

# MINUTES

## **BOARD OF LIBRARY COMMISSIONERS CITY OF LOS ANGELES**

**OCTOBER 25, 2007**

A Regular meeting of the Board of Library Commissioners was held at the Junipero Serra Branch Library, 4607 South Main Street, Los Angeles, CA 90037, convening at 11:00 a.m. on the above-written date.

<b>PRESENT:</b>	PRESIDENT	TYREE WIEDER
	VICE PRESIDENT	JULIE MENDOZA
	COMMISSIONER	ROBERT A. CHICK
	COMMISSIONER	NELLIE RIOS-PARRA

### **EXCUSED**

<b>ABSENT:</b>	COMMISSIONER	RITA WALTERS
----------------	--------------	--------------

**ALSO PRESENT:** Fontayne Holmes, City Librarian; Kris Morita, Asst. General Manager; Pat Kiefer, Asst. City Librarian; Roy Stone, President, Librarian's Guild; Friends of the Junipero Serra Branch; Pamela Huntoon, Education Deputy for Councilmember Jan Perry; Adrienne Khorasanee, Deputy City Attorney; and staff.

### MINUTES FOR APPROVAL – 10/11/07

MOVED by Commissioner Chick, seconded by Commissioner Rios-Parra, and unanimously carried that the Minutes of the regular meeting held October 11, 2007, be approved as submitted.

### REMARKS BY THE CENTRAL/SOUTHERN AREA MANAGER AND THE JUNIPERO SERRA BRANCH LIBRARIAN

#### Central/Southern Area Manager

Cheryl Collins, reported that the Central/Southern region was served by 13 community branches covering a wide geographic area. She commented that many newly-hired staff had been present at the Young Adult Librarians' meeting held that morning at the Junipero Serra Branch. Additionally, Ms. Collins stated staff and the community were excited about the upcoming grand opening of the new Exposition Park Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune Regional Branch Library and the Junipero Serra Literacy Center scheduled to begin operation early next year.

Senior Branch Librarian

Heawon Paick, Senior Librarian, introduced her staff Corinda Humphrey, Young Adult Librarian; Dianne Eddington, Children's Librarian; Mike Doiel, Adult Librarian; Felicia Warren and Denise Lewis, Clerk Typists; and Jose Hernandez, Messenger Clerk. She discussed some of the activities being conducted at the Branch such as the weekly Teen Game Night and the very popular children's program, "Read to Me L.A.". Ms. Paick introduced the President and Secretary/Treasurer of the Friends of the Junipero Serra Branch Mmes. Lackey and Cook, respectively.

Commissioner Chick asked Ms. Paick to speak about issues related to the branch. Ms. Paick stated that the biggest concern was the graffiti problem. She said staff is vigilant and request removal of the graffiti from the General Services Department as soon as it is spotted.

During the discussion, Commissioners Mendoza and Wieder inquired about volunteer opportunities for high school students. Ms. Humphrey stated the branch had an active teen council who provide advise about what to include in the book order sheets and programs. She added that high school students from Santee Education Complex and the Orthopaedic Magnet High School receive school service credit for volunteering at the branch. The President suggested that information be provided to high school volunteers on how to pursue a career as a librarian as part of their volunteer program.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON MATTERS  
WITHIN THE BOARD'S JURISDICTION:

**(In accordance with Board Policy, a total of 15 minutes shall be allocated for public comment not to exceed three (3) minutes per speaker. Items arising during the public comment portion of the meeting shall be referred by the President to the staff or Board Committee for appropriate action or report back thereon to the Board.)**

(1)

Roy Stone, President, Librarian's Guild, stated that his comments relate to an article in the Los Angeles Times, California Section (10/25/07), about library security and safety problems. He said the Guild appreciates management's concern about these issues and looks forward to working with them in the new Joint Labor Management Health and Safety Committee. Mr. Stone emphasized that the Guild is willing to do everything possible to make libraries safer. They

hope to partner with Warren Graham, safety instructor mentioned in the L.A. Times' article, for worksite assessment and additional training. He asked the Commissioners to tell the elected officials they know that something has to be done about this issue.

#### CITY LIBRARIAN'S REPORTS

MOVED by Commissioner Chick, seconded by Vice President Mendoza and unanimously carried that the following resolutions be adopted:

##### Recommended Acceptance of Gifts

##### LIBRARY RESOLUTION NO. 2007-53 (C-37)

RESOLVED, That the gift of \$12,000 be accepted from the Friends of the Westwood Library and deposited in Fund 300, Account No. 9010, Library Materials; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, That a thank you letter be sent to the Friends group expressing the grateful appreciation of the Board of Library Commissioners for their generous financial contribution to the Los Angeles Public Library.

##### Recommended Support for Central Latino's LEAMOS

##### LIBRARY RESOLUTION NO. 2007-54

WHEREAS Centro Latino provides adult literacy training in Spanish to non-literate Spanish speaking adults in Los Angeles. Centro Latino provides training that compliments and does not duplicate the services provided in the Los Angeles Public Library Adult Literacy Program; and

WHEREAS Centro Latino is applying for a California Emerging Technology Fund to secure grant funds to implement a Spanish Literacy Campaign. The grant requires a formal resolution from supporting agencies; and

WHEREAS the Los Angeles Public Library Adult Literacy Program and Centro Latino are part of a literacy network in the Los Angeles area that work collaboratively on the problem of illiteracy and low literacy in our communities:

RESOLVED, That the Board of Library Commissioners hereby approves the Los Angeles Public Library support for Centro Latino's LEAMOS Spanish Literacy Campaign by distributing information to library patrons, facilitating workshops at libraries, and participating in the Advisory Council.

RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF  
AGREEMENT FOR THE WOODLAND  
HILLS BRANCH PARKING LOT

Kyle Millager, Business Manager, presented a report to the Board recommending approval of an agreement with Makhani, Inc. for after-hours use of the Woodland Hills Branch Library parking lot for a term of one year with an option for two additional years. Ms. Millager advised that a one-year pilot agreement originally approved by the Board on July 27, 2006 granted Makhani, Inc., owner of the Villa Piacere restaurant across the street from the Branch, after-hours use of the library parking lot for a fee. She indicated that Makhani, Inc. has complied with the terms of the pilot agreement. Ms. Millager said staff would continue to monitor the activities covered in this new agreement and respond to any concerns brought to their attention.

Commissioner Rios-Parra requested information on how revenues from the monthly rental fee would be earmarked. The City Librarian stated that the revenue would be used for the purposes of maintaining the Woodland Hills Library parking lot and for Woodland Hills Branch Library facility repairs.

In response to a question from Vice President Mendoza, Tom Jung, Management Analyst, Business Office, stated that no citations had been issued at the branch for individuals parking on library premises for purposes other than library use.

Commissioner Chick requested that, for future consideration by the Board, studies be conducted to determine how branch parking lots are used for those libraries situated in commercial areas.

Thereafter, it was MOVED by Commissioner Rios-Parra, seconded by Commissioner Chick and unanimously carried that the following resolution be adopted:

LIBRARY RESOLUTION NO. 2007-55

WHEREAS in October 2006, Makhani, Inc., owner of Villa Piacere Restaurant, entered into a pilot agreement with the Los Angeles Public Library for the after-hours use of the parking lot at the Woodland Hills Branch Library; and

WHEREAS, that pilot agreement expired on October 22, 2007, and the parties now desire to enter into an agreement for the continued use of the Woodland Hills Branch Library's parking lot during certain hours and for specific purposes as described in the Agreement:

Library Resolution  
No. 2007-55

RESOLVED, That the Board of Library Commissioners hereby approves the Agreement between the Los Angeles Public Library and Makhani, Inc. for the after-hours use of the Woodland Hills Branch Library Parking Lot for a term of one-year with an option for two additional years; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the City Attorney and the City Librarian are authorized to make technical changes to the Agreement prior to execution; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, That revenues from this agreement be deposited into Account No. 246 in Trust Fund 831, entitled "Woodland Hills Parking" for the purposes of maintaining the parking lot and for facility repairs at the Woodland Hills Branch Library.

VARIOUS COMMUNICATIONS: NONE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Special Introduction

The President introduced Pamela Huntoon, Education Deputy for Councilmember Jan Perry. Ms. Huntoon extended a warm welcome to the Board.

Friends Group

Kay Lackey, Vice President of the Swinging Senior Citizens, stated that they meet at the branch monthly and spoke of the activities the senior citizens' group was involved in. The President commended Ms. Lackey for her volunteer efforts in helping seniors stay active and mentioned the library as a valuable resource for information on activities and services for their members.

Security Issues

Commissioners Chick and Wieder requested a status report in the near future on security and safety issues.

Citywide Literacy Campaign

The City Librarian reported that Mayor Villaraigosa launched the Los Angeles Public Library citywide Literacy Campaign with two press conferences during the month of October. She said library staff worked very hard and took a proactive approach to make these press conferences very successful.

On Friday, October 12, the Mayor held a press conference in the Central Library's Teen'Scape and more than 80 high school students from the Downtown Business Magnet High School and members of the news media were present to help kickoff "Live Homework Help", which will be available at all of the branches, and the very successful "Student Smart" Program.

The other press conference was held on Wednesday, October 24, at the Echo Park Branch Library to open the 18<sup>th</sup> Adult Literacy Center and launch the early literacy program, "Read To Me L.A.". There were more than 35 toddlers, parents, caregivers and teachers in attendance.

Vice President Mendoza stated that she, too, was at the Mayor's October 12<sup>th</sup> Press Conference and saw first hand how extraordinarily helpful the Homework Online Help would be to the city's residents. She said it is a valuable link as students prepare for higher education. She congratulated staff on a job well done.

#### ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

---

Tyree Wieder  
President

---

Gladys L. Senac  
Board Executive Assistant