

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
TORRANCE LIBRARY COMMISSION**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Torrance Library Commission convened in a regular session at 7:20 p.m. on Monday, April 10, 2006 at the Katy Geissert Civic Center Library.

**2. ROLL CALL**

Present: Commissioners Chappell, Haig, Lang, Wang, and  
Chairperson Roberts.

Absent: Commissioners Botello and Grogan.

Also Present: City Librarian Weiner.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Haig moved to grant excused absences to Commissioners Botello and Grogan for the April 10, 2006 Library Commission meeting. Commissioner Wang seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval.

**3. FLAG SALUTE**

Commissioner Haig led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**4. AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING**

**MOTION:** Commissioner Lang moved to accept and file the report of the City Clerk on the posting of the agenda for this meeting. Commissioner Wang seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval.

**5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**5a. MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 6, 2006**

The following corrections were noted on the February 6, 2006 Library Commission meeting minutes:

Page 2, Item 6a, line 3: "...and she noted that they were working with Torrance Public Library Foundation to try to establish a Homework Center..."

Page 3, Item 6d, line 1: "Commissioner Lang reported meeting with Arlene Pinzler, District Director for State Senator Debra Bowen, at the Day in the District..."

Page 3, Item 6d, paragraph 2, line 1: "Commissioner Botello related that they had been well-received by Sanjay Singh, Field Representative for Assemblyman Ted Lieu, and had a good exchange of information..."

Page 4, Item 7b, line 2: "...noting that Riviera already works with the El Retiro Branch Library."

Page 4, Item 7b, paragraph 2, line 5: "Commissioner Lang provided a map of homeowner associations..."

Page 6, Item 9, paragraph 2, line 1: "City Librarian Weiner stated that the Library is recruiting for the Principal Librarian position..."

Page 6, Item 9, paragraph 2, line 6: "...a grant from Supervisor Knabe enabling four programs with each art exhibit."

**MOTION:** Commissioner Wang moved to approve the February 6, 2006 Library Commission meeting minutes as corrected. Commissioner Lang seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval (absent Commissioners Botello and Grogan).

**5a. MINUTES OF MARCH 13, 2006**

The following correction was noted to the March 13, 2006 meeting minutes:

Page 3, Item 6e, paragraph 3: "Chairperson Roberts stated that she was approached by the CALTAC board and asked to become a member."

**MOTION:** Commissioner Lang moved to approve the March 13, 2006 Library Commission meeting minutes as corrected. Commissioner Haig seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval (absent Commissioners Botello and Grogan).

**6. NEW BUSINESS**

**6a. FRIENDS OF THE TORRANCE LIBRARY REPORT**

City Librarian Weiner announced a hardback book sale on April 22, 2006 at Katy Geissert Civic Center Library. She noted that a monthly internet book sales report from January 2004 to February 6, 2004, totaling \$40,250 less mailing supplies, was included in the agenda materials.

**6b. YOUTH COUNCIL REPORT**

Commissioner Haig stated that he attended the April 1, 2006 Pancake Breakfast at the ATTIC, noting that the event was well attended.

**6c. COMMISSION ANNUAL REPORT**

Commissioner Wang volunteered to prepare the Library Commission Annual Report and to provide an update at the June Commission meeting; Commissioner Lang offered to assist her.

**6d. PUBLIC LIBRARY ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE REPORT**

City Librarian Weiner provided a summary of workshops that she attended at the Public Library Association 2006 11<sup>th</sup> National Conference in Boston, Massachusetts on

March 21-25, 2006. She reported that she found "Productive Aging" the most valuable workshop and that she feels inspired to redesign services or implement a new plan of service that emphasizes establishing transition centers, lifelong learning, and civic engagement. She stated that she enjoyed the opening general session with speaker and television producer Linda Ellerbee and other workshops that included: "Seven Tools for Improving Your Workplace" with Sarah Laughlin, "Trading Spaces: How to Transform a Library Like Yours in Nine Months With the Money You Have Right Now," "Mystery Writers: Tea Isn't the Only Thing That Will Float in Boston Harbor," and "Mildly Delicious Libraries: Recreating Your Library from Top to Bottom."

In response to Commissioner Wang's inquiry, City Librarian Weiner stated that Acting Youth Services Supervisor Theyer attended workshops that centered on programming for youth services.

**7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**7a. UPDATE OF JUNE 14 LIBRARY PART-TIME EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION EVENT**

Commissioner Lang distributed a debriefing on last year's part-time staff appreciation event and asked that staff provide information regarding the number of employees being honored this year. Catering options and donations were briefly discussed.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Haig moved to approve a budget not to exceed \$700 for the June 14, 2006 Library Part-Time Employee Recognition event. Commissioner Chappell seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval (absent Commissioners Botello and Grogan).

**7b. UPDATE ON JULY 10 JOINT MEETING WITH PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION**

Deferred to the May 8, 2006 Commission meeting.

**7c. ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION WITH LEGISLATORS AT LIBRARY LEGISLATIVE DAY ON APRIL 26**

City Librarian Weiner gave packets to Commissioner Wang and Chairperson Roberts to take with them to the Library Legislative Day in Sacramento on April 26, 2006. She noted that it was fortunate that Proposition 81 was on the ballot in June without the Governor's infrastructure bill.

Commissioners suggested issues for discussion with legislators that include CLA talking points, the Bond Act, and consistent Public Library (PLF) funding.

Commissioner Haig related his observation that all really nice libraries are being funded by Federal or State grant money.

Chairperson Roberts stated that CLA lobbyists Michael and Christine Dillon were informed on issues and would assist in guiding them. She asked Commissioners to e-mail her with any other suggestions for discussion.

Responding to Commissioner Chappell's inquiry, City Librarian Weiner advised that the immigration issue was not affecting the Library other than patrons asking for information about the topic, noting that City employees must show proof of citizenship when hired.

**7d. UPDATE ON CONTACT WITH HOMEOWNER ASSOCIATIONS**

Commissioner Wang suggested contacting homeowner associations about the April 22, 2006 Friends of the Torrance Library book sale.

Commissioner Lang stated that she sent out April schedules to three associations and that Seaside Ranchos requested age group information.

**7e. FACILITY NEEDS FOLLOW UP**

City Librarian Weiner reported that the City was working on the Capital Project budget and that she submitted a list of branch facility needs that includes electrical upgrades for Southeast and El Retiro branch libraries, adding that Commission concern was noted.

Commissioner Wang initiated a brief discussion on possible proactive measures that the Commission could take to ensure that facility needs are met. It was decided to wait and see where the items are placed on the priority list before taking formal action.

**7f. PROPOSITION 81 UPDATE**

City Librarian Weiner distributed copies of "Yes on Prop. 81" and asked Commissioners to start raising people's knowledge awareness of how important libraries are and how Torrance would be affected. She stated that she would like City Council to adopt a resolution supporting the proposition and that League of Women Voters is actively supporting it.

Responding to Commissioner Chappell's inquiry, Commissioner Wang and staff advised that Proposition 81 would not increase property taxes.

**8. STANDING COMMISSION COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**8a. TUSD ECT**

No report.

**8b. TORRANCE PUBLIC LIBRARY FOUNDATION**

**8b.1 FOUNDATION FUNDRAISING EVENT APRIL 22**

City Librarian Weiner encouraged Commissioners to attend Start Your Engines! at the Toyota U.S.A. Automobile Museum on April 22, 2006, with proceeds to be used to help build a homework center at the Southeast Branch Library. She discussed some of the baskets that will be auctioned at the event.

**9. MONTHLY DEPARTMENT REPORT**

City Librarian Weiner announced that Senior Librarian Hillary Theyer has been selected for the Principal Librarian position and would be responsible for branch libraries, youth services, programming, and outreach.

She stated that Senior Librarian Theyer attended the Better Together Conference to prepare a grant application for a multi media resource about Torrance.

She shared information about the Carnegie Libraries and Nate the Great and the Library Mystery programs.

She described the universally accessible tree house dedication ceremony on April 10, 2006 at Wilson Park and reminded Commissioners that the volunteer recognition program will be on April 27, 2006.

**10. ORALS**

**10a.** Commissioner Wang stated that she enjoyed the Torrance Firefighters Association's spaghetti dinner on March 18, 2006.

**10b.** Commissioner Haig mentioned that he received an invitation for the viewing stands for the Armed Forces Day parade on May 20, 2006.

**10c.** Commissioner Chappell discussed the Switzer Center's Women of the Year luncheon event on April 20, 2006.

**10d.** Chairperson Roberts distributed a brochure on Spring Friday Forum's at UCLA's Department of Information Studies.

**10e.** City Librarian Weiner distributed Friends of the Torrance Library newsletters and announced a ribbon lei workshop on May 6, 2006 at Southeast branch library.

**11. ITEMS FOR NEXT LIBRARY COMMISSION MEETING**

Items for the May 2006 Library Commission meeting agenda were discussed.

**12. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** At 9:47 p.m., Commissioner Lang moved to adjourn the meeting to May 8, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. at the Katy Geissert Civic Center Library. Commissioner Wang seconded the motion and, hearing no objection, Chairperson Roberts so ordered.

Approved as Submitted May 8, 2006 s/ Sue Herbers, City Clerk
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