

LIBRARY COMMISSION
MEETING OF FEBRUARY 13, 2008
SYNOPSIS

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Chair Martin at the King Library.

Present: Chair Martin, Commissioners Karas, Tarpey, Nguyen, Candelas, Do, Graham, Ramos and Lydon.

Absent: None

Staff: Library Director Jane Light; Assistant Library Director Ned Himmel; Library Deputy Director Rich Desmond; Digital Futures Manager Sarah Houghton-Jan; Administrative Assistant Lucinda Norman.

Others: Councilmember Oliverio, Council District 6, and 12 members from the public were present.

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA – The agenda was approved as written.

3. CONSENT CALENDAR

a. For approval: Synopsis of the January 9, 2008 meeting was approved as written.

b. Correspondence read and filed for public record – 1) André L. Barnes, Chief of Police, San José State University Police, letter confirming a sex crime committed at the King Library in November 2006.

4. ORAL PETITIONS- None

5. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

a. Quarterly Bond Update

Rich Desmond updated the Commission on the status of the library bond projects in the final quarter of 2007. Grand opening of Edenvale Branch occurred November 3, 2007. East Carnegie Branch and Santa Teresa Branch have been awarded construction. Construction is ongoing for the Joyce Ellington, Willow Glen Branch and Pearl Branch; all of which are expected to open summer of 2008.

Bascom Branch and Seventrees Branch designs are underway and will be going out to bid within the next few months. These two branches have been design to meet the Silver award for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Certified standards; meeting a higher level of environmental efficiency. Rich answered questions from the Commission.

b. Staff report re: Testing of Internet Filters Software- Sarah Houghton-Jan presented a report on the testing results of three Internet Filters; CyberPatrol, FilterGate and WebSense. Teams of two librarians representing San José Public Library and San José State University tested 135 questions and

scenarios on each filter in an attempt to access obscene, harmful and also constitutionally protected websites and to assess the performance of the filters. General key word searches, direct URLs, images, RSS feeds were searched with a result of 85% of sexually explicit sites blocked with a remaining 15% that are allowed through the filter. Approximately 85% of sites that should not be blocked are allowed through the filter correctly with a remaining 15% of sites incorrectly blocked and obstructing user access.

The filters falsely blocked valuable web pages and other online resources. Each filter blocked a wide range of constitutionally protected content in its attempt to block material deemed harmful to minors. The tests show filtering technology is ill-equipped to deal with newer and non-text content, such as image results, image email attachments, RSS feeds, and non-English content. Sarah responded to questions from the Commission.

The Commission heard comments from a total of four members of the public. All spoke against content filtering; Mary Minow, a graduate of Stanford Law School; Peter Yesne, Chair for American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) Santa Clara Valley; Leslie Bulbuk, Bay Area Municipal Elections Committee-(Lesbian, Gay, Bi-Sexual and Transgender Action Committee); David Cohen, former Library Commissioner.

- c. Update on Internet Filter and Policy Options for Commission Consideration
Jane Light reviewed her memo with the Commission. In compliance with the policy review workplan, approved by the Rules Committee; research was conducted of ten other large jurisdiction libraries regarding costs, brand of filter used and impacts on staff and users, etc. The memo provided 4 policy options, with costs and analysis, for the Commissioners to consider when making their recommendation to City Council. Jane stated that the policy options presented are to assist the Commission in its discussion. The Commission may discuss these options or any other as it chooses.

The Commissioners discussed the possible policy options. COMMISSIONER KARAS MOVED TO ACCEPT THE LIBRARY'S CURRENT INTERNET ACCESS POLICY WITH NO CHANGE. MOTION SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER NGUYEN. APPROVED (8-1)

Chair Martin, Commissioner Candelas and Commissioner Graham will draft a letter to City Council informing them of its recommendation and the reason behind its decision.

- d. Adopt Commission Annual Budget Position Message
Commissioner Lydon gave a brief report on the Budget Meeting-Mayor Advisory Group Meeting she attended.

Commissioner Martin distributed copies of the draft budget letter, intended for City Council regarding the FY 08/09 Library Department budget; for review, comments and edits. COMMISSIONER DO MOVED TO APPROVE THE LETTER WITH THE AMENDMENTS AS DISCUSSED. MOTION SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER CANDELAS. ALL APPROVED.

6. COUNCIL LIAISON'S ANNOUNCEMENTS – Councilmember Oliverio provided some outreach recommendations for the Commissioners. He discussed the advantages of attending and participating in Council meetings during open forum and having communication with Councilmembers.
7. CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS – Chair Martin announced a Silicon Valley Reads event, February 17, at Villa Montalvo.
9. LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S ANNOUNCEMENT – Jane made the following announcements: City Clerk's Office is accepting applications for Commission appointments including the Library Commission, with a deadline of Friday, March 7; two Library employees have been selected to attend the state sponsored Eureka Leadership Institute; the Youth Commission voted unanimously against filtering in the Library.
- 10 COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
 - a. Friends Groups from Branches and Main Library – None
 - b. San Jose Public Library Foundation Board –None
 - c. Early Care and Education Commission – Commissioner Lydon attended the Early Care and Education monthly meeting.
 - d. Meetings Attended by Commissioners as Commissioners –

Commissioner Lydon attended the West Valley Friends meeting 1/19; attended Early Care and Education Committee meeting 1/28; attended Budget meeting Mayor Advisory Group 1/10; Neighborhood Association meeting at City Hall 1/19; attended Silicon Valley Reads at Heritage Theater 1/17; Commissioner Graham attended a Community Read-author presentation January; Commissioner Do attended Kansen Chu's meeting in January; a Council meeting on 2/12; a Budget Priority Meeting in January; La Raza Roundtable meeting in December and January; Commissioner Nguyen attended Santa Teresa Groundbreaking 1/12; Commissioner Tarpey attended Silicon Valley Reads 1/17; attended Santa Teresa groundbreaking 1/12; Commissioner Martin met with Councilmember Chirco 1/13; Cambrian Donor Wall unveiling 1/13; Foundation Board Meeting 1/29, Interview-Sing Tao Daily regarding Library Commission openings 1/12; Silicon Valley Reads Kick-off 1/17, Santa Teresa Groundbreaking 1/12, Youth Commission Meeting 1/28; Commissioner Candelas sent 23 emails to community members, principals, librarians and teachers 1/20,1/23,1/24; Commissioner Karas attended Santa Teresa Groundbreaking 1/12, worked on Budget letter;

11. UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES FOR COMMISSION PARTICIPATION – Check website for list of upcoming opportunities. Chair Martin reviewed the list of upcoming events.
12. ITEMS FOR FUTURE COMMISSION MEETING AGENDAS – None.
13. ADJOURNMENT – The meeting was adjourned at 9:40pm

Jane Light, Secretary
San Jose Library Commission

JL:lin

APPROVED: _____

DATE APPROVED: _____