

# MINUTES

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

**JULY 16, 2009**

A Regular meeting of the Board of Library Commissioners was held at the Central Library, 630 West Fifth Street, Los Angeles, CA 90071, convening at 11:05 a.m. on the above-written date.

**PRESENT:** PRESIDENT TYREE WIEDER  
VICE PRESIDENT JULIE A. MENDOZA  
COMMISSIONER ROBERT A. CHICK  
COMMISSIONER RITA WALTERS

**EXCUSED**

**ABSENT:** COMMISSIONER MARSHA HIRANO-NAKANISHI

**ALSO PRESENT:** Martin J. Gomez, City Librarian; Kris Morita, Asst. General Manager; Patricia Kiefer, Assistant City Librarian; Basia Jankowski, Deputy City Attorney; Jaki Wagner, CAO's Office; Roy Stone, President, Librarians' Guild; guests from China; and staff.

MINUTES FOR APPROVAL – 6/25/09

MOVED by Commissioner Walters, seconded by Commissioner Chick, and unanimously carried that the Minutes of the regular meeting held June 25, 2009, be approved as submitted.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS ON MATTERS**

WITHIN THE BOARD'S JURISDICTION: NONE

WELCOME CITY LIBRARIAN

On behalf of the Board, President Wieder welcomed and congratulated Martin J. Gomez on confirmation by the City Council as City Librarian. The President spoke of his wealth of experience and expressed confidence he would meet the economic challenges ahead. President Wieder underscored the strong support LAPL receives from citizens and local elected officials.

City Librarian Martin Gomez said he is excited and honored to serve as City Librarian of the Los Angeles Public Library. He acknowledged the hard work of Kris Morita as Interim City Librarian during the past year.

### CITY LIBRARIAN'S REPORT

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

#### Recommended Transfer of Funds

#### LIBRARY RESOLUTION NO. 2009-40 (C-31)

WHEREAS, as part of the Shared Responsibility and Sacrifice reduction for Fiscal Year 2009-10, the Library Department sustained a \$6.4 million (10%) reduction to its salary account. This deficit was expected to be addressed through the implementation of a mandatory work furlough program for all employees; and

WHEREAS, on June 26, 2009, the City Council approved a tentative agreement with the Coalition of Los Angeles City Unions to not implement mandatory furloughs at this time for Coalition-represented employees, however, mandatory furloughs have been implemented for 37 employees represented by the Engineers and Architects Association (EAA); and

WHEREAS, without implementation of the work furlough program a deficit in the salary account remains:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board approve the transfer of \$2,391,694 from the Contractual Services Account No. 3040, "Shared Responsibility and Sacrifice" line item, to the General Salaries Account No. 1010, within Fund 300/44.

#### Recommended Distribution of Library Materials Funds for FY 2009/10

#### LIBRARY RESOLUTION NO. 2009-41 (C-32)

RESOLVED, That the Board of Library Commissioners receive and file the Board Report on the distribution of Library Materials Funds for Fiscal Year 2009-10:

Board Resolution (Cont.)  
No. 2009-41 (C-32)

<u>System Allocations</u>		\$1,750,000
Electronic resources	\$750,000	
Systemwide popular materials	\$150,000	
Multilingual materials	\$100,000	
Taxes, shipping	\$750,000	
 <u>Branch/Central Allocation</u>		 \$5,073,265
Branch Libraries	\$3,855,680	
Central Library	\$1,217,585	
 Total		 \$6,823,265

**RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT OF  
BOARD POLICIES TO ADD 1:316 RE: EXTERIOR  
PLACEMENT AND/OR DISPLAY OF DONATED ITEMS POLICY**

Kyle Millager, Business Manager, reported that at the May 28, 2009 meeting, the Board considered a donation of a commemorative centennial clock by the Rotary Club of Los Angeles to be installed in Maguire Gardens. She noted during discussion of the item that the Board had previously requested staff to develop a policy for the use of space in Maguire Gardens. The recommended policy defines the criteria under which donated items can be placed and displayed on exterior library property, including the Maguire Gardens.

Reflecting on the cultural diversity of Los Angeles, Vice President Mendoza indicated over time the idea of what communities might want placed in front of their libraries or common space might change. She asked whether there was a general definition of what is considered art. The Business Manager said art has not been defined in the Board Policies.

Commissioner Walters advised that the Cultural Affairs Commission has the power to review and approve public art projects and public architectural designs in the City of Los Angeles. She thanked Ms. Millager for preparing a clear, definitive policy.

MOVED by Commissioner Walters, seconded by Commissioner Chick and unanimously carried that the following resolution be adopted:

LIBRARY RESOLUTION NO. 2009-42

WHEREAS, Board Policy No. 1:316 Placement and/or Display of Donated Items is recommended for addition to the Board Policies to address items donated for display on exterior Library property, including the Maguire Gardens:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board Policies be amended to add Section 1:316, Exterior Placement and/or Display of Donated Items Policy:

The Board of Library Commissioners has the sole authority for approving the placement and/or display of donated items on exterior Library property, including Maguire Gardens at the Central Library. The exterior areas of Library facilities provide much-needed green space for relaxation and enjoyment of the library facilities. They also provide a habitat for different species of animals and plants, especially at the Central Library, which is located in an urban area where parks are few and far between.

*The Board shall have authority to approve the acceptance and placement of items for display on the exterior grounds of library facilities as follows:*

- A. No donation or gifts shall be accepted for display on the existing landscaped (green space) sections of any Library facility, unless the item is considered art or natural landscape material such as trees, flowers, and/or shrubs. Plants should also require minimal maintenance.*
- B. The acceptance of a donation or gift for display on the exterior hardscape shall be at the discretion of the Board and shall not interfere with, or be placed on, existing vegetation or pedestrian access to the facility.*
- C. Under no circumstances shall the donated item approved for display on exterior Library property include any signage or language construed to be an endorsement, promotion, or advertisement.*

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS FROM CHINA

City Librarian Gomez welcomed librarians from Yunnan and Chongqing Libraries in China and well-known leader of the Chinese-American librarians in this country, Sally C. Tseng who is the Honorary Executive Director of the Chinese American Librarians Association. The City Librarian asked Kuang-Pei Tu, Senior Librarian of Access Services in the Central Library, to introduce the visitors.

Ms. Tu acknowledged Wang Shuiqiao, Deputy Curator from Yunnan Library, and Song Jizhen, Deputy Director of the Chongqing Children's Library, who are visiting various libraries in Los Angeles and L.A. County and attended the annual American Library Association Conference in Chicago.

Ms. Sally Tseng thanked the City Librarian and Commissioners for extending an invitation to attend today's Board meeting. She said Mr. Shuiqiao and Ms. Jizhen are a group of ten librarians from China who are visiting the United States with funding from an Institute of Museum and Library Services Grant.

Commissioner Walters extended warm greetings to the Chinese visitors. The Commissioner commented she had the great honor and pleasure of visiting China in 1977 as part of a group sponsored by the United States/China People's Friendship Association where national minorities in the United States visited national minorities in China.

VARIOUS COMMUNICATIONS: NONE

#### REVIEW OF MATTERS PENDING

The following pending items were reviewed by President Wieder:

Book Budget Revenue Generating Ideas

In process – will include proposed recommendations from Councilmember LaBonge's working group (see Minutes of 6/11/09)

Various Proposals from the Friends of the Pio Pico-Koreatown Library

Status report at the next meeting

System for Buying Books More Efficiently

Report in the next couple of months

#### COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commendation to Interim City Librarian

The Board presented Kris Morita with a Resolution of Commendation for her outstanding service as Interim City Librarian from August 2008 to July 2009.

The Resolution read in part:

“NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED that the Board of Library Commissioners extend to Kris Morita its heartfelt gratitude for the extraordinary dedication, commitment and acumen that she brought in the position of Interim City Librarian during of the most challenging years in the Library’s history and for her tireless efforts on behalf of the Library staff and people of Los Angeles.”

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

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

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Tyree Wieder  
President

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Gladys L. Senac  
Board Executive Assistant

Date to be approved:

July 30, 2009