

Berkeley Public Library
Board of Library Trustees

Special Meeting
April 28, 2004

Minutes
5:38 p.m.

Central Library, 3rd Floor
2090 Kittredge

I. Call to Order

The special meeting of April 28, 2004, was called to order at 5:38 p.m.

Present: Trustees Anderson, Garcia, Kupfer (5:45 p.m.), Powell, Shirek

Absent: None

Also Present: Director of Library Services Jackie Y. Griffin, Building Project Manager Elena Engel, Library Financial Manager Robert Derbin, Admin. Secretary Yvette Gan

II. Public Comments: None

III. Approval of Agenda

R04-37 Moved by Trustee Powell, seconded by Trustee Anderson, to approve the agenda as presented by Trustee Garcia. Motion carried unanimously.

IV. Action/Discussion

1. Budget
2. Discussion and possible decision re: ballot measures for parcel tax and/or branch renovation.

Director Griffin reported on the previous night's City Council meeting. One of the agenda items was the various ballot measures proposed by the City Manager, among which was a draft measure to increase the parcel tax for the Library. The Board needs to decide at its meeting on May 12th what the amount of the increase will be.

In terms of staffing, there are several new managers on the Library's management team. The team will examine how to use staff in the most efficient way possible, given the upcoming layoffs and budget cuts. The latest news regarding the budget is that Public Employees' Retirement System (PERS) retirement benefits may cost even more next year. Benefits (including workers' compensation, health, dental) are now 50% of salaries. There is concern that PERS and workers' compensation costs are rising at a much faster rate than salaries.

A BUSD Board member will recommend to the BUSD Board that they participate in a joint project with the Library to provide librarians in three elementary and one middle school during the hours of 3 - 7 p.m. from Mondays to Fridays. It is possible that the Library's Literacy unit may be a component of that measure.

Trustee Powell noted that only children who could stay after school would be able to use the library, and that the day-time library needs would not be met. She felt that the Board should not approve the joint school/library project measure unless BUSD builds a component in their Berkeley Schools Excellence Project (BSEP) measure specifically for school librarians.

V. Adjourn

R04-38 Moved by Trustee Garcia, seconded by Trustee Powell, to adjourn the meeting at 6:55 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.