

The regular meeting of the Lafayette Public Library Board of Control was called to order by President, Bennett Bernard at 5 p.m. on March 20, 2006 in the Meeting Room of the Main Library. Board members present were Susan Hamilton, Vanessa Hill, Jean Kreamer, Kay Theunissen, Mark Tullos, and Mr. Pat Logan, LCG Liaison. Ms. Sona J. Dombourian, Library Director, Assistant Director Teresa Elberson, Administrative Assistance Larry Gass, Librarian Genella Fontenot and Lisa Breaux, Director's Executive Secretary were also in attendance. Guests present included Building Committee Chairman Blaise Sonnier, and LCG Chief Financial Officer Becky Lalumia. Board member, Lee Verret, was absent.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Bennett Bernard proposed that the minutes of the February 20, 2005 regular meeting be amended to reflect the addition of the words "physical and technological" before progress in the paragraph related to the discussion on the revision of the construction and book budgets for the North Regional Library. A motion was made by Mark Tullos to amend the minutes as proposed by Mr. Bernard. The motion was seconded by Vanessa Hill and all were in favor. A subsequent motion was made by Mark Tullos to accept the minutes as revised. The motion was seconded by Susan Hamilton and all were in favor.

REPORT OF THE LIBRARIAN

The director's report and financial reports are attached.

Extension Services Librarian II, Genella Fontenot, made a presentation regarding her work with the children's departments at the library branches. Genella is responsible for planning and implementing children's toddler times and story times programs in Carencro, Youngsville and Milton and coordinates after school tutoring called "Homework Helpers" at the Chenier Branch in conjunction with the Americorps organization. Genella also plans various craft activities for the children at the branch libraries. Genella promotes the libraries children's programs at area schools and day cares.

NEW BUSINESS

ANTICIPATED TAX ELECTION – MILLAGE RENEWAL

Mr. Bernard requested that the new business item be moved up in the agenda to allow Mrs. Becky Lalumia, LCG Chief Financial Officer, to address the anticipated tax election – millage renewal that is currently being planned.

Mrs. Lalumia stated that three separate parish millages will be coming up for renewal in 2007 and that the City-Parish Council will call for the election on July 15. The three millages include roads and bridges, the health unit and the library. The City of Lafayette Sales Tax Bond Authority will also be on the ballot. All of these items are existing taxes.

The library millage up for renewal is currently 2.8 mills and it generates approximately \$2.6 million for the library operations. At the time of renewal of a millage, it can be placed on the ballot at the last elected rate which is 2.91 and the maximum that can be assessed.

Dr. Kreamer moved that the library board concur with the plans of the Lafayette City-Parish Council to proceed with the plan to call for an election for the renewal of the library millage and that the millage be placed on the ballot at 2.91 mills. Kay Theunissen seconded the motion and all were in favor.

OLD BUSINESS

ASSESSOR'S REQUEST

Ms. Dombourian stated that the ordinance regarding the Assessor's request for the purchase of new software for his office is on the City-Parish Council agenda for the March 21st meeting for

final adoption. Ms. Dombourian will notify the Library Board on the action taken by the City-Parish Council following the meeting.

BUILDING COMMITTEE UPDATES

NORTH REGIONAL UPDATE

Ms. Dombourian presented a cost savings worksheet provided by Glenn Angelle, architect for the North Regional Library. The worksheet summarized the results of the value engineering efforts, and indicated the individual items to be eliminated, modified, or kept as part of the project. The total deductions accepted amounted to \$70,672.00, bringing the Descant base bid plus the three alternates to \$2,264,028.00. Ms. Dombourian also stated that there are several items that may be backed out during construction in the event the funds are not available and the contract with the building contractor will be written to include this accommodation.

SOUTH REGIONAL UPDATE

Ms. Dombourian reported that the South Regional Library site soil borings have been completed and the results were provided to Gene Sellers, architect for the South Regional project. Mr. Sellers anticipates that it will take approximately three to four weeks to complete the final construction drawings. In the interim, Mr. Sellers has continued working on the interior plans and a preliminary set of plans are expected in approximately two weeks. Ms. Dombourian estimated that once the construction document review is completed, the project could possibly be released for construction bid in July.

MAIN LIBRARY RENOVATION

The charrette for the Library Board and Building Committee was held on March 8. Both architects, Allen Bacque and Denelle Wrightson, received good feedback from the board and building committee on desired components of the renovated main library. Ms. Dombourian is setting up a meeting for the downtown merchants to offer their input on the plans. Ms. Wrightson will return on April 12 and 13 to continue the charrettes with the staff and the public.

ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS

LLA CONFERENCE

Ms. Dombourian highlighted several of the events scheduled during the LLA conference scheduled for March 29-30 in Lafayette, including the awards ceremony and reception on Wednesday, March 29, and the Trustees program and luncheon on Thursday, March 30. Marcelle Bienvenu is the guest speaker for the trustee luncheon, and author Nancy Pearl is the speaker for the Book Dinner on Thursday evening. The conference registration will be held in the Cajundome Convention Center.

ALA CONFERENCE

Ms. Dombourian distributed the preliminary programs for the ALA conference scheduled for June 24 – 27 in New Orleans. The programs listed the conference events in chronological order as well as by track and date. The board members that are planning to attend the conference will receive more information as it is available.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Elberson announced that the VHS collection will begin to be replaced by the DVD collection as many of the vendors that are used to purchase the VHS tapes will no longer be

ADJOURNMENT

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Sona J. Dombourian, Secretary