

The regular meeting of the Lafayette Public Library Board of Control was called to order by President, Bennett Bernard at 5 p.m. on April 17, 2006 in the Meeting Room of the Main Library. Board members present were Susan Hamilton, Vanessa Hill, Jean Kreamer, Kay Theunissen, Lee Verret, and Mr. Pat Logan, LCG Liaison. Ms. Sona J. Dombourian, Library Director, Administrative Assistant Larry Gass, Extension Services Librarian Peggy Thibodeaux, Youngsville Library Branch Assistant Katie Martin and Lisa Breaux, Director's Executive Secretary were also in attendance. Guests present included Building Committee Chairman Blaise Sonnier, Architect Glenn Angelle and Broussard Commons Developer Robert Minyard. Board member, Mark Tullos, was absent.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Kay Theunissen to accept the minutes of the March 20 meeting as presented. The motion was seconded by Vanessa Hill and all were in favor.

REPORT OF THE LIBRARIAN

The director's report and financial reports are attached.

Katie Martin, branch assistant at the Youngsville Branch, made a presentation to the board members and guests present. Katie has been an employee of the Lafayette Public Library for eighteen years, fourteen of which have been at the Youngsville Branch. Katie offered some interesting details on the original Youngsville Branch Library, as well as the move to the new, larger facility in May, 2004, which has resulted in nearly doubling the number of patrons and circulation of the branch. The Youngsville Branch hosts story time for 3-6 year old children, and recently held a unique program entitled "Trash to Treasure" that was a popular craft activity for the younger patrons. Mrs. Martin also pointed out that not only are the branch staff required to be knowledgeable of library related matters, they are often questioned by patrons about locations and activities in the entire Youngsville community.

NEW BUSINESS

BROUSSARD LIBRARY LOCATION

Mr. Bernard requested that the new business item be moved up in the agenda to allow Mr. Robert Minyard, Broussard Commons developer, to present information on the retail facility construction project in the Broussard community.

Ms. Dombourian stated that during 2005, an RFP for a new location in the Broussard community for the library branch was issued. One response was received, from the existing Broussard branch landlord. No action was taken at that time.

Mr. Robert Minyard introduced a new five-acre, 70,000 square foot professional office and retail space called "Broussard Commons". Mr. Broussard explained that the development will be built at the intersection of Albertsons Parkway and S. Morgan Street in Broussard. Amenities for the development will include an upscale urban design, 200 parking spaces, landscaping, high speed internet access, façade and street lighting, frontage on Albertsons Parkway and a tenant mix comprised of physicians, veterinarian, food court, cleaners, etc. Presently, Mr. Minyard has leased 6,000 square feet to two physicians. The architect for the project, Mr. Glenn Angelle, stated that parking ratio would be similar to that of the new North Regional Library.

A proposal for re-locating the Broussard branch library was presented. Mr. Minyard proposed leasing a 4,400 square foot out parcel, fully built-out to the specifications of the library, at a rate of \$18 per square foot, a small common area charge for exterior maintenance, and tenant-paid utilities.

OLD BUSINESS

ASSESSOR'S REQUEST

Ms. Dombourian stated that the assessor pulled his request to the City-Parish Council for the assessment software purchase from the meeting agenda. Ms. Dombourian will advise the board on any additional action on this item.

MILLAGE RENEWAL ELECTION SET

Ms. Dombourian stated that a millage renewal election has been called for July 15. Also on the ballot are millage renewals for drainage, the health unit, the Bayou Vermilion District and the re-dedication of sales tax revenues from bonds for road projects.

Following discussion of the millage renewal, it was suggested that a millage strategy be developed and presented at the next board meeting.

BUILDING COMMITTEE UPDATES

NORTH REGIONAL UPDATE

Ms. Dombourian stated that the signed contracts are expected within two weeks. After value engineering out \$69,417, the contract is expected to be issued for \$2,265,283 which will allow construction of the facility as planned. Extra asphalt parking and coil shutter items could be removed if funds become restricted during construction. The furniture packet should be ready to bid in six weeks.

SOUTH REGIONAL UPDATE

Mr. Gene Sellers, architect for the South Regional Library, delivered preliminary construction drawings last week. A preliminary review was held with Ms. Wrightson during her visit, and May 1st has been set as the target date for the construction documents review.

MAIN LIBRARY RENOVATION

The charrettes for the renovation of the Main Library were held on April 12. Valuable and interesting comments were received by both the public and staff on some of the desired components of the renovated library. An on-line survey on the library website has received over 130 responses to date. Ms. Dombourian will distribute a summary of her notes from the charrettes to the board members.

EAST REGIONAL DISCUSSION

In May 2005, the Building Committee met to discuss the physical site of the proposed East Regional Library. At that time, a radius of 1 ½ miles surrounding the intersection of the proposed Ambassador Caffery South and Hwy. 89 (Youngsville Hwy.) was selected as ground zero for the East Regional Library. After discussion regarding the road construction projects planned by the state and the city governments and the revised flood maps, it was agreed that the ground zero location of the 1 ½ mile radius surrounding the intersection of Ambassador Caffery South and Hwy. 89 remained the most desirable location to situate the new library and that Ms. Dombourian would submit a request to the LCG Purchasing Division to issue a request for proposals for property for the East Regional Library.

During the discussion, the re-design of the library logo was mentioned. Dr. Kremer moved that Ms. Dombourian explore the possibility of securing a professional public relations firm to design a new logo or brand for the library. The motion was seconded by Mr. Logan. All were in favor and it was requested that the item be added as a recurring agenda item.

ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS

LLA CONFERENCE

Ms. Dombourian informed board members to submit any requests for reimbursement of expenses from the LLA Conference to Lisa Breaux.

ALA CONFERENCE

The ALA Conference will be held in New Orleans in June. More information will be forthcoming.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sona J. Dombourian, Secretary