CONTRA COSTA COUNTY LIBRARY COMMISSION
AGENDA ATTACHMENT 1

MEETING DATE: Thursday, July 25, 2013

AGENDA ITEM #: 6

ITEM: ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

RECOMMENDED ACTION:
Commissioners will approve or amend the minutes for the meeting of May 23, 2013.
MEETING OF THE LIBRARY COMMISSION
MINUTES

DATE: Thursday, May 23, 2013

1. CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER
Commission Chair, Shirley Peck (Brentwood), called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. COMMISSION BOOKSHELF
Commissioners provided suggestions for current reading:

At the Center of the Storm: The CIA During America's Time of Crisis
Jackie Cochran: First Lady of Flight (WASP and first lady to break the sound barrier)
Stormy Genius: The Life of Aviation's Maverick Bill Lear
Great Projects: The Epic Story of the Building of America, from the Taming of the Mississippi to the Invention of the Internet
Means of Escape: A War Correspondent's Memoir of Life and Death in Afghanistan, the Middle East, and Vietnam
Countdown: An Autobiography
Henry J. Kaiser: Builder in the Modern American West
The Monuments Men: Allied Heroes, Nazi Thieves, and the Greatest Treasure Hunt in History
The Rape of Europa
The Leopards & Chee Novels
Blue Heron
The Bubble Gun Thief
A Fatal Winter: A Mac Tudor Novel

3. ROLL CALL

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Total Commission positions: 29
Commission positions filled: 26
Commission positions vacant: 3
Commission quorum: 15

With 17 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 representative votes count with the County:
- Friends Council
- Contra Costa Council
- Contra Costa Community College District

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

4. INTRODUCTIONS
Lisa Chow, District IV Representative for Supervisor Mitchoff.

5. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC
none

6. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES
Corrections made to the minutes from the March 28, 2013 meeting:

Commissioner Smith (District IV) corrected a typo on page 4, line 53: under State Library Funding Issues: the words “line items as” should be removed.

Commissioner Peck (Brentwood) requested to remove “Commission Chair Peck” from page 3, line 35, as she was not a part of the resolution presentation.

Commissioners mentioned two spelling errors to correct: change page 5, line 30 to reflect the correct “versus” and change page 8, line 24 to reflect the correct “principles”

Commissioners moved approval of the minutes with the above corrections as amended.
7. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
Commissioners approved the agenda for the meeting of May 23, 2013 and confirmed the time allocation for each agenda item.

8. **ITEMS OF INTEREST TO THE COMMISSION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**
Commissioner Atkinson (Clayton) said that the Friends' April book sale earned $8,850. She credited the photograph about the book sale that appeared in the *Contra Costa Times*.

Commissioner Smith (District IV) said that at the BayNet annual meeting on May 3 featured speaker Dr. Jonathan Reichental whose presentation was "How Data Can Help Create Better Communities". Data helps when making a case for why libraries are important. The meeting was held at the San Francisco Public Library. In his welcoming remarks, Luis Herrera, City Librarian, said that 22 percent of the time, computers are being used for job searches. The new Castro Valley Library built in 2010 is a LEED GOLD certified building with 100% solar paneling that creates electrical power that they sell back. The library also provides patrons with a room strictly dedicated to job searches. Smith also mentioned that State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Tom Torlakson, coined a new phrase "no child left offline".

Commissioner Ruehlig (Antioch) mentioned that ROP did not have enough students for the journalism class – after a fight to maintain the class by the teacher, who was told by her principal that people do not read a newspaper any longer. In the 1950s, 115% percent of American households received a newspaper (meaning some received more than one newspaper). Now only 48% receive a newspaper.

Commissioner Tumin (Oakley) said that her term as Library Commissioner will expire; she has enjoyed being a Library Commissioner. She will remain active with the Friends.

Commissioner Holsington (Lafayette) shared letters from Lafayette Mayor Anderson, to Governor Brown and Senator Wolk supporting SCA7 and thanking the Governor for including public library funding in the 2013-2014 budget (*attachment to the minutes*). She shared the spring/summer programming sheet for the Lafayette Library and Learning Center.

Commissioner Poulos (El Cerrito) shared information about the June 14 El Cerrito Library 100th Birthday party. He added that the El Cerrito Rotary has assisted the El Cerrito Library with landscaping issues and more. (*attachment to the minutes*)

Commission Chair Peck (Brentwood) said that Brentwood's City Council awarded the library expansion project to the architectural firm of Mark Davis + FOG. A study of the building adjacent to the current Brentwood Library is underway.

9. **CORRESPONDENCE**
There is no correspondence.

10. **COUNTY LIBRARIAN REPORT**
Barbara Flynn, County Librarian, reminded Library Commissioners about the July 21st 100th Birthday Celebration that will be held from 12noon – 5pm at Pleasant Hill Park on Gregory Lane. There will be a program at 1pm on the main stage, with Senator DeSaulnier presenting a joint legislative resolution honoring the Contra Costa County Library. The resolution is signed by the 4 Assembly members and 3 Senators representing districts that serve the County Library. Pleasant Hill Mayor Michael G. Harris will attend and other legislative offices are expected to be represented during the program.

Board of Supervisors' Chair Glover (District V), and Supervisor Giola (District V) will be away on County business the weekend of the 100th Birthday and therefore will not be attending. The County
received the NACo (National Association of Counties) award, for the Library’s innovative Veterans’ Connect program (created by Chris Brown, Acting Community Library Manager for Pittsburg and Bay Point Libraries). The purpose of the program is to reach Veterans with information and resources based on their needs and challenges.

Tuesday, July 9, 2013, will mark the opening of an Art Passages photography exhibit that was created in partnership with the Library and the Arts and Cultural Commission of Contra Costa County. The exhibit highlights the 26 library buildings in Contra Costa County with black and white photos taken by photographer Philip Liborio Gangi, who donated his time and skill to create this display of pictures that reflect the personalities of the communities of the Contra Costa County. The exhibit also displays a replica of the Library’s IMLS award and the Board of Supervisors’ resolution proclaiming 2013 the “Year of the Library”. The exhibit will be in the County Administration Building, 651 Pine Street, Martinez through the month of August as the Library continues to celebrate its centennial.

Barbara mentioned that she will be giving two more city council presentations (Hercules, May 28 and Pleasant Hill, June 3) and then she will have presented at each city council in Contra Costa County and at the El Sobrante and Bay Point MAC.

The annual fundraiser for Project Second Chance, the Library’s Literacy Program, will be held at the Lafayette Park Hotel and Spa on June 17.

Simon and Shuster capitulated slightly in their stance on ebooks, and entered into a partnership with the New York/Queens/Brooklyn libraries for an ebook pilot program.

SCA7 passed Senate Governance and Finance Committees.

The State Library has incurred 4% loss in LSTA grant funding, which equals approximately $600,000 in funding loss to the State Library.

Contra Costa County Library is one of the first institutions in the Country to pilot the Edge Initiative Bench Mark Project, a national initiative to assist libraries by providing a tool for library leaders to advocate for public access technology in their library. Cathy Sanford, Deputy County Librarian: Support Services, and her team will work with Edge Initiative staff.

Barbara attended a Link+ meeting and shared that Link+ makes it possible for the County Library access to over 11 million titles for our library customers. These are titles that we do not own. She reported that the Link+ fill rate is 95%, meaning nine out of every 10 customer requests for books is granted. This demonstrates the value of shared resources. (55 public and academic libraries are members of Link+) Link+ material is accessible from the Library’s online catalog screen that shows Link+ at the top of the screen. Barbara advised Commissioners that Link+ has high fees for lost and late materials, overdue material is $1 a day and replacement cost for lost materials is very high. The Library is fortunate to maintain a membership in Link+. Most Library Commissioners have used Link+.

Barbara updated Commissioners that the blue bins that collect donated books from communities remain sprinkled throughout the County, despite this Commission’s efforts to stop these practices.

Barbara presented each Commissioner with a gift of a centennial gold library card. These cards were created to mark the 100th Birthday of the County Library, and they are a limited edition. Barbara purchased these cards at her own personal expense for Library staff and Commissioners. She did this because it is against the law for the Library to purchase gifts with County funds.

Barbara closed her report with a quote from Playwright and filmmaker Luis Vaidez. “The library (in the migrant community) I grew up in was my only link to the outside world.”
11. OLD BUSINESS
STATE LIBRARY FUNDING ISSUES
Commissioners were told that the news from the Capitol is that Assemblywomen Susan Bonilla loves libraries and she encourages library supporters to continue writing letters so that libraries remain on the radar screen of legislators. We have not been able to secure meetings with legislators for a "Day in the District"

Commissioner Smith (District IV) said that he spoke on behalf of the Library Commission during the Senate Governance and Finance Committee on SCA 7, May 16, 2013. The public speaker time is very limited and if you go over the time you are not allowed to complete your sentence. Senator Wolk and library lobbyist Mike Dillon, and Patty Wong, County Library Director and member of CLA's Legislative Committee indicated full support from Yolo County Board of Supervisors. SCA 7 passed the Senate Governance and Finance Committee by a 4/2 vote; four democrat members voting "yes" and two republican members voting "no." A list people who sent letters to the Committee on SCA 7 are noted in the document that is in the Library Commission packet.

BOARD EFFECTIVENESS TRAINING
Commissioners determined that the majority of them would be available on Saturday, September 7 for a board effectiveness training session by past president Deborah Doyle, from CPLA (California Public Library Advocates: http://www.cpladvocates.org/). Commissioner Smith (District IV) will contact Deborah Doyle to confirm her availability.

NEW BUSINESS
12. Enki LIBRARY
Cathy Sanford, Deputy County Librarian: Support Services, introduced enki Library platform to the Commission. Enki Library is an open source ebook platform for library users that was created by the Library in collaboration with Califa, a value-added member service organization for California libraries. (attachment to the minutes)

The Library created the Enki Library platform and owns all Enki Library content. We support independent ebook publishers. We use Smashwords, which is a major ebook vendor. The Enki Library platform does not work with Kindles.

Ebooks are very complex. Libraries are facing problems in providing ebooks to their users. Cathy said that the Library lost $30,000 in content when Overdrive said that the Library could no longer participate in Overdrive ebooks. This is an example of how publishers and vendors could decide the fate of electronic material. By owning our own content, the Library is not limited in how many times a book can circulate, as is the case with at least one ebook vendor.

Contra Costa County Library and Califa are working with a Colorado Library that created an ebook platform. Our vision is to take the Colorado's service model and use open source software as an interface, similar to the way it was done for Discover and Go. The Library had been planning to move forward with this plan when Califa was identified as planning something similar. We joined with Califa and built Enki Library for all of California.

The Enki Library platform went live on May 6. Bay Area Information System (BALIS) libraries, and the Kansas State Library are joining Contra Costa County Library. We plan to extend the platform to the greater San Francisco Bay Area and then to all of California.

Enki Library has over 3,000 titles and it works the same as any other catalog. Cathy demonstrated reserving an Enki Library ebook. Customers can only check out five ebooks at once. They can be downloaded, or read online. Ebooks automatically expire when the loan period is over, which is two
weeks. (the same as Overdrive). Customers can have up to five Enki Library ebook items on hold at one time.

The Library is receiving a lot of publicity about our Enki platform. We are the first in the nation to coordinate this as a consortium. Ebooks are here to stay and libraries should be in control of our own destiny. Cathy added that she does not want us to become a county where reading is just for rich people, when ebooks are just for people have the means to buy them.

AGENDA SETTING FOR NEXT MEETING and FUTURE TOPICS

Suggestions for the July Library Commission meeting:
- Library Commission Strategic Planning Town Hall Outreach
- Commissioners would like a career enhancement report
- Commissioner Melsch (Walnut Creek) volunteered to give a presentation about Walnut Creek Library's Russian collection

Commissioners will suggest items for future meetings, including:
- Information on special library collections, reference directories, newspapers, and periodical sets (i.e.: Historical collection [climate controlled] and San Ramon's jazz collection)
- County historical society
- Remember & Go
- Employment or career enhancement library assistance for job seekers
- Ways the Library can meet the needs outlined in the State's Demographic Report
- Ways to increase book donations and sales for Friends of the Library

13. ADJOURNMENT TO THE July 25, 2013 LIBRARY COMMISSION MEETING
The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

14.

Submitted by Corinne Kelly
Executive Secretary, Contra Costa County Library
Califa Launches Enki, a Lending Platform for Direct Ebook Distribution

The Califa Library Group and Contra Costa County Library (CCCL) today officially announced the beta launch of Enki Library, a new ebook platform designed to host and lend library-managed ebooks using the Douglas County model. Named after the Sumerian god of mischief, creativity, and intelligence, Enki went live at CCCL and the San Francisco Public Library (SFPL) on May 6, and will soon serve multiple libraries in California, beginning with members of the Bay Area Library and Information System (BALIS) consortium.

Califa and CCCL worked closely with Douglas County Libraries (DCL) and Colorado’s Marmot Library Network to create Enki, according to Califa Project Manager Heather Teysko. DCL pioneered the use of in-house Adobe Content Servers to manage ebooks purchased directly from authors, small publishers, and indie distributors such as Smashwords, and they were eager to help launch similar projects elsewhere. But it wasn’t as simple as handing over their code.

DCL’s system “was written just to serve one ILS, and with us being a consortium of 220 libraries, we needed it to authenticate against multiple ILSs,” Teysko said. “That was a real stickler for several months.”

There were other significant issues. For example, many publishers provide ebook metadata and order information in spreadsheets or other formats. New code had to be written to simplify metadata ingestion so that it does not have to be done manually.

The result of their work is a fully-functional, open-source platform that will soon enable hundreds of library systems to manage directly—rather than license via an aggregator—a portion of their ebook collections (the issue of intellectual property ownership, which would cover ebooks, remains a topic of much debate, but one that does not seem to legally favor libraries despite some use of the word own rather than license). The State Library of Kansas, which provided early financial support to the project, plans to adopt Enki soon as well, and other consortia and state systems have expressed interest.

“I don’t think everybody needs to reinvent the wheel,” Teysko said. “Each library doesn’t have the resources to do something like this on their own. That’s why we saw the need for us to be able to step in and say ‘we’re a consortium, we can do this, and maybe others can join in.’”
In terms of reinventing the wheel, CCCL had been working quietly on its own approach to developing an ebook platform for which libraries manage file distribution and digital rights management (DRM) directly, and was in the process of applying for grant funding just prior to Califa's announcement of the project last year. The two organizations soon partnered, with CCCL providing significant software development support, and Califa focusing on facilitating the project and negotiating with publishers, which will initially include Workman, Dzanc, Smashwords, Akashic, Crossroads Press, National Highlights, Infobase, and others.

"It just turned out to be a perfect match," said CCCL Deputy County Librarian Cathy Sanford.

Sanford added that Enki offers patrons an experience very similar to what they might expect from vendor platforms.

"It's a pretty good user interface for keyword searching," Sanford said. "The login, the checkout, all of the things that people are accustomed to seeing on OverDrive or any of the other platforms, they're pretty much the same."

With more advanced searches, Enki suffers by comparison to the latest commercial platforms, she added, "but I don't think the user is experiencing [Enki] much differently than the other platforms.... The feedback we're getting from our staff and from other people, including other IT professionals who understand what Enki is and what it's supposed to be doing—and who understand that we're still working on it—they've all said that they think it looks very good and it works very well. And we're not getting any complaints from the public. That's always a good sign."

The open-source nature of the platform will also enable Califa, Marmot, and other libraries and developers to potentially add features and functionality to Enki and then share them with the library community.

The library ebook landscape has changed significantly since the project was first announced in March 2012. At that point, Random House and HarperCollins were the only two big six publishers committed to licensing ebooks to libraries.

The past several months have brought a series of welcome announcements, and now all of the largest U.S. publishers have begun either fully licensing ebooks to libraries once again, or have become involved in ebook pilot programs with libraries.

Yet in every case, titles from those publishers are only available via agreements made through third-party distributors. Developing a platform on which ebooks are managed directly rather than licensed remains vital to the future of libraries, Teysko said.

"I don't think the library mission is about making OverDrive profits. To me, the idea that you would take such a major part of your business, and turn it over to another company that has very different motivations than you do," is far from ideal, she said. "This isn't about us trying to replace the vendors. But it is about us having some ownership over what we're putting out there to the public."
At CCCL, Sanford agreed. "I believe that it is so important of our content, and control the destiny of what happens with our reading material. Just because [publishers and vendors] decide today that they are coming around doesn't mean that they won't change that model six months or five years from now. It's not set in stone. And I have this real fear that we could turn into a country where only rich people are able to read... And, I believe that libraries are tired of other people telling us what to do and shaping our industry for us. We have got to step up to the plate and take ownership."

About Matt Enis

Matt Enis (menis@mediasourceinc.com; @matthewenis on Twitter) is Associate Editor, Technology for Library Journal.

Comments

1. **Cathy Sanford** says:

May 20, 2013 at 3:04 pm

Thanks for a great article, Matt. I wanted to mention and credit the significant work of The Quipu Group (http://quipugroup.com/), our software developers and consultants on the enki platform. They share in the success.

Best,
Cathy
Lafayette Library and Learning Center Foundation
Home of the Glenn Seaborg Learning Consortium

Friends of the LLLC Sweet Thursday - John Lescoart
Thursday, May 23rd, 7:30 – 9:00 PM, LLLC Community Hall

John Lescoart, Bay Area native and New York Times Bestselling Author, will discuss life as a best-selling author and his 24th book, The Ophelia Cut. Ruth Thornburg, President, Friends of the Lafayette Library & Learning Center, will facilitate a lively discussion. John also promises to serenade attendees with an original guitar composition.

Buy your books in advance at The Storyteller Bookstore in Lafayette and 20% of the proceeds will go to the Friends of the Lafayette Library and Learning Center.

Free. No reservations necessary.

Berkeley Repertory Theatre Docent talk - Dear Elizabeth
Wednesday, May 29th, 7:00 – 8:00 PM, LLLC Arts & Science Room

Join us as a Berkeley Rep Docent shares the story behind the story of love and longing, Dear Elizabeth. Directors Sarah Ruhl and Les Waters return to Berkeley Rep with the tale of a beautiful and bittersweet friendship between poets Elizabeth Bishop and Robert Lowell. Across oceans and continents, across three decades, these esteemed poets found a true marriage of minds in their eloquent correspondence. Dubbed the Dickinson and Whitman of the 20th century, they traded hundreds of vibrant, witty and passionate letters that now spring to life on stage. The West Coast premiere will paint an intimate portrait of two extraordinary - and quite ordinary - lives, told anew by two of the finest artists of our time.

Free. To reserve email: reserve@LLLCF.org or 925-283-6513 x103

Diablo Ballet - Dance on Film Series: Brigadoon
Thursday, June 6th, 6:30 – 8:30 PM, LLLC Community Hall

Diablo Ballet and The Lafayette Library join together once again to bring back the popular, summer Dance on Film series! This year the series kicks-off with a screening of the 1954 MGM musical movie classic Brigadoon, starring Gene Kelly and Cyd Charisse. Lerner and Loewe’s legendary Broadway musical tells the story of two American tourists who stumble upon an enchanted Scottish village that comes alive every 100 years.

Before the screening, Lauren Jonas, Diablo Ballet’s Artistic Director, and film critic Beau Behan will share fascinating facts about the making of the film. Also, everyone is invited to enter a free drawing to win tickets to attend a future Diablo Ballet performance!

$5/person. To reserve email: reserve@LLLCF.org or call: 925-283-6513 x103