



**Minutes of the
ALAMEDA FREE LIBRARY BOARD
APRIL 12, 2006**

The regular meeting of the Alameda Free Library Board was called to order at 7:02 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present:	Leslie Krongold, President Karen Butter, Board Member Alan Mitchell, Board Member Mark Schoenrock, Board Member
Absent:	Ruth Belikove, Vice President
Staff:	Jane Chisaki, Acting Library Director Marsha Merrick, Recording Secretary

CONSENT CALENDAR

An asterisk indicates items so enacted and adopted on the Consent Calendar.

- A. *Report from Library Director highlighting Library Department activities for the month of April 2006. Accepted.
- B. *Draft Minutes of the Regular Library Board meeting of March 8, 2006. Approved.
- C. *Library Services Report for the month of February 2006. Accepted.
- D. *Report from Finance Department reflecting FY 2005-06 Library expenditures (by fund) through March 2006. Accepted.
- E. *Bills for ratification. Approved.

While reviewing Item C. Library Services Report for the month of February 2006, Member Schoenrock made mention of the declining check-out numbers. Speculation was made that this might be attributed to the continuing wet weather, as well as the fact that the Internet is being used more by patrons for reference activities.

Board Member Mitchell moved to approve the Consent Calendar as presented. Board Member Butter seconded the motion which carried by a 4-0 unanimous vote.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Materials Security and Inventory System. (J. Chisaki)

Acting Library Director Chisaki updated the group on the progress being made on this project. Everything to date is going very well; the branches have started their book tagging on closed days and have already completed several collections. Media tags are on the way and will be the next step in the process.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Consider Resolution of Support for Proposition 81 (J. Chisaki)

Acting Director Chisaki presented a draft resolution in support of Proposition 81, the California Reading and Literacy Improvement and Public Library Construction and Renovation Bond Act of 2006. This proposition would allow the state to provide grants to local governments to construct new libraries and expand or renovate existing libraries, much like Proposition 14 which was approved by voters in 2000, that helped build the new Alameda Free Library.

After reviewing the resolution, a few minor language changes were suggested. One point was deleted which referred to fiscal impact, at this time unknown, and another point was added which referred to hopes that a new branch library will be built at the ever-growing Alameda Point.

Board President Krongold read through the resolution as revised, and a vote was taken to bring the resolution to the City Council for their support. Member Schoenrock moved to accept the resolution as revised, Member Mitchell seconded and the motion carried by a 4-0 vote.

B. Request to be closed April 16 in observance of Easter (J. Chisaki)

Acting Director Chisaki explained that Easter Sunday is not an observed City holiday because most City offices are closed. If need be, the Library could be open and staffed primarily by part-time employees. The Board asked whether other City and County libraries would be closed, and Chisaki stated that neighboring libraries were closed on Sunday. Board Member Butter indicated that the library at UCSF was to be open and thought it unusual that these other libraries would be closed.

After a bit of discussion, Member Mitchell moved to approve the closure, Member Butter seconded and the motion carried by a 4-0 vote.

C. Library Legislative Day in Sacramento on April 26 (J. Chisaki)

Acting Director Chisaki asked the Board if anyone would be interested in attending Library Legislative Day with her, as it provides an excellent opportunity to lobby representatives for support of Proposition 81. President Krongold and Board Members Butter and Schoenrock declined the invitation, while Member Mitchell expressed his interest. Director Chisaki stated that Vice President Belikove would also like to attend, and reservations will be made accordingly.

D. Alameda Free Library Foundation (A. Mitchell)

The Foundation has selected a new letterhead and logo. The letterhead has been ordered and address labels for the mass fundraising mailing are being prepared. The Fundraising Gala Committee had not met again so there is no new information.

Board Member Butter inquired about the status of the Naming Policy and the donations which have been received by the Foundation. Board Member Mitchell had no information to provide. Acting Director Chisaki offered to invite members of the Library Foundation to a future Library Board meeting to discuss the Naming Policy and donations with the Library Board.

E. Friends of the Alameda Free Library (M. Skeen)

Friends President Skeen was unable to attend the meeting, but had passed on a few notes to Acting Director Chisaki. The Grand Opening Planning Committee met once and will be meeting next on April 24. The Café Planning Committee had also met once. The Friends will be forming a Membership Committee to develop a plan to increase their membership. The next book sale will be held on May 5th, 6th and 7th at the O'Club on Alameda Point.

F. Library Building Watch (L. Krongold)

Board President Krongold stated that she had done some training with Recording Secretary Merrick, and turned over the newsletter to her. Secretary Merrick expressed her anticipation in getting to work on this project and conveyed her hope that an issue would be forthcoming prior to the next Board meeting in May.

G. Patron suggestions/comments (Speak-Outs) and Library Director's response.

Acting Director Chisaki read through the suggestions, which consisted mainly of requests for specific books/CDs/DVDs. One speak-out contained some very nice comments on the assistance a patron had received from Library staff members.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS, NON-AGENDA (Public Comment)

None.

LIBRARY BOARD COMMUNICATIONS

Board Member Mitchell commented on a few of the articles contained in the Library Hotline.

DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS

Acting Director Chisaki announced that bid responses for the new Library furniture packages were due in the following week, and RFP's for IT equipment are out for prospective bidders as well.

Chisaki then spoke about the PEO (Philanthropic Education Organization) luncheon she attended as a guest speaker.

ADJOURNMENT

Board President Krongold called for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:37 p.m. Board Member Mitchell so moved, Board Member Butter seconded the motion, and it was carried by a 4-0 unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Chisaki
Acting Library Director and
Secretary to the Library Board