

APPROVED

MINUTES



Library Advisory Commission (LAC)

November 14, 2002

Human Resources (HR) Conference Room

250 Hamilton Avenue

6:00 p.m.

Commissioners Present: Tony Angiletta, Sandra Hirsh, Lenore Jones, John Kagel, Tina Kass (Chair), Mary Jean Place, Tom Wyman
Staff Present: Paul Thiltgen, Diane Jennings, Evelyn Cheng

CALL TO ORDER – Meeting called to order by Chair Kass at 6:15 p.m.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS - None

BUSINESS

The LAC met in retreat to review and discuss the following:

- ⚡ Place suggested a discussion on the November bond election and what LAC's next steps are.
- ⚡ Angiletta asked if there is a need for the LAC to come up with a new version of the New Library Plan (NLP).
- ⚡ Kagel added that the LAC should think of ways library services can realistically be provided with the available staff given severe space and budget limitations. For example, move staff from the neighborhood libraries to open morning hours at Mitchell Park Library (MP) and clear out Technical Services to Downtown Library (DO) to facilitate a teen collection at Main. Jones agreed that LAC needs to be realistic, exploring possibilities with building and staff requirements and lack of adequate funding.
- ⚡ Hirsh asked if the City would look at creative ways to fund construction in a similar way that Mountain View did.
- ⚡ Thiltgen said City staff is working on developing a plan and will involve LAC in the process. City will probably look at CH first since it is the least expensive. Thiltgen recommended revisiting the NLP.
- ⚡ Kass said LAC will need to know costs of running each library and what the actual dollar savings are to cut hours. Kass suggested that the LAC seek guidance from Council first.
- ⚡ Kagel said LAC is clear about what its job is, knows what the problems are, and can give suggestions to Council.
- ⚡ Angiletta said with the current budget deficit, LAC can suggest solutions, e.g. closing three small libraries.

- €# Jennings said that the LAC must continue to stress what its priorities are, which is to focus on Resource Libraries rather than write a new plan. Thiltgen added that the majority of the community still needs to be educated.
- €# Wyman emphasized the importance of proceeding without delay on the seismic upgrading and different maintenance work at Children's Library.
- €# Kass suggested forming a sub-committee to work on the review of the NLP, make proposals and give directions for an interim plan.
- €# Kass will draft a letter to City Council to ask for direction and guidance, given the results of the bond election, and to let Council know that the LAC is available to meet with them to discuss the next steps.
- €# Angiletta added that if Council does not provide feedback to the letter, LAC will proceed with its own plans.
- €# LAC will work on its Work Plan at future meetings and may consider holding only quarterly meetings in 2003.
- €# Place suggested the LAC make a public statement regarding the election and defend the NLP; she added that the public should know that the NLP is still a good plan, if there is a way to scale it back, then LAC will come out with an interim plan.

The Retreat was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.