MINUTES
BOARD OF LIBRARY COMMISSIONERS
CITY OF LOS ANGELES

April 23, 2015

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Library Commissioners was held at the Central Library, 630 West 5th Street, Los Angeles, CA 90071, convening at 11:10 a.m. on the above-written date.

PRESENT:                  PRESIDENT                JOSEFA SALINAS
                          VICE PRESIDENT           BICH NGOC CAO
                          COMMISSIONER             GREGORY BETTINELLI
                          COMMISSIONER             MAI LASSITER

EXCUSED

ABSENT:                  COMMISSIONER             RITA WALTERS

ALSO PRESENT: John F. Szabo, City Librarian; Kris Morita, Assistant General Manager; Basia Jankowski, Deputy City Attorney, General Counsel; Roy Stone, President, Librarians’ Guild; and staff.

MINUTES FOR APPROVAL: 3/17/15 Regular Meeting

MOVED by Commissioner Bettinelli, seconded by Vice President Cao, and unanimously carried that the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held March 17, 2015, be approved as submitted.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON MATTERS
WITHIN THE BOARD’S JURISDICTION: None.

CITY LIBRARIAN’S COMMENTS
AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

LAPL Wins IMLS Medal

On April 21, 2015, the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) announced that the Los Angeles Public Library (LAPL) is the winner of the 2015 National Medal. Mr. Szabo said this is the nation’s highest honor given each year to five libraries and five museums for demonstrating extraordinary, innovative, forward thinking approaches to public service that make a difference in the lives of individuals, families and communities. He is looking forward to spreading the word about this special recognition. He thanked staff for the great work and their dedication to service. He also thanked the Board for their incredible support of the Library.
In response to questions from Board President Salinas regarding the award and how it would be shared/displayed, Mr. Szabo said that it is an actual medal and that it would be displayed prominently once it is received in May and discussions are already taking place on how to share it among all of the library locations since it is recognition of the work being done system-wide.

Commissioner Bettinelli asked if the Los Angeles Public Library had won the medal before. Mr. Szabo replied that this is the first time LAPL has won the award, selected from among 150 applicants and from among 30 finalists (15 libraries and 15 museums). Last year, LAPL was also among the finalists.

Commissioner Lassiter inquired about the plans to spread the word about this special award. Mr. Szabo stated that there had already been some media coverage but there are plans to do more promotion for when and after the award is received.

LéaLA 2015- Spanish Language Book Fair

Mr. Szabo thanked Board President Salinas for representing the Library at the press conference to promote the LéaLA 2015 Book Fair that will be held May 15-17, 2015, at the Los Angeles Convention Center. He said the Library’s involvement and sponsorship has many elements: host press conference, promote festival, staff a booth with bilingual librarians. Staff from the Acquisitions Department will also attend to speak with vendors of Spanish language materials. This year, LéaLA will also have a day for library professionals and LAPL is promoting it to libraries nationally. 85,000 people attended the fair in 2013, which is organized by the Guadalajara International Book Fair.

Board President Salinas asked if numbers could be provided after the event on how many people signed up for library cards at the fair. Mr. Szabo replied that information will be available as well as other statistical data.

L.A. Times Festival of Books

Mr. Szabo reported that over 1,500 people stopped by the LAPL booth and 133 signed up for library cards at the L.A. Times Festival of Books held April 18-19 at the USC Campus. He said the biggest hit was the staff using the tablets and iPads to sign people up for library cards as well as to show the online resources. The Library Foundation of Los Angeles hosted the Book Drop BASH, which is the official after-party of the Festival of Books.

LAPL Volunteers Recognition at L.A. City Council

On Tuesday, April 28, the Los Angeles City Council will be recognizing the over 5,000 volunteers of the Los Angeles Public Library. They will be represented by 62 library volunteers including members of the Friends Groups from throughout the system. They will receive a City Council proclamation acknowledging their service to the Library. Mr. Szabo invited the Board to attend.
New Exhibit: “Bunker Hill in the Rearview Mirror”

The new exhibit, “Bunker Hill in the Rearview Mirror, the Rise, Fall and Rise Again of an Urban Neighborhood” is on display in the Central Library’s First Floor Galleries. The exhibit was curated by Christina Rice, Senior Librarian, Photo Collection and Emma Roberts, Adult Librarian III, Arts Music & Recreation and Rare Books Department, using images from the Central Library’s Photo Collection.

Summer Reading Club Video, “Reading to the Rhythm”

A couple weeks ago, Grammy Award Winning Band Ozomatli filmed the music video, “Reading to the Rhythm.” It was filmed in the Central Library with children and library staff to promote this year’s Summer Reading Club that will run from June 8 to August 1. Mr. Szabo said the video is fantastic and it has already been posted on the website. He encouraged everyone to share it.

Westwood Branch Library celebrates 10th Anniversary

On Saturday, May 9, the Westwood Branch Library will be celebrating its 10th Anniversary at the current building. A full day of great events have been planned to celebrate this milestone.

CITY LIBRARIAN’S REPORTS:

It was MOVED by Commissioner Bettinelli, seconded by Vice President Cao, and unanimously carried that the following resolutions be adopted:

Recommendation to Accept Gifts

LIBRARY RESOLUTION NO. 2015-19 (C-13)

RESOLVED, that the gift of $3,000 received form Mr. David Tulanian to the Vermont Square Branch Library be accepted; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, That a letter of thanks be sent to Mr. Tulanian expressing the grateful appreciation of the Board of Library Commissioners and staff for his generous donation.

Recommendation to Accept Funds from the Pacific Library Partnership for the Veteran Resource Center at Mid-Valley Regional Branch

City Librarian John F. Szabo stated that the Veteran Resource Center is part of the Los Angeles Public Library’s broader initiative to connect veterans and their families with their benefits and services and to provide library resources.
RESOLVED, That the Board of Library Commissioners approve the acceptance of funds in the amount of $3,477.43 from the Pacific Library Partnership for the Veterans Resource Center project at the Mid Valley Regional Branch Library; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the funds be deposited into Library Trust Fund 831, Account 310.

Recommendation to Accept Library Development Mitigation fees from Forest City Residential West

City Librarian John F. Szabo stated that the mitigation fees were associated with developments for which the process initiated many years ago when the mitigations fees were being required by the City from developers. He recommended acceptance of the fees.

WHEREAS, Forest City Residential West is planning to construct a mixed-use development at two property locations: 1108 South Hills Street 90015 and 1201 South Main Street 90015; and

WHEREAS, The Los Angeles City Planning Department requires the developer to pay a Library Development Impact Mitigation Fee of $200 per capita based upon the projected residential population:

RESOLVED, That the Board of Library Commissioners accept the amounts of $41,000 and $50,800 for payment of a Library Development Impact Mitigation Fees, as conditioned per City Planning Case Nos. ZA-2006-6513-CUB-CUX-CUZV-ZAA-SPR-PA2 and ZA-2006-6513-CUB-CUX-CUZV-ZAA-SPR-PA3, Condition No. MM-99, for properties located at 1108 South Hills Street 90015 and 1201 South Main Street 90015; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the funds be deposited into Library Trust Fund 831, Account 312, for the purpose of acquiring books, technology equipment and devices, and other library materials for the Central Library and the Little Tokyo Branch Library; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, That a letter be sent to Michael LoGrande, Director of Planning, with a copy to Forest City Residential West acknowledging the receipt of mitigation fees for the above mentioned properties have been satisfied.
Recommendation to Approve Request For Proposals (RFP)
For Acquisition of Library Materials and Services

City Librarian John F. Szabo recommended approval to issue a second Request for Proposals (RFP) for acquisition of library materials and services. He stated that the RFP had been structured in a broad and flexible way to allow issuing multiple awards in multiple formats and categories (adult, young adult and children’s books, DVD’s, etc.).

Mr. Szabo reported that six companies had responded to the first RFP, but only three firms had complied with the Business Inclusion Program (BIP) Outreach Process and were considered responsive and the Board approved awarding them with a contract. However, no responsive proposals were received for non-book materials. Also, the three contracts awarded will not meet all of the Library’s needs; therefore, after consulting with the city attorney’s office, staff recommends approval to issue and advertise this second RFP.

Mr. Szabo stated that staff will emphasize the importance of completing the Business Inclusion Program during the proposers’ conference.

LIBRARY RESOLUTION NO. 2015-22 (C-18)

RESOLVED, That the Request for Proposals (RFP) for Acquisition of Library Materials and services be approved, advertised and distributed to potential proposers; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Library Commissioners determine, in accordance with Charter Section 1022, that it is more economical that these services be performed by an independent contractor; and

FURTHER RESOLED, That proposals be submitted no later than 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, June 24, 2015, to the office of the Board of Library Commissioners, 630 West Fifth Street, Los Angeles, CA 90071

UPDATE ON THE MAYOR’S PROPOSED BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015-16

City Librarian John F. Szabo reported that the Mayor released his proposed budget on Monday, April 20. He said he was thankful that all substantive items were included in the Mayor’s budget as approved by the Board. He stated that the next step was to report to City Council’s Budget and Finance Committee on April 28th, and ultimately approved by City Council in late May. He said staff will bring the final Library budget to be adopted by the Board in June.

Commissioner Bettinelli asked staff to think about the best use of funds once that MICLA debt is paid off in FY 2019/20.
Mr. Szabo replied that staff already has a list of significant projects that can be completed with those funds such as deferred maintenance issues that have added up since the economic downturn in previous budget years.

**VARIOUS COMMUNICATIONS:** None.

**COMMISSIONERS’ COMMENTS & REVIEW OF MATTERS PENDING:**

**Little Tokyo Branch Parking Update**

Commissioner Bettinelli inquired about the status of the parking for the Little Tokyo Branch. Mr. Szabo stated that construction has started on the parking lot site and the parking arrangements are being met.

**Overdue Fees Amnesty Program**

President Salinas asked about the possibility or concept for dealing with people with delinquent Library accounts. She asked staff to consider offering an amnesty or special program.

Commissioner Bettinelli suggested asking the Library Foundation of Los Angeles to find some support to overwrite the revenue lost from the amnesty.

Mr. Szabo stated he would discuss this possibility with staff and report back.

**ADJOURNMENT**

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

**ATTEST:** ________________

Josefa Salinas
President

Raquel M. Borden
Board Executive Assistant

Approved: June 11, 2015