replacing juvenile materials and maintain the library's reserve fund. Staff will continue to focus on developing the library's e-content collection and promoting its availability to the community. Ms. Cooper commented positively on MCL's

cloud library platform and noted that, as processes for borrowing e-content improve, patrons may be more encouraged to use the services.

In response to an inquiry from Ms. Janét, Mr. Gutierrez related that the library's current integrated library system (ILS) does not offer a way to automatically notify patrons if materials they have suggested for purchase have been procured.

In response to an inquiry from Chair Whitehead, Mr. Gutierrez and staff discussed how they utilize patron and reference experience, knowledge of publishers, and data analysis to determine the balance of material types, e.g. fiction vs. nonfiction, within the collection.

In response to an inquiry by Mr. Potter, Mr. Gutierrez shared that Technical Services staff collaborate with librarians and library staff to ensure collections are aligned to the needs of varying audiences.

In response to an inquiry by Ms. Cooper, Mr. Gutierrez related that the library is working on integrating its electronic platforms to improve accessibility for patrons and facilitate opportunities to include self-published items in the collection.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Ms. Telles-Ferreira reported on the Nominating Committee's progress with respect to identifying candidates for nomination to the Library Advisory Board. The committee has interviewed two students for the two youth member positions that will be open.

Ms. Janét described Emma Caplan's credentials and recommended her for nomination to a youth member position on the Multnomah County Library Advisory Board. A motion was made to refer Ms. Caplan's name to the Multnomah County Library District Board. The motion was seconded and unanimously passed.

A motion was made to nominate Sola Whitehead to the position of Chair and Danika Stochosky to the position of Vice-Chair of the Multnomah County Library Advisory Board. The motion was seconded and unanimously passed.

The Nominating Committee recommended Erin Cooper for a second term on the Multnomah County Library Advisory Board. A motion was made to refer Ms. Cooper's name to the Multnomah County Library District Board. The motion was seconded and unanimously passed.

Chair Whitehead thanked Ms. Telles-Ferreira for her two terms of service on the Multnomah County Library Advisory Board.

150TH DIGITAL COLLECTION PRESENTATION

Ms. Oehlke introduced Erica Findley, Cataloging and Metadata Librarian, to present on MCL's 150 Years of Library Memories digital collection.

Ms. Findley shared that this will be the second online collection of this sort for MCL, the first being Central Library's 100 Years of Photographs. The purpose of this service area is to highlight the culture and history of the library and library community as well as provide online access to unique items in the library's collection, such as materials found in the John Wilson Room Special Collections.

Items in the 150 Years of Library Memories collection will include over 600 digital versions of photographs and historical documents as well as audio recordings contributed by library patrons and community members. Programs that accompanied the development of the collection included a community scan-in project and oral history recordings.

Ms. Findley shared the project timeline and provided a demonstration of the online collection, which is currently in the development phase but will be available on the MCL website later this summer.

The 150 Years of Library Memories project was supported by a grant from The Library Foundation.

THE LIBRARY FOUNDATION

Wes Breazeale reported that TLF has been working with library staff on projects, including My Librarian and a potential makerspace grant. Mr. Breazeale invited attendees to participate in a community survey about money and personal finance information needs, currently on the MCL website. Mr. Breazeale shared information on the Learning to Read survey that is distributed to teachers in the community. Mr. Breazeale reported that TLF recently held its annual meeting and that two new TLF board members had been elected.

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

Judy Lindley provided information on three upcoming events:

- Rose City Used Book Fair, June 13-14, 2014
- Friends of the Library Annual Meeting, June 18, 2014
- Books for Beer, Laurelwood Pub, June 18, 2014

Ms. Lindley reported that seven new FOL board members would be introduced at the annual meeting and that FOL recently hired a new volunteer coordinator.

GOOD AND WELFARE

Ms. Janét suggested additional online marketing to inform visitors of current openings on the Library Advisory Board.

Ms. Oehlke shared news of Multnomah County governance, including recent elections to the Multnomah County Board of Commissioners, which also serves as the

Multnomah County Library District Board, as well as leadership staff appointments at Multnomah County.

The next LAB meeting is on Tuesday, July 8, 2014.

Sola Whitehead, Chair adjourned the meeting at 8:44 am.

Respectfully submitted by:

Paige Hatcher

Administrative Analyst, Library Director's Office

Multnomah County Library, Oregon