MEETING OF THE LIBRARY COMMISSION
MINUTES
Thursday, September 23, 2010

1. CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER
Commission Chair Chris Tang (Concord) called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. COMMISSION BOOKSHELF
Commissioners provided suggestions for current reading:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Author</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Witch Doctor's Wife</td>
<td>Tamar Myers</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Help</td>
<td>Kathryn Stockett</td>
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<td>Hijack</td>
<td>Dave Hirschman</td>
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<td>When Hollywood Had a King</td>
<td>Connie Bruck</td>
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<td>Daughter of the Gilded Age</td>
<td>Laura Claridge</td>
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<td>The Jew With the Iron Cross</td>
<td>Georg Rauch</td>
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<td>Ten Green Bottles</td>
<td>Vivian Kaplan</td>
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<td>China megatrends</td>
<td>John and Doris Naisbitt</td>
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<td>Cutting for Stone</td>
<td>Abraham Vergese</td>
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Newspaper and Magazine reviews
How to choose your wife or husband on basis the books you read
110 magazine (features Commissioner Rueshlig) (attachment to the minutes)

3. ROLL CALL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LASTNAME</th>
<th>FIRSTNAME</th>
<th>TITLE</th>
<th>REPRESENTING</th>
<th>IN ATTENDANCE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Atkinson</td>
<td>Joyce</td>
<td>Library Commissioner</td>
<td>City of Clayton</td>
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<td>Bailey</td>
<td>Ruth</td>
<td>Library Commissioner</td>
<td>City of Lafayette, Alternate</td>
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<td>Bonham</td>
<td>Ben</td>
<td>Library Commissioner</td>
<td>City of Orinda (Alternate)</td>
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<td>Boyd</td>
<td>Jeanne</td>
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<td>City of Clayton (Alternate)</td>
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<td>Bracken</td>
<td>Katherine</td>
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<td>City of Pleasant Hill</td>
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<td>Brown</td>
<td>Carol</td>
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<td>City of Orinda</td>
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<td>Enholm</td>
<td>Greg</td>
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<td>Fuller</td>
<td>Kathy</td>
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<td>City of Martinez</td>
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<td>Hoisington</td>
<td>Mary Ann</td>
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<td>Kirby</td>
<td>Steven</td>
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<td>City of Hercules</td>
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<td>Bud</td>
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<td>Sherry</td>
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<td>Marshburn</td>
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<td>Office of Education (Alternate)</td>
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<td>McEwan</td>
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<td>Meisch</td>
<td>Lynn A.</td>
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<td>O'Rourke</td>
<td>Charlene</td>
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<td>Ovick</td>
<td>Joe</td>
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<td>Panas</td>
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<td>Peck</td>
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<td>Poulos</td>
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<td>Prater</td>
<td>Penny</td>
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<td>Bob</td>
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<td>Reed</td>
<td>Charles</td>
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<td>Friends Council</td>
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<td>Riese</td>
<td>Diane</td>
<td>Library Commissioner</td>
<td>District 3</td>
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<td>Rueshlig</td>
<td>Walter</td>
<td>Library Commissioner</td>
<td>City of Antioch</td>
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3. ROLL CALL

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<tr>
<th>Last Name</th>
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<th>Present</th>
<th>Absent</th>
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<tr>
<td>Shoop</td>
<td>Ron</td>
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<tr>
<td>Singh</td>
<td>Sukhdev</td>
<td>Library Commissioner</td>
<td>District V (Alternate)</td>
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<td>Smith</td>
<td>Alan B.</td>
<td>Library Commissioner</td>
<td>CCC District 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stephenson</td>
<td>Frances</td>
<td>Library Commissioner</td>
<td>Town of Danville</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tang</td>
<td>Chris</td>
<td>Library Commissioner</td>
<td>City of Concord</td>
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<td>Thong</td>
<td>Ping</td>
<td>Library Commissioner</td>
<td>City of Concord (Alternate)</td>
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<td>Tumin</td>
<td>Cindy</td>
<td>Library Commissioner</td>
<td>City of Oakley</td>
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<td>Wetter</td>
<td>Ron</td>
<td>Library Commissioner</td>
<td>Contra Costa Council</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wittenbrock</td>
<td>Sandra</td>
<td>Library Commissioner</td>
<td>City of San Pablo</td>
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Total Commission positions: 28
Commission positions filled: 25
Commission positions vacant: 3
Commission quorum: 15

With 25 Library Commissioners present, a quorum was established.

VOTING:
According to the By-Laws of the Library Commission, in order for a vote to pass, a majority of the city representatives and a majority of the County representatives must approve it. Upon reauthorization of the Library Commission, the five special appointees to the Library Commission draw lots to determine whether their votes count with the cities or the County. Through June 2011 the special appointees will be counted as follows:

Three representatives votes count with the County:
- Friends Council
- Contra Costa Council
- Youth Council (Sunset May 25, 2010)

Two representatives votes count with the cities:
- Central Labor Council
- Superintendent of Schools

4. INTRODUCTIONS
New Library Commissioners introduced: Dr. Shirley Peck, (Brentwood) and Ruth Bailey (Lafayette Alternate)

Visitors included: David Kruegel, Moraga Friends; Chauncey Lindquist, Concord resident; Susan Lynn, Library Reading and Literacy Manager; Beth Killian, Administrative Services Officer: Human Resources; Kathy Middleton, Dougherty Station and San Ramon Community Library Manager; Janet Hildebrand, Deputy County Librarian: Public Services; Cathy Sanford, Deputy County Librarian: Support Services; Corinne Kelly, Library Executive Secretary: Anne Cain, County Librarian.

5. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC
None.

6. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES
Commissioner Smith (District 4) corrected page 3, paragraph 3 from Danville to Dublin.

Commissioners approved the minutes from the July 22, 2010 meeting with Commissioner Smith's correction.

7. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
Commissioners approved the agenda.

8. ITEMS OF INTEREST TO THE COMMISSION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
   (attachment to the minutes)

Kathy Fuller (Martinez) announced that the Martinez Library is in a temporary location (Train Depot) for 8 - 10 months while the Martinez Library is under renovation.
Commissioner Smith (District IV) said that he conducted CALTAC training at Alpine County. He shared the Alpine County Regional Cookbook that is being sold to benefit the Alpine County Library. Smith will be conducting training in Butte County. The City of Hayward will celebrate the 25th anniversary of the library’s literacy program and he plans to attend that event. He shared information from the Future of Libraries workshop, pointing out “free is good” and he shared thoughts about reshaping libraries (attachment to the minutes). He shared information that the Mountain View Library uses a twin-box that can-access words, such as “library” when placed in Twitter, and reply. Smith added that this is the time to get involved in city council races and get candidates to put in writing that they will continue to support the library.

Commissioner Meisch (Walnut Creek) said that there were about 8,500 people at the Walnut Creek Library’s grand opening on July 17 and 2,500 new library cards were issued during the first week after opening. The Walnut Creek Library is booming, with the children and young adult sections being drained of books. There were initially 2900 visitors a day, which has settled to 2,200 visitors a day. Walnut Creek’s Measure Q supported additional open hours, beyond the County’s funding of 35 hours, to make it possible to open 56 hours. Measure Q expired in July and the City had set aside enough funds to maintain the hours for one year. She shared photos from the grand opening—July 22 Library Commission meeting that was held at the Walnut Creek Library.

Commissioner Ruehlig (Antioch) said that the Deer Valley High School Library’s Keller Canyon grant has made it possible to have extended hours. There is a partnership with the County Library for providing materials to the students. The school has increased library attendance from 100 to 200 daily in one year. On November 13, the Gateway Learning Center will be dedicated at Antioch’s Prewett Park. The International Day of Peace was celebrated on September 18 bringing fifteen different church groups from the major world religions coming together with religious books as the central theme. Ruehlig also participated in an awards ceremony on September 18 honoring local first responders.

Commissioner Poulos (El Cerrito) said that the Friends had their annual book sale on September 18. Commissioner Magann (Pinole) said that the Pinole Friends book sale will be held on October 9.

Commissioner Atkinson (Clayton) said that the Clayton Friends’ book sale will be on October 15 – 17 and that they have two book sales annually.

Commissioner McEwan (Moraga) said that the Friends’ recent annual book sale raised $3,200. She is interested in learning of places that would take, or ideas what to do with books remaining after book sales. Commissioners commented that many groups have leftover books.

Commissioner Bailey (Lafayette Alternate) said that Jon Carroll spoke at a Lafayette Library and Learning Center event.

Commissioner Hoisington (Lafayette) said that she shared with the Lafayette Historical Society a copy of the recent CALTACTICS article about the Orange County Library working on the historical collections.

Commissioner Stephenson (Danville) said that the Danville Friends’ Book Shop received an offer of 13,000 donated books and other friends groups are welcome to accept this free offer. She will provide the contact information for those interested in receiving books for Friends groups.

9. CORRESPONDENCE
There was no additional correspondence.

Commissioner Hoisington (Lafayette) said that Cathy Sanford, Deputy County Librarian: Support Services, should be commended for her responses to the correspondences in the packet.
10. REPORT FROM COUNTY LIBRARIAN
Anne Cain, County Librarian, highlighted the letter that was sent to the Library Friends' groups, at the suggestion of Commissioner Shoop (Richmond), about the poetry book that was created by youth in Juvenile Hall and Orin Allen Youth Rehabilitation Facility. Many Friends' groups have responded. Money raised from the sale of the poetry books will be used to purchase books for the libraries located at the Hall and OAYRF.

The Commission By-laws will be sent to County Counsel and then the Board of Supervisors for consideration near the end of October.

The County has had a hiring freeze for the past two years, which is still in place. The Library has 45 vacant positions and received an exemption to fill 16 vacancies. Geographical areas and specific community library needs were reviewed prior to determining which vacancies to fill.

11. OLD BUSINESS
None

12. NEW BUSINESS
FUNDAMENTALS OF BROWN ACT & BETTER GOVERNMENT ORDINANCE
Deputy County Counsel Mary Ann Mason invited Commissioners to attend the Brown Act and Better Government Ordinance Training on December 14, from 4:30pm – 6pm at the Board of Supervisors’ Chamber in Martinez.

Mason's presentation on the Brown Act & Better Government Ordinance reviewed responsibilities and requirements of advisory bodies. All subcommittees and ad-hoc committees of the advisory body are subject to the same laws.

Open meeting laws. An advisory body must:
1. Publicly post the meeting agenda at least 96 hours in advance of the meeting. The posted notice must be visible 24 hours a day. Many bodies post agendas on the Internet, but by itself that does not meet the requirement.
2. The meeting facility must be open and accessible to the public. It can not be held in a place that requires payment to access or requires people to sign in to enter the building.
3. Any member of the public must have an opportunity to comment on anything. Public comments can be time restricted but the time restriction must be very clear up front so the public knows what to expect. The public must also have an opportunity to make a comment on an agenda item, this can occur during that item’s discussion or at the same time as public comment on anything not on the agenda.
4. Visitors are not required to sign-in or be identified, even if they speak during the meeting. However, speaker cards may be provided.
5. Agenda items cannot be added after the agenda is posted. This provides the public an opportunity to comment on items that the advisory body discusses. In the case of emergency (work-stoppage, public health epidemic, earthquake, fire) exceptions may be made; exceptions are rare. The advisory body would first have to make two findings, first, there is a need to take immediate action and, second, the need came to the attention after the agenda was posted, (example: in order to receive a grant there needs to be a resolution - demonstrates a need for immediate action, or money would be lost).

Commissioner Enholm (District V) questioned when the laws apply and requested a definition of a meeting.

Mason defined a meeting as any face to face gathering of a majority of commissioners. This includes standing in a parking lot. She said to be wary of discussing commission business at an event that the
majority of Commissioner are attending. This also applies to a majority of an ad-hoc committee. These are examples for possibly engaging in unlawful behavior. Commissioners also need to be careful of violation by conducting serial meetings. Mason gave examples of serial meetings and explained that an e-mail could lead to a chain discussion, which could be a serial meeting.

The rules for serial meetings were amended in 2009. The meeting/discussion does not have to involve consensus building; even informational discussion would be considered a meeting.

Enholm requested that Mason cover the penalties.

Mason explained that a violation is not the basis for a misdemeanor. A member of the public would need to write to the Commission, then a period of time would need to elapse for the situation to be rectified, such as placing the topic on the agenda, allowing time for public notice and public comment. She added that a public official does not want to be in violation. Violations do not reflect well on a commission or its members.

Commissioner Shoop (Richmond) recently watched the taped recordings on the Brown Act and Better Government Ordinance and found them very informative and useful. They are available on the Library Commission's Website at: http://guides.cclib.org/commission under tab “about” and column titled “video viewing requirements”. These recordings answer many questions, and take three hours to view. Viewing these tapes is a requirement of all members of a Board advisory member.

Commissioner Reed (Friends) questioned if Friends of the Library members are required to adhere to the Brown Act & Better Government Ordinance.

Mason said that there are typically three groups that are subject to the Brown Act; Legislative bodies, groups created by statute, or groups created by legal action. Friends groups are not subject to the acts.

Enholm clarified that public comment on an item is allowed before an advisory body can take action.

Mason explained that it is necessary for the body to ask for public comment. This opportunity could be prior to moving forward through the agenda, or directly before or after the item is discussed. The chair can also recognize someone who may be raising their hand requesting to comment. There are a variety of approaches an advisory body can take to hear public comment and the determination is up to the chair’s discretion. A good chair should be able to tell if a member from the public wants to comment and should provide that opportunity. Mason suggested placing an agenda item of public comment on anything, and then public comment on items on the agenda.

ACCESSIBILITY PRESENTATION
San Ramon & Dougherty Station's Senior Community Library Manager Kathy Middleton and Library Reading and Literacy Manager Susan Lynn, members of the Library’s Accessibility Committee provided an update on library outreach and services to people with accessibility needs. (attachment to the minutes)

The Library created an Accessibility Committee consisting of 12 Library staff from a variety of areas of expertise. Statistics show that 17% of people over the age of 5 have a disability and over 50% of people over the age of 65 have a disability.

The Committee’s goal is to eliminate any physical or attitude barriers to accessibility. Improved accessibility for people with disabilities means improved access for all. Physical access is important, but not the only goal. They looked at outreach, website accessibility, programming, and assistive technology.

The Committee’s objectives include:
Examine the Library's current collections, policies and services for people with disabilities
- Current services and collections were reviewed
- Library managers were surveyed about facility accessibility features, programs, and to identify focus group members.
- Focus groups were held with community members and experts that work in areas relating to accessibility.
- Commissioner Smith (District IV) was thanked for his assistance.
- Joined Bay Area Disability Services Librarians (BADSL) network to share ideas through monthly meetings and a listserv.

Recommend changes to Library collections, policies, and services for people with disabilities.
- Reviewed web pages of libraries across the country.
- Attended technology demonstrations.
- Learned how to train staff in working with patrons with accessibility needs and suggest additional training for staff serving people with disabilities.
- Relocated material for easier access.

A low-tech kit was created and is available at each library and includes:
A 20/20 pen for clearer contrast in writing for visual tracking; a handheld 3X magnifier; a signature guide for filling out and signing forms. The libraries also have a large print keyboard, 22-inch screen and a mouse with a trackball available. Four accessible computers with zoom text and portable talkers were purchased and placed in libraries that are on a bus route. Pictograms that visually identify collections were purchased with a grant for the San Ramon Library. The Lafayette Library and Learning Center has a growing collection for children with disabilities and their siblings.

An accessibility website guide was created: http://guides.ccclib.org/accessibility.

The Library has a StaffNet for internal communication. A weekly Monday Update is sent to Library staff and includes tips for providing services to people with disabilities.

The Library received funds from a Eureka Leadership grant to develop programs for people with disabilities. Surveys determined that people with disabilities are not as concerned with computer software and hardware as they are with the attitude and willingness of Library staff to help them. One of the Committee's tasks is to develop a library services for disabilities policy, which is currently in draft form.

The Library plans to continue placing assistive technology in libraries, improving website access, and extending services in this area.

Commissioner Wetter (Contra Costa Council) questioned if the Library can measure results of increase use of the improved access for disabilities programs, websites, material, and services.

The Library can measure hits to the accessibility Website, but there is not a way to compare these new services. The Accessibility Committee developed out of the demand, specifically spurred by low vision accessibility requests.

RICHMOND COMMISSIONER’S ROLE ON COUNTY LIBRARY COMMISSION
Commissioner Shoop (Richmond) said that adding another voice in the choir is probably a good thing. He asked for additional input that he could take back to the Richmond Library Commission about the role that a Richmond City Library representative has on the County Library Commission since the Richmond Library is not a part of the County Library.

Commissioner Enholm (District V) said that this discussion about another entities' role on the County Library Commission would be similar to his discovery of an interest in proposing inclusion of a
representative from the Contra Costa Community College libraries in the County Library Commission. The College libraries appear to be the second largest library in the County. Enholm said that he took advantage of public comment and made a proposal to the College district, resulting in a unanimous vote, a letter to Supervisor Gioia (District 1) from the Chancellor of the College, requesting inclusion. If the proposal is approved by the Board of Supervisors, then the Mayors' Conference will consider it. Enholm said that he sees this as a positive partnership.

Commissioner Smith (District IV) said that Richmond's participating in the County Library Commission is another way to exchange information, which everyone benefits from.

Commissioner Peck (Brentwood) agreed that information sharing is a benefit.

Commissioner Hoisington (Lafayette) asked why Richmond has not previously had an appointee on the Library Commission.

County Librarian Cain explained that the Commission was created in 1991. The Commission is made up of one appointed representative from each city, including Richmond, and an alternate (if desired) and an appointee from five special interest areas. (Friends Council, Superintendent of Schools, Contra Costa Council, Central Labor Council and Youth Council [recently sunset].) The City of Richmond never appointed a Commissioner until Shoop's appointment.

Shoop agrees that all entities have a common denominator in the County and serve many of the same people. He expressed interest in future collaboration on projects.

Cain agreed and said that Juvenile Hall is a good example of partnership with the City of Richmond. The County Library's literacy program (PSC) also works with the Richmond Library Literacy Program to ensure effective literacy services countywide. Also, students in the West Contra Costa School District are served by both Richmond and Contra Costa County libraries.

Shoop said that the Richmond Library Foundation is developing a strategy for expansion and growth and to raise money to purchase a bookmobile. He explained that Richmond City Library consists of three library facilities and a well used bookmobile.

Commissioner Enholm (District V) said that he has been on the Commission for six years and suggested looking at the Commission as a Countywide Library Commission instead of focusing just on the County Library. He also suggested offering organized tours of the libraries in the County as has been done in the past.

Commissioner McEwan (Moraga) asked if the County Library Commission could be provided with facts and figures from the Richmond City Library since there has never been a commissioner appointed.

Shoop said that he will provide that information. He also added circulation and attendance is at an all time high and that three vacant positions have recently been filled.

**CONSIDER COMMISSIONER ENHOLM'S RECOMMENDATION THAT THE LIBRARY HELP COUNTY ELECTION'S DEPARTMENT INFORM VOTERS**

Commissioner Enholm (District V) requested that the Commission explore avenues of providing voter information to the public.

Commissioner Reed (Friends) distributed his thoughts in writing. *(attachment to the minutes)*

Enholm added that he had hoped that a report would have been prepared for Commissioners to take
action on. He added that he is not sure that Commissioner Reed's handout is taking into consideration what Enholm is proposing. He said that his thought is that groups would be invited to talk to a small group of Commissioners. These meetings with invited groups would not be in open forum, it would only be for organizations to make their presentation. Enholm said that he is surprised by the many voters that are not aware of SmartVoter.org, and that he learned a lot from it. He added that Reed's handout assumes the meeting with organizations would be an open process, and in fact Enholm thought that it would be a closed process.

Commissioner Hoisington (Lafayette) asked if Enholm could explain how the Library Commission could help.

Enholm (District V) said that at the July 22 meeting, Ms. Coates, who spoke during public comment, was enthusiastic and wanted to speak on the proposal that Enholm presented at the close of the meeting. She expressed to Enholm that the library would be able to inform the public on using SmartVoter.org considering the extensive amounts of public computers. He believes that Coates was interested in having a forum with 5-10 Commissioners participating in working with groups who specialize in voting. He added that he is unaware of library activities about voting beyond providing information and that organizations may make suggestions of additional ways that the Library could support the voting process.

Commissioners agreed to table this item, since the next election will be over before the Commission meets again.

2010 ANNUAL REPORT AND 2011 WORK PLAN PLANNING WORKSHEET
The Library Commission is required to submit an annual report and work plan to the Board of Supervisors. Commissioners will complete the worksheet that was included in their agenda packets and return them to Executive Secretary Kelly. The draft 2010 Annual Report and 2011 Work Plan will be available for Commissioner's consideration at the November 18, 2010 meeting.

Commission Chair, Tang (Concord) encouraged Commissioners that have not participated in the annual report to contact Secretary Kelly with their questions. Items to note in the report could be something that was accomplished by the Commission or as individual Commissioners.

NOMINATIONS FOR 2011 LIBRARY COMMISSION OFFICERS
Commissioner Smith (District IV) nominated Commissioner Brown (Orinda) for Chair and Commissioner Atkinson (Clayton) for Vice-chair.

Commissioner Ruehlig (Antioch) nominated Commissioner Enholm (District V) for Chair.

Commissioners can submit additional nominations to Corinne Kelly, Executive Secretary, at Library Administration, 1750 Oak Park Blvd. Pleasant Hill, CA 94523 or by e-mail to ckelley@ccclib.org. Officers for 2011 will be selected at the November 18, 2011 meeting.

13. AGENDA SETTING FOR NEXT MEETING and FUTURE TOPICS
Commissioner Shoop (Richmond) proposed discussing centralizing publication of material created by Library entities in the County and will provide more specifics for the agenda.

Additional future agenda items:
- Consider Commission Annual Report and Work Plan (November 18)
- Election of Commission Officers (November 18)
- Chair of the Board of Supervisors, John Glola; District III Supervisor Mary Piepho; and District V Supervisor; Federal Glover have been invited to attend a future meeting
- Library A-Go-Go review and update
- Information on special library collections (such as Walnut Creek's Russian collection and San Ramon's jazz collection)

14. **ADJOURNMENT to the November 18, 2010 LIBRARY COMMISSION MEETING**
The September 23, 2010 Library Commission Meeting concluded at 9:00 p.m.

Commissioners adjourned to the November 18, 2010 Library Commission Meeting, which will be held at Library Administration, 75 Santa Barbara, Pleasant Hill, CA 94523.

Submitted by Corinne Kelly
Executive Secretary
Contra Costa County Library
Reshape Libraries

Focus energy on promoting reading and lifelong learning; not necessarily access to collections

Improve our standing as information curators

Remain Technologically Nimble

Promote the library as a community space

Become facilitators for Civic Engagement at Local, State and Federal levels
You're Reading That Book Too? Marry Me

BY HANNAH SELIGSON

In Woody Allen's 1974 short story, "The Scent of Memoirs," Word, Babcock uses an Internet dating service meant to match a college student who, like the author, has a passing interest in film to someone who shares the same passion. Babcock, a New Yorker who now lives in Los Angeles, has never married. He says: "I'm not sure what I want to do with my life, but I know that when I'm married, I want to be married." Babcock says.

But thanks to a growing number of sites and apps that match people based on literary taste, Babcock's problem may become an anachronism. It used to be that the classified section of The New York Review of Books was the only place for literary types to meet each other. Not anymore.

Take Illumination.com, a free dating site that matches singles based on books and films and has amassed 4,000 users, mostly in their 20s and early 30s, since it launched in July. The site facilitates matchmaking by using没人 when someone adds a book of the same title or genre.

Matt Masina, who is 36, and Matt Sherman, who's 41, hatched the idea for the site after Mr. Sherman broke up with his girlfriend. Mr. Masina asked him what he was looking for in a prospective date. His answer? "A girl who has read The Black Swan."

When you're dating, there is always a fear of finding the first time and either smile to yourself or run for the door. "Our site is trying to mimic that experience online," says Mr. Masina.

Does it work? Yes, a recent survey of its members found 57% of Babcock users said it was true to them that someone likes the same books they do. The survey also found that books are the number one criterion for choosing a partner, with 75% of users looking for someone who shares a similar taste in literature.

Trends in online matchmaking

Mr. Masina, however, who came to the site because he couldn't find people to date in his day job, the fishing industry, in Pakistan and Afghanistan, says: "I'm not set up on it flying. The book thing is probably the only thing we had in common ever."

Other dating sites, like Zoosk, have reported it has 50 million users worldwide and is also trying to move away from the old-fashioned matching model, on sites which talk about personality matching but often lead to choosing a partner based on looks instead of shared interests. Zoosk will start matching people based on taste in books, music, and movies.

In a recent survey of its members, 57% of Zoosk users said it was true to them that someone likes the same books they do. The survey also found that books are the number one criterion for choosing a partner, with 75% of users looking for someone who shares a similar taste in literature.

"Are books really a good test for compatibility?" Dennis Palumbo, a psychotherapist and author of the novel "Mirror Image," believes people in their 20s and 30s are too concerned with shared interests, as evidenced by the growing number of niche dating sites.

As we get older, we want a kind, caring person who cares how we feel," Mr. Palumbo says. "Not necessarily someone who has read. The Cornish Trilogy."

Still, even though Mr. Palumbo thinks there is a "downside to micro-targeting," in dating, he's sympathetic to people looking for someone who is "important" when it comes to things literary.

"I've had patients say to me, 'What am I going to do if he doesn't read?'" Mr. Palumbo says. "It's a big concern."

Mr. Seligson is the author of "A Little Bit Married: How to Know When It's Time to Walk Down the Aisle or Out the Door." (De Capo)
RECTIONS TO GREG ENHOLM’S PROPOSAL

1. Our personal backgrounds strongly affect our responses: In my case, I have had the privilege of living and working in four continents, under governments run by dictators, by Communists, or in democracies. The predominant religions have varied: Islam, Buddhist, Christian. In some places I’ve lived in peace; in others war or revolution. Some had real elections, others fake ones. As one result of these experiences, I feel keenly the need for balanced and accurate news and opinion. Even in the US, it is difficult to find a single newspaper that is completely fair and balanced; overseas it is nearly impossible. So, I can sympathize with Mr. Enholm’s desire to have a public, an electorate, that is more informed. It seems we differ on the method, or on the role of our public libraries in achieving this.

2. The proposal of Mr. Enholm may not be appropriate for us: Mr. Enholm proposes that we invite groups to come to public forums here and in the libraries. I remember attending one forum in a city in this county that went on for four hours with a thousand people present. There should be such meetings, but I am not certain that it is the best use of the library. How does “Informing voters,” or trying to increase the number of voters, fit into our purposes and goals as spelled out in our by-laws or in our instructions from the Supervisors? Greg quotes Article III: Purpose in the Library Commission By-Laws “The Commission is created for the following purposes: ... C. To establish a forum for the community to express its views regarding the goals and operations of the County Library.” I believe that we are, in fact, that very forum.

3. The political issues are extensive:
   These few just scratch the surface, but demonstrate the extent and depth to which we could go:

   Economics
   Immigration
   Military strength
   Food and poverty
   Unemployment
   Entitlement
   Border protection
   Outsourcing production

   Freedom
   Economic theory and practice
   Science versus hypotheses
   The Tea Party movement
   Global Warming
   Health care
   Euro vs American style gov’t
   North American Union
   United Nations
   Voter Fraud
   Taxation
   Cap & Trade
   Employment.
4. **What are our Commission’s purposes?** We probably need to ask ourselves questions like these: What is our leadership role in political matters? Is it our place to “inform?” Is it to “make materials available” in all libraries of the County? Is it to see that materials representing opinions and facts on every social and political issue are available? Is it to see that they are organized and presented in such a way as to make all points of view apparent and documented?

5. **What materials do we need to have?** *(Note: The information sheets (on political information in our libraries) in today’s agenda are very helpful.)* What do we, or should we, have in our libraries that cover all points of view on each issue? Is there balance? How can we publicize the materials available dealing with those issues? **Can we find ways to present these materials so that a viewer can readily see differences and similarities, pros and cons?**

Take books, for example: Should we publicize deliberately paired materials? Examples:

- President Obama’s biographies alongside David Limbaugh’s current best seller
- Saul Alinsky’s texts alongside Mark Levin’s “Tyranny and Liberty”
- Al Gore’s “An Inconvenient Truth” alongside Brian Sussman’s “Climategate”

Take newspapers: Can we readily find newspapers in all our libraries that present both sides of issues? If not, should we see that opposing newspapers are available?

- Washington Post and Washington Times?
- New York Times and New York Post?
- Wall Street Journal and International Business Daily?

6. **Is political balance one of our major goals?** In keeping with some of our discussions over the past year, we are not an agency for book burning, banning, or censorship. Let me suggest a goal, not an unusual one but one that we need to hold up and consider from time to time:

**One of our key roles should be to encourage deliberately the procurement of balanced materials, representing all points of view, on key issues, especially those in keeping with our own culture and heritage.**

Charles H. Reed, Ph.D. 9/23/2010
Library Accessibility

ccclib.org
CONTRA COSTA COUNTY LIBRARY
Bringing People and Ideas Together

Library Accessibility is more than just physical access to the library building.
In Contra Costa County 17% of population over age 5 has a disability.

In the U.S. nearly 50% of people age 65 and over are living with a disability.

Improved accessibility for people with disabilities means improved access for all.
Objective 1:
Examine the Library's current collections, policies and services for people with disabilities.

Objective 2:
Recommend changes to Library collections, policies, and services for people with disabilities.
A generous gift from Walnut Creek Lions Club has made it possible for the new Walnut Creek Library to provide assistive devices for people with disabilities.

**Closed Circuit Television (CCTV), 22-inch screen Magnifier**

For reading newspapers or other printed text in the library, located on the 2nd floor near the library's magazines, newspapers, and reference books.

**Assistive Listening Systems and ear-worn receivers**

Located in the Oak View Room, the Conference Room, and the Technology Center.

**T-coil loop hearing assistance systems at all library service desks**, including a portable unit at the children's desk that can be checked out for use in meeting rooms, and a telephone at the first floor information desk for use by people without hearing aids.

Four computers equipped with the following assistive technologies:

- **ZoomText** – a magnification system for use by people with low vision; provided by Contra Costa County Library.
- **NonVisual Desktop Access (NVDA)** – a free and open source screen reader for the Microsoft Windows operating system which provides feedback via synthetic speech and Braille.

The four assistive technology computers are located in the Browsing Area, the Children's Area, the Adult Reference Area, and the Technology Center.

The Library provides the following Low-Tech items:

- **20/20 Pens** – Provides clearer writing for visual teaching and helps to contrast.
- **Handheld 3X Magnifier**
- **Signature Guide** for filling out and signing forms.

For more information visit http://guides.ccpl.lib.org/accessibility

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### Contra Costa County Library

**Accessibility**

The Contra Costa County Library provides access for people in a number of ways, including technology solutions, free services, resource information, etc.

**Contra Costa County Library**

**Services, Assistive Technologies, and Programs**

**Assistive Technologies**

- **Visual/Print Magnifiers** : Solve visual impairment problems. Please contact the library to arrange availability in the system.
  - Public use computer with large screen monitor, large print keyboard, and stylus pen to assist those who are not adept at using a computer over a 200-word document.

**Text Magnification Standards for Use in the Library**

- **Video Magnification System**
  - A personal CCTV system is available in the library. It is an electronic video magnifier for those who are unable to read print as before.
  - Its magnification range is from 4 to 29 times. Suitable for print as small as 6pt (point) size.

**Optical Scanners**

- **Desktop Optical Scanners**
  - Scanning is also available for books, documents, and other materials. A trained staff member will digitize the item for you.

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**Services**

**Book Delivery**

For readability on the delivery of books and books on CD to readers through the mail, the Adult Services Department at the library can provide book delivery.

**Book Delivery for Homebound**

**Volunteer Library Assistance Services**

The library offers a range of services to help people gain access to the library, including:

- **Volunteer Library Assistance Services**
  - Library volunteers are available at the library to assist with any questions you may have.

**Reference Services**

**Homebound Book Delivery**

This service is available to Contra Costa County Library cardholders who are homebound by the library. To request service, call the library at 925-646-9525 or visit the library website.

**Californian State Library Braille and Talking Book Library**

The Library and Talking Book Library offer braille, audiocassettes, and talking books to people with vision impairments. The Library is located at 1154 Library Dr., and the Talking Book Library is located at 2000 Main St. For more information, visit the library website.
Objective 3:
Suggest additional training for staff serving people with disabilities
Objective 4:
Draft a "Library Services to People with Disabilities Policy"

Objective 5:
Encourage committee and/or Contra Costa County Library staff to gather additional information on outreach and services to people with accessibility needs through Bay Area Disability Services (BADSL) network.