

Present: Patt Bilow, Patrick Curran, Betsy Fontenot, Michael Kaplan, Sean Silbert, Gabrielle Williams

Staff Present: Jan Erickson, Cyndie Glazer, Jackie Rose, Beverly Ross

Excused: Fred Baldwin, Jennifer Mair

Others Present: Counselor Ellie McPeak

The Library Advisory Board meeting was called to order by Chair Michael Kaplan at 7:10 p.m. on March 8, 2006.

**I. Introductions**

None

**II. Approval of Minutes – January 11, 2006**

**Patrick Curran made a motion, seconded by Gabrielle Williams, to approve the minutes of the January 11, 2006, Lake Oswego Library Advisory Board meeting. The motion carried.**

**III. Public Comment**

None

**IV. Director's Report**

Director Jan Erickson gave the Director's Report:

Circulation was up 9.3% for the month of February 2006 from February 2005. Reserved items increased 13.2% in February over the same month a year ago.

The Library collected 5,178 pounds of food during the Food for Fines program in February. The food is donated to the Clackamas Service Center which serves the local community.

The new service, "Library2Go", which provides downloadable audiobooks from the website now offer 375 titles. These books currently have 4,330 holds on them. Because of the high demand for these electronic books, 50 always available books have been added. Library Manager, Bill Baars will be speaking about this program at the OLA (Oregon Library Association) Conference on April 6.

The OLA Conference will be held in Salem on April 5 through April 7. If any Board members would like to attend they should contact Beverly Ross.

The PLA (Public Library Association) Conference will be held in Boston the week of March 20 and Director Erickson and Manager Baars will be attending.

Self pick-up of holds will begin on March 29. Network needs to do some special computer programming before this new service can be offered to patrons. Holds on CDs and DVDs will still be held behind the circulation desk. Added publicity about self-pick up of holds will begin two weeks before the target date.

A team has been selected by the City Council to develop a design concept for the community center. The team consists of BOORA Architects, Sports Management Group, and library consultant, Drew Harrington. Erickson thanked her management staff for the work they have done in providing Harrington requested information and statistics. Harrington has asked to meet with focus groups to gather input on the needs of a Library in the community center. One of the focus groups will be with the Library Advisory Board (LAB) on Wednesday, April 5, at 7:00 pm. Other focus group meetings are in the process of being set up and will be held the first week in April. Ellie McPeak said a decision will need to be made by July for putting the community center on the November 2006 ballot which makes the timeline very short.

Children's programs and Young Adult programs have been planned for spring and summer. Jackie Rose reported on a new drawing program titled "Young Rembrandts", which will take place in April and on a new YA program on gaming will be held during spring break.

Erickson has asked the City's Financial Director to seek Council approval to move funds from the capital outlay fund to the materials and services fund. She did so to cover unexpected expenses for building maintenance, such as bathroom repair, lighting, and HVAC repair.

## V. Chair's Report

Chair Michael Kaplan gave the Chair's report:

Betsy Fontenot, Gabrielle Williams, Sean Silbert and Michael Kaplan attended a meeting on February 9 with the City Council regarding the Safeco site and the community center. Fontenot said there were other boards at the meeting and it was good for the Council to hear from the various boards in one setting. Williams was pleased with the dialogue between the different groups which included the Parks & Rec Board, Adult Community Center Board, and Planning Boards. Williams said the community center is being described as multigenerational center and at this meeting the LAB members made the point that the Library is already being used by many generations.

Kaplan asked Cyndie Glazer and Gabrielle Williams to report on "Everybody Reads", the community reading project. Glazer said the steering committee made up of community leaders has met twice and has selected a book for the first "Everybody Reads" to be held in February 2007. Williams said there was much discussion among the group and they were particularly interested in learning from Ricky Korach on how the book would be used at the high schools. Also included in the discussions were programming ideas. The steering committee meets on May 3 and the members will present ideas on how their various organizations will participate in this effort. Glazer asked the LAB to come up with ideas on how they would like to participate as a group. Kaplan asked for ideas to be presented and discussed at the next LAB meeting and Kaplan and Williams will take these suggestions back to the steering committee. The Library has submitted a grant to the Friends of the Library to purchase 800 copies of the book. Glazer said Korach will take the book to the school board for approval to add the title to its curriculum. Kaplan said the steering committee has named this program "Lake Oswego Reads" and plans for it to be an annual event with a different book read each year.

## VI. Donation Policy

Sean Silbert noticed the misspelling of policy in the heading. Jackie Rose will check for any other grammatical or spelling errors and make the corrections.

**A motion for the Board to approve the Donation Policy as presented, with the exception of any grammatical or spelling errors that will be corrected, was made by Betsy Fontenot, seconded by Gabrielle Williams, the motion carried.**

## VII. Consultants' Report

Erickson said the Clackamas County Library Consultants' report is now available. She said it came out in bits and pieces with the final part available Monday, March 6. She has not had time to read all of the report but has read the main report and the facilities report. Erickson passed out copies of the Executive Summary of the report. Erickson said the County Commissioners have received the report but have not accepted the report and have not said what they will do in regards to adopting the recommendations in the report.

Erickson said the consultant is expected to be in town to answer questions about the report on Thursday, April 13, but this has not been confirmed.

Erickson said in the report the consultants recommended:

- The ideal for Clackamas County is to have a system similar to that of Multnomah County or a

library district. This would hold the greatest promise of stability for long term funding. However that said because they did not believe the libraries in the County or the cities would approve of this concept they would not recommend this. They did recommend the partnership between Clackamas County and the municipalities continue. Their answer for long term funding is a levy to be put on the ballot in 2010.

- Consolidation of some of the libraries and that the County gets out of the business of directly operating any library. The recommendation is that libraries should be turned over to the cities and the County would only be directly in charge of the Network office.
- The County should not give less than \$6.385 million to libraries. Three years ago the national per capita average for operating income for libraries was \$29.50. With the current funding in Clackamas County the average is currently \$17.54 per capita. The County should make a concerted effort to raise the funding to \$20.00 per capita before a 2010 levy is put on the ballot.
- Change the distribution formula from the current 85% circulation/15% population to 50% circulation/50% population. The assertion is that libraries are “dumbing” down their collections to get higher circulation.

Erickson said she takes offense at the accusation that Lake Oswego is “dumbing” down its collection.

Erickson said LNIB (Library Network Intergovernmental Board) voted Thursday, March 2, in favor of two recommendations to present to the County Commissioners. One is the County give libraries \$6.785 million and the distribution formula be changed immediately to 60% circulation/40% population (Lake Oswego would receive approximately \$978,000). The other recommendation is if the County does not increase funding to libraries the distribution formula is frozen at last year’s amount (Lake Oswego would receive approximately \$992,590).

Erickson questioned whether population should be considered as a measure that should be used in determining funding at all. She said, for example, Washington County does not use population in its distribution formula.

McPeak said the libraries that have been supported by their cities are being penalized and those libraries whose cities do not support them are being rewarded. Erickson said the consultants’ report states its goal is to shift money. Rose said the report contradicts itself when it says cities should give a maintenance of effort to maintain its library, yet rewards the library that does not get money from its city.

McPeak does not know what the City will do in regards to funding for the Library. She said this discussion will probably take place at the time of the budget process which will begin next year.

Erickson said LNIB’s recommendation is for one year.

8:50 Ellie McPeak leaves.

## **VIII. Fundraising**

Cyndie Glazer said she is meeting with Fred Baldwin on Monday, March 13, to discuss fundraising.

**Michael Kaplan made a motion to make Fred Baldwin the Chair of Fundraising, Patt Bilow seconded, the motion carried.**

Kaplan said the interviews for applicants for the LAB positions will be held on March 22.

## **Adjournment**

The Library Advisory Board meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Present:

Beverly Ross  
Recording Secretary