



Sacramento Public Library Authority

ACTION SUMMARY SACRAMENTO PUBLIC LIBRARY AUTHORITY BOARD

Thursday, February 28, 2013 – 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm
Board of Supervisors Chambers, 700 H Street
Sacramento, California

Please note: The video recording of each Authority Board meeting is the true legal record of its proceedings. This Action Summary is intended to give an overview of items discussed and action taken in regard to those items. Meeting DVDs are available by request for check-out from any Sacramento Public Library branch within two weeks following each meeting.

1.0 Call to Order

In Attendance: Angelique Ashby, Eleanor Brown, Linda Budge, Gary Davis, Roberta MacGlashan, Kevin McCarty, Don Nottoli, Barbara Payne, Bonnie Pannell, Jay Schenirer, Phil Serna, Jeff Slowey and Jimmie Yee. Steve Cohn was unable to attend the meeting.

Board Chair Serna declared a quorum and called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

2.0 Public Comment on Matters Not on the Agenda

Library Director Rivkah K. Sass presented a proclamation honoring Library Authority Counsel Janeth San Pedro, who has resigned to take a position in El Dorado County. San Pedro accepted the proclamation, saying that it has been an honor and a privilege to serve the library.

3.0 Closed Session

3.1 Pursuant to California Government Code Section 54957.6 to discuss matters pertaining to negotiations with recognized employee organization: International Union of Operating Engineers, Stationary Engineers Local 39 AFL-CIO Covering All Employees in the Library Supervisory Unit. The purpose is to confer with Authority's chief negotiators Jeffrey Sloan and Denise M. Davis.

The Board adjourned to closed session at 3:06 p.m.

Chair Serna reconvened the Board with a quorum in open session at 3:43 p.m. An after-closed session roll call was taken with all in attendance except Boardmember Don Nottoli, who arrived shortly thereafter.

There was no report from closed session.

Information

4.0 Director's Report

Ms. Sass referred the Board to her written Director's Report. She reported that the Central Library will be an official passport acceptance office as of March 1, creating a source of revenue from passport fees. She also noted that while library circulation is down overall, library usage continues to rise. She said libraries are preparing for the summer reading program and that funding had been secured from the Packard Foundation and the Elk Grove Unified School District to provide summer lunches for children at the Valley Hi Library.

5.0 Monthly Financial Report – November 2012

- 6.0 Monthly Financial Report – December 2012
- 7.0 Monthly Treasurer’s Report – November 2012
- 8.0 Quarterly Treasurer’s Report – December 2012

The foregoing items were information only, and required no action by the Board.

Consent Items

The following items were approved with a single motion:

- 9.0 Action Summary: January 10, 2013
- 10.0 Contract Telephone Services – Local and Long-Distance
- 11.0 Contract Renewal: Internet Services
- 12.0 Contract Renewal: Unique Management Services, Inc.
- 13.0 Payment Authorization: Envisionware

Board Action: **Slowey/Budge** **Approved (12/0)**

Boardmember Barbara Payne said she would abstain from voting because she was attending her first board meeting.

14.0 Mid-Year Budget Update

Deputy Director Denise Davis gave a power-point presentation on the Mid-Year Budget Update, showing revenue updates, mid-year savings and Capital Projects that include converting the North Highlands/Antelope Library to a one-desk model and refurbishing the Arcade Library computer lab.

Ms. Davis said that the major budget challenges continue to be that the City of Sacramento’s general fund contribution has not fully funded library operations and that special taxes cannot be employed for library operations because they are earmarked for other uses. She said these challenges exist despite cost-cutting measures that have been in place since May 2011, including staffing reductions, furloughs, suspending cost-of-living adjustments and increasing employee contributions to PERS.

Because library costs continue to rise about 10% annually and the gap between revenues and expenditures has been fairly consistent, Davis said service reductions, including branch closures, would have to be considered. Boardmember Nottoli asked what form the closures would take. Davis said some libraries might have to be closed permanently.

When Chair Serna asked if the Library had identified specific branches for closure, Ms. Davis said that eight city libraries have bonds against them, making them ineligible for closure. The remaining four are McClatchy, Del Paso Heights, North Sacramento and Martin Luther King. Chair Serna pointed out that some of those libraries are the only resources in their communities and Ms. Davis agreed. Boardmember Jeff Slowey asked if there was a way to help the city libraries by transferring money from the county to the city. He asked that city and county leaders meet to discuss some sort of cooperation, saying, “I think there are a couple of options before we think about closing.”

Boardmember Angelique Ashby, who serves on the Board’s Budget-Audit Committee, said there might be a way for the county to help the city but she noted that the city owes it to the county to tell them how these funds would be repaid. “We need to chip away at the solutions and not have to close,” Ms. Ashby said. Chair Serna asked that everyone work on solutions to avoid closures and asked for a motion to approve the mid-year budget

Board Action: **Budge/McCarty** **Approved (12/0)**

14.0 Public hearing regarding recommended unilateral implementation of SPLA’s last, best and final offer to the International Union of Operating Engineers, Stationary Engineers, Stationary Engineers Local 39, AFL-CIO, following completion of negotiations.

Ms. Sass opened the discussion by describing the hard conversations and painful processes that have taken place during 12 months of negotiating sessions that have led to the presentation of SPLA’s last, best and final contract offer to the Union of Operating Engineers, Stationary Engineers Local 39, AFL-CIO.

Speaking on behalf of the union, Scherita Adams, business representative for Local 39, said that unit could not absorb a 3% salary reduction. She said the union had made concessions on some positions but SPL had moved very little, even on non-economic positions.

Boardmember Nottoli suggested changing the terms of the offer from 18 furlough days to 12 furlough days and from a 3% salary reduction to 0%. After some discussion of Mr. Nottoli’s suggestion, Boardmember Schenirer asked Ms. Adams to return to the podium for further questions. Noting that he was concerned about the amount of time the negotiations had taken, Mr. Schenirer asked Ms. Adams if the union would be willing to start next year’s negotiations in March of this year. “I don’t want to be here next year at the same place,” Mr. Schenirer said.

Ms. Adams deferred to her supervisor, Joan Bryant, who approached the podium and said that Local 39 could come back to the bargaining table to discuss the library’s current offer with an open mind, noting that she felt the issue could be resolved in an afternoon. Mr. Schenirer asked Ms. Sass if that would be possible and she agreed.

Mr. Schenirer moved to continue action until the next board meeting in order to give the union and the library a chance to come to an agreement. Linda Budge seconded the motion. Chair Serna requested a roll call vote, which went as follows:

- Eleanor Brown: Yes
- Gary Davis: Yes
- Jay Schenirer: Yes
- Kevin McCarty: Yes
- Jimmie Yee: Yes
- Linda Budge: Yes
- Phil Serna: Yes
- Roberta MacGlashan: No
- Bonnie Pannell : Yes
- Jeff Slowey: No
- Barbara Payne: Yes
- Don Nottoli: Yes
- (Angelique Ashby had left the meeting prior to the vote)

Board Action: **Schenirer/Budge** **Approved (10/2)**

16. Chair's Report

Chair Serna announced that he and other board members would read aloud at Fairytale Town on March 2 in honor of Dr. Seuss's 109th birthday.

17. Reports, Ideas and Questions from Board Members

Ms. Budge thanked Ms. Sass for attending the Rancho Cordova City Council meeting on February 19 and said she was looking forward to having Ms. Sass return to do a demonstration with the library's 3-D printer. Ms. Sass introduced Linda Beymer, who recently began work as the new library's new communications analyst and clerk of the Library Authority Board.

18.0 Adjournment

This meeting of the Sacramento Public Library Authority Board was adjourned at 4:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rivkah K. Sass
Secretary to the Board

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