

The regular meeting of the Lafayette Public Library Board of Control was called to order by President, Dr. Jean Kreamer at 5 p.m. on October 17, 2005 in the Meeting Room of the Main Library. Board members present were Mr. Lee Verret, Kay Theunissen, Susan Hamilton, Mark Tullos, Bennett Bernard, Vanessa Hill and Mr. Pat Logan, LCG Liaison. Ms. Sona J. Dombourian, Library Director, Mr. Larry Gass, Administrative Assistant, and Ms. Lisa Breaux, Director's Executive Secretary were also in attendance. Assistant Director Teresa Elberson was absent.

Dr. Kreamer extended her thanks to the Library Board with three copies of the book, Marsh Mission, which will be added to the Library circulation at the Main and Southside locations. A bookplate was inserted in the book to acknowledge the efforts of the Library Board during Dr. Kreamer's term as President of the Board.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Bennett Bernard moved that the minutes of the September 19, 2005 regular meeting be accepted as submitted. The motion was seconded by Lee Verret and the motion carried.

REPORT OF THE LIBRARIAN

The Director's report and financial reports are attached.

Ms. Dombourian reported that the state's fiscal year begins in July, and that the state aid monies for the 2005-06 budget year were received in August. She indicated that the State of Louisiana is evaluating the services provided to all agencies, including the State Library and the services provided to Louisiana libraries. The State Library has received many donations of computers and related technology for the libraries affected by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. A request for printers and computers was made by Ms. Dombourian, and it is anticipated that 25-50 computers will be received. The computers will be installed in our branches as well as in the main library.

The City-Parish Council has approved the roll forward of the millage to two mills and the roll back of the debt service account to one mill for a total of three mills. The Library budget was also adopted by the City-Parish Council on September 29, 2005.

Ms. Dombourian noted that Beulah Sampe, building superintendent for over 30 years, has announced her retirement from the library. The provisional appointment of Paul Bary, a displaced Librarian from the New Orleans area, as a Librarian I has been made. Additional appointment of two temporary employees was also made possible through the workforce incentive development program to help those individuals displaced by Hurricane Katrina. Other vacancies have been advertised and the interviews are in process.

The majority of the month of September was dedicated to serving evacuees from Hurricane Katrina. The library was also closed at the end of September due to Hurricane Rita for three days. Circulation statistics indicated an overall decrease of 10% for the month, however, circulation per hour open was up for the month. Circulation increases were noted in Carencro, Scott, Southside, and decreases in Duson and Youngsville. Library card sign up month was held in September and 1300 new library cards were issued; 600 issued to Katrina evacuees.

Dr. Kreamer welcomed Dr. Vanessa Hill to the Library Board, and distributed copies of Dr. Hill's curriculum vitae.

OLD BUSINESS

MAIN LIBRARY FAÇADE UPDATE

Mr. Gass reported that the contractor is in the completion stages of the sidewalk work. The expansion joint restoration work has been completed in a portion of the sidewalks and is expected to

be completed very shortly. The window has been replaced and a few remaining items on the contractor punch list exist.

LIBRARY REORGANIZATION AND COMPENSATION UPDATE

Ms. Dombourian reported that work is being performed on this project with a review of each vacancy as they are created. She hopes to have a preliminary report by the spring of 2006.

BUILDING COMMITTEE UPDATES

NORTH REGIONAL UPDATE

Dr. Kreamer acknowledged Mr. Verret for the vital role he played during the acquisition of the land donated by the City of Carencro dedicated for the North Regional Library, and that the Library Board is indebted to him for his efforts.

Ms. Dombourian reported that the North Regional architect has provided the revised construction documents, and they are being reviewed by Public Works as well as by Denelle Wrightson. Mr. Logan added that a large number of review comments by the Public Works engineers exists.

SOUTH REGIONAL UPDATE

Ms. Dombourian reported that Mr. Mark Lavergne has received a verbal permit from the Army Corps of Engineers for continuation of the clearing of the property for the South Regional Library. Mr. Lavergne is awaiting an e-mail confirmation of the verbal permission. Once the confirmation is received, the lot clearing will be completed by the contractor, allowing the architect to obtain soil samples necessary to complete the construction documents.

MAIN LIBRARY RENOVATION

The Main Library Renovation project architect RFQ should be published on approximately October 26. A pre-bidders conference will be held with interested respondents to the RFQ. Dr. Kreamer requested that the Library Board be made aware of when the pre-bidders meeting will be held.

NEW BUSINESS

2006 PROPOSED HOLIDAY CALENDAR

The Lafayette City-Parish Council will be asked to approve the 2006 LCG employee holiday calendar at the first Council meeting in November. The 2006 holiday and closings schedule for the library was presented for consideration. A motion was made by Lee Verret to accept the recommended schedule. The motion was seconded by Bennett Bernard, and passed unanimously. The staff will receive two floating holidays in exchange for the observed holidays scheduled for New Year's Day and Acadian Day.

2006 PROPOSED LIBRARY BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE

A motion was made by Pat Logan to accept the 2006 Library Board Meeting Schedule. The motion was seconded by Kay Theunissen, and passed unanimously.

EVALUATION OF LIBRARY DIRECTOR

A motion was made by Lee Verret to go into Executive Session to discuss the evaluation of the Library Director. The motion was seconded by Mark Tullos and all were in favor.

A motion was made by Lee Verret to come out of Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Bennett Bernard and all were in favor.

A motion was made by Vanessa Hill to accept the evaluation of the Library Director and authorize Dr. Jean Kreamer to sign the evaluation. The motion was seconded by Kay Theunissen and all were in favor.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

A motion was made by Lee Verret to nominate Bennett Bernard for President of the Library Board of Control. The motion was seconded by Pat Logan and all were in favor.

A motion was made by Jean Kreamer to nominate Mark Tullos for the position of Vice-President of the Library Board of Control. The motion was seconded by Lee Verret and all were in favor.

Following the election of officers, Mr. Bernard assumed control of the meeting. He presented Dr. Kreamer with a certificate of appreciation for her efforts as President of the Library Board during 2004-05. She was also presented with a gift book on plants to be placed in circulation. A bookplate was inserted in the book with thanks to Dr. Kreamer for her leadership as President of the board.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mark Tullos' appointment to the Library Board expires on November 30, 2005. The Lafayette City-Parish Council will make the appointment on November 15, 2005. Mark is eligible for re-appointment. Resumes should be submitted to the Council office before noon on November 14, 2005.

The Foundation fundraiser, Fondue Frolic, has been re-scheduled for Thursday, December 8, 2005 at River Oaks.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sona J. Dombourian, Secretary