



**Minutes of the
ALAMEDA FREE LIBRARY BOARD MEETING
February 9, 2011**

The regular meeting of the Alameda Free Library Board was called to order at 6:02 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mike Hartigan, President
Suzanne Whyte, Vice President
Catherine Atkin, Board Member
Nancy Lewis, Board Member
Gail Wetzork, Board Member

Absent: None

Staff: Jane Chisaki, Library Director
Marsha Merrick, Recording Secretary

CONSENT CALENDAR

An asterisk indicates items so accepted or approved on the Consent Calendar.

- A. *Report from the Library Director Highlighting Activities for the Month of February 2011. Accepted.
- B. *Draft Minutes of the Regular Library Board Meeting of January 12, 2010. Approved.
- C. *Library Services Report for the Month of December 2010. Accepted.
- D. *Financial Report Reflecting FY10 Expenditures by Fund for January 2010. Accepted.
- E. *Bills for Ratification for the Month of January 2010. Approved.

There were no questions from the Board, so President Hartigan asked for a motion to accept the Consent Calendar as presented. Vice President Whyte so moved; Member Wetzork seconded the motion which carried by a 5-0 vote.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. Neighborhood Library Improvement Project (G. Wetzork)

Director Chisaki showed pictures of the West End Branch with the trees removed. Chisaki told of the landscaping work stoppage initiated by Public Works the previous Friday; all was settled and back in motion by the following Monday, and work should be completed in two weeks. Member Wetzork had seen the Bay Farm Branch with its improvements and was very impressed, especially with the new signage in front. The Grand Re-Opening is scheduled for Tuesday, March 8 at 2:00.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Update on Status of State Budget Reductions for Public Libraries (J. Chisaki)

The State budget is stalled right now; however, they seem to understand that Literacy programs are important, so feelings are more positive. Still, if the TBR is cut that would be a huge loss, and Assembly Member Swanson received more than 100 letters in support of library funding. A legislative update had arrived, and Director Chisaki passed around copies for the Board. The PLF will probably take the biggest hit, and this is the unrestricted money libraries can use as they see fit. The State Librarian will be talking in San Francisco on Friday, and Chisaki will attend. There will be a budget discussion at the February 15 City Council Meeting.

B. Alameda Free Library Foundation (J. Chisaki)

The Foundation did not meet due to a lack of quorum. They are, however, moving forward with the Children's Concert that is being sponsored by Wells Fargo Bank. The San Francisco Opera Guild will perform an abridged version of *The Magic Flute* on Saturday, February 26.

C. Friends of the Alameda Free Library (K. Minney)

The Friends okayed the new budget, although there are some questions on carry forward. Support for the art shows is still there and everything is status quo right now. They are still looking for some new blood for the book sales; the next sale will be held May 6, 7 and 8. There will also be some new people in the officer's positions.

D. Patron Suggestions/Comments (Speak-Outs) and Library Director's Response

There are no travel guides for Texas. The Lonely Planet is putting out a new guidebook on Texas and it is already on order.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS, NON-AGENDA (Public Comment)

There were no comments.

LIBRARY BOARD COMMUNICATIONS

Member Wetzork asked if there was any information on the upcoming Legislative Day meetings in Sacramento. Director Chisaki will get more information and register them to attend. If other Board members are interested, they should let Chisaki know.

DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS

The new Seed and Gardening Tool Lending Library will launch on March 1. Librarian Joel Butler is the point person for the Green Thumbs, Green Minds program, and has already visited with other seed lending libraries. Butler will do a PowerPoint presentation on the program to Council at an upcoming meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Vice President Whyte adjourned the meeting at 6:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Chisaki, Library Director and
Secretary to the Alameda Free Library Board