

LARKSPUR LIBRARY BOARD
Minutes of Regular Meeting- May 11, 2015

Roll Call: Present: Chair Jeff Gunderson, Joan Foley,
Michele Melka

Absent: Jeannette Giacomini, Noel Shumway

Staff: Library Director Frances Gordon

Chair Gunderson called the meeting to order at 6:20 p.m.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT CALENDAR

The Library Director certifies that this Agenda has been posted in accordance with the requirements of the Government Code

Approval of Minutes as Submitted: Regular Meeting, April 13, 2015

M/s, Shumway-Gunderson and approved 3-0 (Giacomini, Shumway absent) to approve the Consent Calendar as submitted.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments.

BOARDMEMBER REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Chair Gunderson stated he received an e-mail from Ms. Kathleen Mulcahy, a Redwood High School employee who is trying to develop a Teen Center. There is also a group of high school students who want to get involved with the Teen Room at the new Library. This is a good opportunity to engage an otherwise elusive segment of the community. Library Director Gordon urged the Board to reach out to Ms. Mulcahy.

LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S ORAL REPORT

Library Director Gordon stated she did not have a written report this month. She stated she received an e-mail from Mr. Jay Hamilton, a Mill Valley Library Board Trustee, about organizing a joint meeting of Marin County Library Boards. Chair Gunderson stated he liked the idea and it would be a good opportunity to obtain some collective

wisdom from other library boards. Library Director Gordon stated she would e-mail Mr. Hamilton's information to Chair Gunderson.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS ITEMS

1. Follow up discussion on the Rose Lane Community Facilities Parcel and on the Council Workshop on April 30th

Boardmember Foley stated she attended the site walk prior to the workshop meeting held in the Hall Middle School gymnasium and noticed a lot of people got distracted by a discussion on the street trees. One of the architects was in charge of the walk/presentation and did a very good job of articulating what would happen on the site. Chair Gunderson stated people are concerned about the mass of the building, whether the trees or the facility would be higher, the height of the surrounding homes, etc. Once the group got to the gymnasium the architects had stations set up and discussed the various schematics. These were one-on-one discussions and there was really no way to get an overall sense of people's opinions. There was then a public presentation of the architectural package. Library Director Gordon asked if there was a question and answer period. Chair Gunderson stated "yes, at the end of the workshop". Library Director Gordon asked if another meeting was announced. Chair Gunderson stated this was not discussed. Library Director Gordon stated she would find out at tomorrow's staff meeting. Chair Gunderson stated he thought the process would be stalled for a bit and not on the same original schedule.

The Board briefly discussed some of the exterior materials options.

Boardmember Foley asked if the public expressed a general consensus at the workshop. Chair Gunderson stated there were a variety of comments, both pro and con. Someone said it should "look exactly like the buildings along Magnolia Avenue". Boardmember Foley stated they want a building that would celebrate the landscape without having to be "cutting edge". However, a library is a place of thought and the facility should be forward thinking. She would like to see a thoughtful, modern building that is warm and open. They should not think so "black and white".

Boardmember Melka stated the public's reaction and concerns about the building in terms of the massing, setback from the street, etc. was reasonable. Chair Gunderson agreed and stated the schematics were only recently developed (in April). Boardmember Foley stated the architects need to respond to these concerns. Boardmember Melka stated story poles should be installed. Chair Gunderson agreed. Boardmember Melka stated the building could end up "feeling" taller than Hall Middle School. Chair Gunderson stated the footprint of the building was not a problem- it was the height as seen from Doherty Drive.

Library Director Gordon stated she would email the Board after she attends the staff meeting.

NEW BUSINESS ITEMS

1. Library Budget (FY 2015-16) Update

Library Director Gordon distributed a spreadsheet prepared by the Finance Department of the proposed Library Budget. She stated it was a “status quo” budget. She noted there were some increases in certain line items. Costs associated with MARINet are being evaluated. She has asked for some ergonomic upgrades to some of the work stations and for a new copier since the Library is the only “communal” copier in the City. She has also asked for some money for “team building”. She noted there was one retirement and she recently hired a new Circulation Specialist.

STATUS REPORTS:

1. Reports from the Library’s Support Groups (Friends, Foundation, and Steering Committee)

Chair Gunderson stated several representative of the Foundation attended the April 30th workshop.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Chair Gunderson stated the following items would be on the next agenda: 1) Continued Discussion on the Rose Lane Community Facility Parcel; 2) Library Budget (FY 2015-16) Update; 3) Board Summer Schedule; 4) Discussion about Coordination with Redwood High School Representative about Library Teen Room; 5) Discussion about the Possibility of a Joint Meeting with Marin County Library Boards.

NEXT MEETING DATE

Chair Gunderson stated the next meeting would be held on Monday, June 8, 2015.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Gunderson adjourned the meeting at 7:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Toni DeFrancis
Recording Secretary