

MINUTES

BOARD OF LIBRARY COMMISSIONERS CITY OF LOS ANGELES

MAY 10, 2012

A Regular meeting of the Board of Library Commissioners was held at the Little Tokyo Branch Library, 203 South Los Angeles Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012, convening at 11:00 a.m. on the above-written date.

PRESENT: COMMISSIONER PAULA MADISON, CHAIR
COMMISSIONER EDUARDO TINOCO
COMMISSIONER RITA WALTERS

EXCUSED

ABSENT: PRESIDENT TYREE WIEDER
VICE PRESIDENT MARSHA HIRANO-NAKANISHI

ALSO PRESENT: Susan Kent, Interim City Librarian; Kris Morita, Assistant General Manager; Captain Phil Trotter, LAPD; Basia Jankowski, Deputy City Attorney; Kenneth S. Brecher, President, Library Foundation of Los Angeles; Roy Stone, President, Librarians' Guild; and staff.

MINUTES FOR APPROVAL – 4/26/2012

MOVED by Commissioner Walters, seconded by Commissioner Tinoco and unanimously carried that the Minutes of the regular meeting held April 26, 2012, be approved as submitted.

OVERVIEW OF THE LITTLE TOKYO BRANCH LIBRARY

Branch Librarian

Kerry Lum, Children's Branch Librarian, stated that the Little Tokyo Branch opened at this location September 8, 2005, and previously had been situated on Alameda Street and the Union Church on Third Street. She indicated the Library has a collection of 69,000 materials, and 40% of that collection is Japanese language materials for adults and children.

Ms. Lum reported on the activities, programs and services offered including young adult movie nights, monthly adult Japanese book club, Friends of the Little Tokyo Branch Library monthly used book sales, and weekly preschool storytime, which is held in the newly created Early Learning Area decorated with donations from the Friends group.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON MATTERS
WITHIN THE BOARD’S JURISDICTION: (NONE)

CITY LIBRARIAN’S REPORTS

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

Recommended Acceptance of Gifts

LIBRARY RESOLUTION NO. 2012-18 C-14)

RESOLVED, That a gift of \$10,000 from Patricia F. Kulha Trustee, Patricia F. Kulha Trust, for donation to the J.C. Fremont Branch Library be accepted; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, That a letter of appreciation be sent to the Patricia F. Kulha Trustee, Patricia F. Kulha Trust, expressing the grateful appreciation of the Board of Library Commissioners and staff for their generous gift.

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LIBRARY RESOLUTION NO. 2012-19 (C-15)

RESOLVED, That the following gifts to the “Hot Off The Press” Program for Fiscal Year 2012/2013 be accepted from the following donors; and

- \$6,000.00 From the Friends of the Encino-Tarzana Branch Library
- \$6,000.00 From the Friends of the Platt Library
- \$6,000.00 From the Friends of the Westwood Library
- \$3,000.00 From the Friends of the Atwater Village Branch Library
- \$3,000.00 From the Friends of the Westchester-Loyola Branch Library

FURTHER RESOLVED, That a letter of appreciation be sent to the donors expressing the grateful appreciation of the Board of Library Commissioners for their continued support of the “Hot Off The Press” Program at their branch library.

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LIBRARY RESOLUTION NO. 2012-20 C-16)

RESOLVED, That the gift of \$2,500 to the Los Angeles Public Library from CONE LLC be accepted and placed in the Youth Education Account within the Library’s Trust Fund 831, Account 285; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, That a letter of appreciation be sent to CONE LLC expressing the grateful appreciation of the Board of Library Commissioners and staff for their generous gift.

Recommended Acceptance of
Of Cal Humanities Grant

On behalf of Vice President Hirano-Nakanishi, Acting Board Executive Assistant Gladys Senac expressed congratulations to Ms. Kent and her team for receiving funding for the inspiring reading and discussion program “Searching for Democracy”.

LIBRARY RESOLUTION NO. 2012-21 (C-17)

WHEREAS Cal Humanities makes grants available for the California Reads project, which is a statewide reading and discussion program developed by Cal Humanities in collaboration with the California Center for the Book and the California State Library; and

WHEREAS seven Los Angeles Public Libraries will be hosting discussions programs throughout the year on five books as part of the Cal Humanities’ Searching for Democracy initiative:

RESOLVED, That the Board of Library Commissioners hereby approve acceptance of the Cal Humanities grant for \$15,000 for the California Reads Project at Central Library and six branches; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the funds be deposited in Fund 419

Recommended Receive and File Report on the
Sherman Oaks Branch Library Wire Book Supports

BOARD ACTION

Unanimously adopted a motion to receive and file the Sherman Oaks Branch Library Wire Book Supports Report

**RECOMMENDED RECEIVE AND FILE STATUS
REPORT ON THE OFFICE OF PUBLIC SAFETY
CONSOLIDATION OF SECURITY OPERATIONS
INTO THE LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Susan Kent, Interim City Librarian, introduced Captain Phil Trotter, LAPD. She said she and Assistant General Manager Kris Morita met last week with Assistant Chief Moore, and this morning Ms. Morita and Business Manager Kyle Millager met with Captain Trotter to talk about issues and concerns relative to the Office of Public Safety (OPS) consolidation into the Los Angeles Police Department.

Captain Trotter provided a brief history of the consolidation proposal pointing out that in 2009/2010 Councilman Smith asked the City to look at the feasibility of a consolidation, and the City formed a working group comprised of the City Administrative Office (CAO), Chief Legislative Analyst (CLA), Personnel Department and City Attorney’s Office. They looked into the feasibility and any efficiencies thereof.

At that time, he said, the Police Department was asked by the CAO to prepare a report indicating whether they would be able to transfer OPS into LAPD and how they viewed the consolidation. He indicated the CAO eventually completed their own report.

Captain Trotter reported that in 2011, Councilman Englander asked the City to proceed with the consolidation effort. The CAO, Mayor's office and CLA have been meeting on the subject, and the Police Department has been asked to look at different aspects of OPS including the stakeholders' facilities, infrastructure and staffing. The consolidation proposal has been reviewed at Committee level and forwarded to the City Council for consideration.

Captain Trotter informed the Board that the Police Department has not been instructed to go forth with the consolidation, that instruction is pending Council approval. He noted that the Chief of Police has called each General Manager of the various stakeholders (including the Library) and assured them, at a minimum, that they will get the same level of service they are getting now. The Captain also indicated, should the consolidation receive approval, the transition for civilian security will be seamless, the communications component will remain in place for the foreseeable future, and the patrol function where OPS police officers respond now will remain for the short term. However, for the long term having LAPD respond, they believe, will be an improvement because they have Community Police Stations throughout the City, where presently only four OPS patrol cars cover over 400 square miles during the day shift.

Board Discussion

Commissioner Walters thanked Captain Trotter for the report. She asked if the bargaining units have been contacted. The Captain responded that the CAO is responsible for impact bargaining, and they will meet formally with the unions should the consolidation receive City Council approval. However, Chief Moore has met informally with several unions that will be affected.

Further, Commissioner Walter's inquired whether anticipated savings will be generated through a reduction in force and whether there are any real dollar savings in the CAO report or are numbers just being moved around.

The Interim City Librarian cited Page 6 of the CAO report, "The General Fund will save approximately \$2.23 million in FY 2012-13. Existing GSD sworn will be placed in-lieu of authorized LAPD sworn positions. Since the LAPD only requires 60 sworn positions under the proposed consolidation and since the OPS has 94 filled sworn positions, the LAPD will hire fewer new officers next fiscal year, which will create an immediate General Fund savings of \$2.23 million".

In addition, Business Manager Millager referenced Table 5 in the CAO report, which shows that the total funding for the hiring plan to maintain the sworn service levels will cost \$10 million. Under the consolidation hiring plan, those total costs will be \$7.8 million; so they are going to be generating \$1.5 million in direct savings, \$350,962 in savings for health and welfare costs, and \$317,969 in pension savings, for a total savings of \$2.23 million.

With respect to the transfer, Commissioner Walters asked if the salary of OPS peace officers would remain the same or would it come up to the level of what LAPD officers earn. Captain Trotter stated that it will be the officers' decision whether to remain in their existing job classification at their current salary and under their retirement pension system LACERS; or if they wish to earn the same salary as their LAPD counterparts, they would lateral over to LAPD, have to meet LAPD's sworn requirements and invest in the Fire and Police Pension.

Inasmuch as there would possibly be two classifications of peace officers under the LAPD, Commissioner Walters inquired if money had been budgeted for coordinating a smooth transition as far as developing an avenue for communication should there be a need to discuss differences, which would facilitate interaction between the two groups.

Captain Trotter indicated LAPD personnel has the utmost respect for the job OPS officers have been doing in securing city facilities that have been entrusted to them. He said as they proceed further, include them in the transition process and listen to their concerns, he believes that will reduce a lot of apprehension. Lastly, the Captain pointed out LAPD looks at this as we are all part of a City family.

Public Comments

Roy Stone, President, Librarians' Guild, recapped discussions at the Budget and Finance Committee indicating there is not going to be any savings in the consolidation, and it's going to cause a lot of disruption such as preparation of new ordinances. Mr. Stone said Councilman Koretz indicated the normal sequence of events for a proposal of this kind were not followed, such as working with the units involved to iron out any issues before presenting it to the City Council. Roy Stone articulated they were not happy this was done differently without all the background being done first, pointing out the CAO report was kept secret since August of last year, and the Guild did not see it until the middle of April; none of the stakeholders, the unions, or the departments were involved. He said there was a rush to make this happen by July 1, 2012.

Mr. Stone voiced concerns that the Librarians' Guild does not represent the personnel involved in the negotiations; but the Guild does need to participate, he asserted, including when the MOA or MOU is written, so those involved can hear first hand the problems they face. He emphasized the Librarians are on the front lines providing safety and security while they wait for OPS or LAPD officers to arrive. He spoke of conflicts, such as if LAPD has a robbery call while at the same time there is a nuisance issue in the library, and the critical need that there is something built in to the consolidation proposal so the Library is not forgotten.

Interim City Librarian Kent underscored she couldn't agree more with Mr. Stone about the need to make sure our libraries continue to be safe places. She said that was certainly a theme of the conversation with Assistant Chief Moore and Captain Trotter, and they understood that clearly and have the same objectives. During the discussion with LAPD, Ms. Kent also shared the MOU the Library Department had with

OPS and spoke of drafting together an MOU on library security that would meet the library's needs. In addition, she called attention to an introduction with Captain Trotter and Mr. Roy Stone after today's Board Meeting. Commissioner Madison asked Ms. Kent if she would participate in the conversation with the Guild and LAPD since there was a mutual understanding of safety in libraries.

BOARD ACTION

MOVED by Commissioner Walters, seconded by Commissioner Tinoco and unanimously carried that Status Report on the Office of Public Safety Consolidation of Security Operations into the Los Angeles Police Department be continued to the next regularly scheduled meeting and that a representative from the City Administrative Office be present.

**RECOMMENDED RECEIVE AND FILE QUARTERLY
COMPARATIVE USAGE STATISTICS REPORT
ON THE LOS ANGELES PUBLIC LIBRARY**

Kris Morita, Assistant General Manager, informed the Board that the Quarterly Comparative report provides a yearly and quarterly comparison of LAPL's user statistics. She said in the 2010/2011 annual statistics, there was 28% reduction of service hours, thus library usage declined. In the quarterly statistics for 2011/2012 there was a slight increase in usage due to the restoration of Monday service hours.

During the discussion, Commissioner Madison referenced the quarterly statistics, comparing January to March of 2011 to the same time period in 2012. She indicated there were fewer teen programs in 2012 but the number of young adults attending these programs had risen. She asked if that was a trend, what emphasis should be placed on restoring teen programs, and whether the number of teen programs held had anything to do with the number of young adult librarians.

Ms. Kent stated she believes the effectiveness of young adult classroom visits by librarians, which has increased by 70%, is an important outreach tool, noting that not only are more teens attending programs but class visits to libraries has increased. Further, while the number of programs may go up or down, the connections with young people both during and after school is very important. She said providing resources on a daily basis and incorporating programming of immediate interest and need for young people is critical.

BOARD ACTION:

MOVED by Commissioner Tinoco, seconded by Commissioner Walters and unanimously carried that the Comparative Usage Statistics Report on the Los Angeles Public Library be received and filed.

VARIOUS COMMUNICATIONS: NONE

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS &
REVIEW OF MATTERS PENDING: NONE

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 11:58 a.m.

ATTEST: _____

Paula Madison
Chair

Gladys L. Senac
Acting Board Executive Assistant

Date to be approved:

May 24, 2012