

Library Advisory Board
MINUTES
Jan. 16, 2020, 4:30-5:30 p.m.
Modesto Library Auditorium
1500 I Street, Modesto, CA 95354

Present: Board Members – Sheridan Beuving, Dorothy Finnegan, Sue Henderson, Joshua Vander Veen; Library Staff Members – Patti Boardrow, Sarah Dentan, John Fleming, Thomas Kaps, Curtis Lee, Susan Lilly, Bryan Sontag; Library Foundation Representative – Susan Thomas; Friends of the Library Representatives – Friends of the Modesto Library President Denise Nordell and VP Pat Glattke

Absent: Lise Talbott

I. Call to Order, Welcome & Introductions – Chairman Josh Vander Veen called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

II. Approval of Minutes of Meetings held April 11, July 11 and Oct. 17, 2019 – Minutes of the April, July and Oct. 2019 meetings will be approved when we have a quorum (5 voting Board members).

III. Public Comment – None

IV. Correspondence – None

V. Report from County Librarian Sarah Dentan

Chromebooks (Laptops) – Chromebooks are available to be checked out for use in Library. Debuted 11 Chromebooks in Modesto Library and we had 30 checkouts in the first couple weeks. Chromebook users must sign an agreement. They will be available in all Stanislaus Library locations.

Programs – The library system has hundreds of programs per month. In Modesto, JaneCon was spearheaded by Opera Modesto. There was an Escape Room event in November. Participants had to solve puzzles to get out of a "locked" room. A *Happy Birthday Jane* event and an after-hours *All Things Jane* gathering were held at Modesto Library. Amazing things happen when we partner with other organizations in the community!

Modesto Library – The Modesto Library entry area upgrade has been completed. A power table was installed in the teen area so people can plug in there now. We have identified funding for the Modesto Makerspace!

Oakdale Library – The long-term lease for Meyer Park is coming soon! We'll be expanding our available space for programs and activities.

Budget – The mid-year budget for the 2-year cycle (2021-22) is being finalized.

Other Locations – There will be a Turlock Library Groundbreaking ceremony in February. During the construction, the library will be closed. We are anticipating it will be closed 9 to 12 months. The cost would be significantly more to remain open during construction. There will be Story Times and a pop-up library at the Senior Center so people will still have limited service right in Turlock, across the parking lot from the library. There are other libraries nearby for customers who need full service during the closure. Once the Turlock project is well on its way, work will begin on the Empire Library.

VI. Reports from Library Support Groups

Friends of the Library

Modesto FOL – Denise Nordell announced the Annual Meeting date for the Friends of the Modesto Library has been set for March 4, 2020 ~~at 3 p.m.~~ (The start-time was later confirmed with Denise as 5:30 p.m.). They will have a speaker discussing the positive effects on reading to trauma patients.

Denise expressed her thanks for all the dedicated staff who helped with “All Things Jane” after hours. Among those were Chris Moreno, Michele Machado, and Laura Ferrell.

Denise gave an update on the newly created KidsQuest program. They have 19 student/tutor matches and 6 kids on the waiting list.

Pat Glattke, FOML VP, was impressed with the Hogwarts Yule Ball event and how awesome it was. People were smiling as they left, even after all the hours of work. Pat announced there would be a celebration of 100 years of women voting! (The 19th Amendment).

Pat Glattke acknowledged Beard Land for donating warehouse space for FOML to store books for their upcoming sales. They even put up shelves so the friends can do their sorting of the books more easily.

Patterson FOL - Sue Henderson - There have been two book sales since the third week in October. They went very well. There were lots of leftover books so they had a 1-day special yesterday and sold books for 25¢ a piece. The sign on the library really brought people in. Friends are coming along fine in Patterson. Trudy will contact Turlock about getting leftover books for Patterson. They are looking good for the April sale.

Turlock FOL - Dorothy Finnegan – Reiterated the news about a Groundbreaking ceremony for the Turlock Library, scheduled for Feb. 22, 2020. Turlock has been waiting a long time for this. The library will be staying right where it is by the Senior Center. Dorothy expressed concern about potential parking issues. Thursday will be the start of a book sale that will continue through Friday and Saturday. They are not sure about having any book sales while the library is closed because they do not have space for storing the books. Right now a barn is being used to store the books but that is only for the short term. They have two places they sell books: Inside the Turlock library and across from Yesterday’s Books in Modesto. The Turlock Friends group has a lot of very active people. They have collected \$100,000 for the new library, although they haven’t decided exactly how it should be used. The head of the Friends of the Turlock Library is Pat Portwood and the group feels very fortunate to have her as their leader at this important time.

Stanislaus Library Foundation – Susan Thomas - The September Gala fundraiser was very successful. The Fund-a-Need fundraiser (Children’s Books) made over \$14,000 in 20 minutes. Money goes to the library and the library purchases the books. September 22 is the tentative date set for the next Gala.

The next big Foundation event coming up will be the Shining Star Awards, recognizing and honoring volunteers for their outstanding contributions to the library system. The date for this Volunteer Appreciation event has tentatively been set for April 25. Rep. Josh Harder handed out certificates and spoke at last year’s volunteer appreciation event.

VII. Old Business – None

VIII. New Business

Bylaws – Sarah Dentan – Measure S states that the Oversight Committee for the Library Tax funds is the Library Advisory Board. This role is not reflected in the Bylaws. We will start with a subcommittee of 2 or 3 members of the Board to move forward. Sarah Dentan is prepared to serve in an advisory role but

the Board should be the subcommittee. It could take six months to complete the work. The subcommittee will bring a recommendation to the Board. Sheridan Beuving made a motion to form a subcommittee and Dorothy Finnegan seconded the motion. A subcommittee will be formed and review the Bylaws by the first of February. The Bylaws will be rewritten.

There was discussion about the cost of an election. The library pays a portion when we have something on the ballot. The library would have had to pay for the whole election if they had been the only ones with something on the ballot. That is the reason the election was delayed for the most recent tax measure. They were able to share the cost of the election by waiting.

Budget – Curtis Lee – Income Statement Summary

Curtis provided a snapshot of the 19/20 budget. Sales tax is always 2 months behind. We are about on track with the projected sales tax income and Curtis thinks we will probably end up higher than projected.

Pat Glattke requested actuals for last year's fines, fees and passports. The library received \$300,000 in revenue from passports. Fee for providing the service went from \$25 to \$35. Miscellaneous revenue donations and book sales brought in \$333,000. The County general fund contribution to the library was \$490,000. Started preparing to move funds for the Turlock Expansion. The library plans to get a \$6.3 million loan from the Tobacco Endowment Fund which will be an internal loan from the County. Part of the strategy was to use fund balance to update facilities. The projected cost to the Library for the Turlock expansion is \$8.6 million. Approximately \$2.3 million not covered by the loan will come out of fund balance (library savings). \$2.6 million in fund balance is also earmarked for the Empire Library. The Library will have approximately \$3.2 million left in fund balance at the end of Fiscal Year 2019-2020, if the Empire Library funds are withdrawn.

Cap charges will probably be higher than budgeted.

IX. Announcements - None

X. Next meeting date: April 16, 2020, 4:30-5:30 p.m.

XI. Adjournment – Chair

Materials related to an item on this Agenda submitted to the Library Advisory Board after distribution of the agenda packet are available for public inspection at the Modesto Library Reference Desk during normal business hours. Such documents are also available on the Library website at www.stanislauslibrary.org/about_advisory_board.shtml subject to staff's ability to post the documents before the meeting.