

Berkeley Public Library
Board of Library Trustees

Regular Meeting
June 9, 2004

Minutes
7:13 p.m.

Central Library, 3rd Floor
2090 Kittredge Street

I. Call to Order

The regular meeting of May 12, 2004, was called to order at 7:13 p.m.

Present: Trustees Garcia, Kupfer, Powell, Shirek

Absent: Trustee Anderson

Also Present: Director of Library Services Jackie Griffin, Children's Services Manager Linda Perkins, Building Project Manager Elena Engel, Library Financial Manager Robert Derbin, Administrative Secretary Yvette Gan

II. Public Comments

Mr. Fernando Torres from La Pena Cultural Center asked to speak about placing a plaque of Pablo Neruda in the Central Library's plaza.

III. Approval of Agenda

- R04-51 Moved by Trustee Powell, seconded by Trustee Shirek to move Item V.A.7 (Neruda Plaque and Art Policy) for discussion before the Consent Calendar, and that Item V.A.5 (Authorize payment of \$52,116 for Annual Maintenance Services for the Library Automated Circulation System) be moved to the Consent Calendar. Motion carried unanimously.**

IV. Neruda Plaque and Art Policy

Trustee Garcia noted that when artwork was being discussed for the renovated Central Library, the process took about 6 - 9 months and involved the City's Civic Art Commission. He felt that it would be possible to consider places inside the building for artwork, but that this particular piece would not be appropriate for the plaza, for a number of reasons. He raised the idea of an author area where various authors would be honored. Trustee Powell felt that it would not be possible to meet a deadline of July 11th, given the need to work with another City Commission. Director Griffin advised that the Library have an art policy in place before accepting any piece of art for permanent installation.

- R04-52 Moved by Trustee Kupfer, seconded by Trustee Powell, that the Board appoint the Director and the Building Facilities Manager as a committee to work with the Friends of Neruda Collective and the La Pena Cultural Center for a temporary installation in July 2004 in honor of the anniversary of Neruda's birth, and furthermore that these staff work with the Board on developing a set of guidelines for art installation within the library and the grounds. Motion carried unanimously.**

V. Consent Calendar

- R04-53 Moved by Trustee Powell, seconded by Trustee Garcia, to approve the consent calendar. Motion carried unanimously.**
- R04-54 Approved minutes of Regular Meeting – May 12, 2004**

R04-55 Approved minutes of Special Meeting – May 18, 2004, with the following changes:

Under Item IV.A.1 "Discussion re: ballot measures and decision on amount for measures":

- add a sentence after the first paragraph as follows: "He (Kamlarz) recommended a decrease in the amount needed in future years, substituted by a 5% escalation option for the ballot measure."
- For R04-48, line 6: change the word "greatest" to "greater."

R04-56 Accepted retirement of Barbara Alesandrini, Supervising Librarian, North Branch

R04-57 Accepted resignation of T. Danaan Smith, Library Assistant, Children's Services

R04-58 Approved letter of thanks to the Samuelson Clinic on Law, Technology and Public Policy at the University of California at Berkeley for assisting the Library in its RFID project

R04-59 Authorized payment of \$52,116 for Annual Maintenance Services for the Library Automated Circulation System to Innovative Interfaces, Inc. for the period July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005.

VII. Reports for Action/Discussion

1. Update on RFID Project and Authorization for the Budget Sub-committee to approve new financing rate

Building Project Manager Elena Engel reported that the library had been offered a loan rate of 4.29% on \$500,000 which can be held till June 21st at latest. The funds would be used to pay for the Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) project. As the Library Board's next meeting will take place after the June 21st deadline has passed, it was proposed that the Budget sub-committee be authorized to approve the new financing rate once the City Attorney's office has completed their review of the loan documentation.

R04-60 Moved by Trustee Kupfer, seconded by Trustee Powell, to authorize the Budget Sub-committee to approve a new financing rate for the RFID project as needed. Motion carried unanimously.

2. Quarterly Financial Statement as of March 31, 2004

Library Financial Manager Robert Derbin reported on the Quarterly Financial Statement for the 3rd quarter of the fiscal year (FY). Revenues were \$435,000 greater than expenditures and encumbrances. Library Relief Tax revenues of \$7.1 million were collected in this quarter, for a projected total of \$11.3 million for the year. Staff expect that there will be \$100,000 left in reserve by June 30th. However, FY 2005 will see a \$1.2 million shortfall in the budget, which will be met by cuts in staffing, library hours and the budget for library books.

R04-61 Moved by Trustee Powell, seconded by Trustee Kupfer, that the Board recommend to City Council that they increase the library parcel tax by 2.3% according to our previously approved ballot measure for FY 2005. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Projected 5-year Budget with tax increase

Mr. Derbin distributed copies of the 5-year budget to all present. The trustees discussed the updated figures in relation to a possible parcel tax increase for the November 2004 ballot. The current proposal includes a built-in growth factor of 5% per year but it is still pending City Council approval.

4. Frequency of Board of Library Trustee Meetings post-ballot measure decision and restarting staff reports

The trustees agreed to postpone this item to the next regular meeting.

5. Director's Report

- Director Griffin had attended three of the four public meetings held by the City Manager about the City's budget. She gave brief reports on those meetings.
- She also met with Susan Henderson of the Disability Rights Education and Defense Fund and staff from the Ed Roberts campus. They are proposing that the library have a branch at the new campus to be built on the site of the east parking lot of the Ashby BART station. Staff will write a letter of interest to the Ed Roberts campus.

VIII. Reports for Information

1. Building Projects Update

- a. Branches
- b. Central Library
There was no report.

2. BPL Staff News, May 2004

3. BPL Calendar of Events, June 2004

4. Press Releases/Flyers:

- *Summer Reading Program Press Release and Flyers*

5. Newspaper articles:

- *Berkeley Public Library: Crisis and Community (California Libraries, May 2004)*
- *"Oversight Bumps Union Resolution From City Council Agenda (Berkeley Daily Planet, 5/25/04)*
- *Local Librarian Documents London's War (Berkeley Daily Planet, 5/25/04)*
- *City Council Briefs: Fewer Tax Measures On Ballot In November (Berkeley Voice, 5/28/04)*
- *Berkeley Mayor Reacts Coolly To Budget Recommendation (Bay City News, 5/28/04)*
- *Council Negotiates Longs Drugs, Prepares November Ballot Measures (Berkeley Daily Planet, 5/28/04)*
- *Council Delays Decisions On Tax Measures (Daily Californian, 6/3/04)*

IX. Agenda Building

Next Regular Meeting: July 14, 2004, 7 p.m., 1901 Russell Street

X. Adjourn

R04-62 Moved by Trustee Kupfer, seconded by Trustee Powell, to adjourn the meeting at 9:25 p.m.
Motion carried unanimously.