

The regular meeting of the Lafayette Public Library Board of Control was called to order by President, Bennett Bernard at 5 p.m. on February 20, 2006 in the Meeting Room of the Main Library. Board members present were Susan Hamilton, Vanessa Hill, Mark Tullos, Lee Verret, and Mr. Pat Logan, LCG Liaison. Ms. Sona J. Dombourian, Library Director, Assistant Director Teresa Elberson, Administrative Assistance Larry Gass, Librarian Martin Cooperson and Lisa Breaux, Director's Executive Secretary were also in attendance. Guests present included Building Committee Chairman Blaise Sonnier, Public Works engineer Mark Lavergne, North Regional Library architect Glenn Angelle, Building Committee member Tom Sammons, Main Library Renovation Architect Allen Bacque, MBSB partner Mark Stielper and Hugh Stevens. Board members absent were Jean Kreamer and Kay Theunissen.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Lee Verret moved that the minutes of the January 23, 2005 regular meeting be accepted as submitted. The motion was seconded by Susan Hamilton and the motion carried.

REPORT OF THE LIBRARIAN

The director's report and financial reports are attached. Ms. Dombourian reported that the Frankenstein exhibit is now on display in the browsing room.

A new format for the report of the librarian will include brief presentations by library staff members on the services provided to patrons. Electronic Resources Librarian Martin Cooperson made a brief presentation to the board and guests regarding the computer classes that are offered to the public free of charge. Mr. Cooperson is the instructor for the courses, which include basic computing, word processing, Internet use, spreadsheets and power point. A class can accommodate up to 12 students in a hands-on class, paced at the student's level. Mr. Cooperson also highlighted other aspects of his duties and answered questions regarding the computer classes.

OLD BUSINESS

ADJUDICATED PROPERTY

There was no update or discussion on this item.

ASSESSOR'S REQUEST

There was no update or discussion on this item.

DISCUSSION OF LIBRARY HOURS

The existing library hours are still being reviewed by the Library Administration. There was no report on this item.

BUILDING COMMITTEE UPDATES

MAIN LIBRARY RENOVATION

The MBSB Group has been selected as the architect for the Main Library Renovation Project. Mr. Allen Bacque was introduced to the Library Board and guests present, as were MBSB Partner Mr. Mark Stielper, and MBSB architect Mr. Hugh Stevens. Mr. Bacque expressed his excitement over the project, as his now deceased partner Mr. Pierce Meleton was the original designer of the current Main library. Some of the projects completed by the MBSB Group include the City Hall renovation from the original Sears building, Jefferson Towers, Lafayette Regional Airport, LSU Law School, Live Oak and J. Wallace James Elementary Schools.

The dates for the charette for the staff, board, building committee and public were announced. Ms. Denelle Wrightson will be present on Wednesday, March 8 at 4 p.m. to conduct the charette for the Library Board and Building Committee.

The charette for public input is scheduled for Wednesday, April 12. The time for the sessions will be announced at a later date.

NORTH REGIONAL UPDATE

Mr. Glenn Angelle discussed the bids that were received for construction of the North Regional Library. Mr. Angelle distributed the bid tabulation sheet from the bid opening and indicated that the low bidder was M.D. Descant, Inc. with a base bid of \$2,173,700 and bids for alternate #1 of \$52,000; alternate #2 of \$16,000 and alternate #3 of \$93,000. As submitted, the bids fall approximately 9 1/2% over the construction budget. A meeting was held on February 17 with the contractor and several sub-contractors in a value engineering effort or an attempt to further reduce individual line items in the construction or installed components. Some of the possible changes included changes to the fresh-air unit, the automatic sliding entry doors, and a reduction of the drop off covered canopy in the front of the building. A follow-up meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 22 to review the recommended changes and subsequent cost reductions. Ms. Dombourian will provide a summary of the cost changes to the board following the meeting on February 22.

Ms. Dombourian explained that the Public Works officials are also reviewing the recommended changes to assure concurrence.

Ms. Dombourian also addressed several items included in the entire construction budget, such as furnishings and the book budget. The existing Carencro branch library presently has approximately 12,000 items in the collection, many of which can be re-used upon moving into the new library. Ms. Dombourian recommended that the book budget for the North Regional library be reduced from \$350,000 to \$200,000, that a 10% contingency fund be earmarked for construction, and \$90,000 be allotted for additional contingency, unidentified fees and overruns. Her recommendation included also that any funds not used in contingency be re-allocated to books and materials. Mrs. Hamilton expressed her support of Ms. Dombourian's recommendation to reduce the book budget, stating that when progress is the goal, the initial sacrifice of books and materials must be performed.

Mrs. Hamilton moved to authorize Ms. Dombourian to notify the Purchasing Department to proceed with issuing a letter of intent to the contractor, to make the necessary budgetary allocation changes to the book budget, and to retain at least 10% contingency for construction, based on the final value engineering revisions. Mr. Tullos seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

Mr. Angelle also stated that he will request individual pricing for the elements included in alternate #3 so that priority may be given to each element.

SOUTH REGIONAL UPDATE

Ms. Dombourian met with Mr. Gene Sellers to review the construction documents. Mr. Sellers anticipates that the final construction documents will be delivered for review in one week. Mr. Lavergne discussed the concerns Mr. Sellers had regarding sub-surface drainage of the property once construction begins based on the status of the Robley Drive/Duhon Road extension. The Public Works department is working with Mr. Sellers to alleviate those concerns.

NEW BUSINESS

LLA CONFERENCE

The LLA Conference will be held in Lafayette on March 28-30. Several members are registered for the workshops and trustee luncheon on Thursday, including Vanessa Hill, Kay Theunissen, Bennett Bernard, and Lee Verret. Mr. Tullos, Dr. Kreamer and Mrs. Hamilton are registered for the full conference.

Ms. Dombourian announced to the board that Susan Hamilton is the recipient of the Modisette Award for Trustees which will be presented at the awards reception on Wednesday evening of the conference.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Sona J. Dombourian, Secretary