

**2006 Contra Costa County Library Commission Annual Report**

Library Commission meets 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of alternating months

Library Administration, 75 Santa Barbara Road, Pleasant Hill

Walter Ruehlig, Chair

Wayne Johnson, Vice Chair

Staff: Anne Cain, County Librarian

**1. Activities**

- § Commissioners served as liaisons to their appointing authorities relating to the County Library and library services.
- § Commissioners inform Library Friends and Foundations about Contra Costa County Library activities, and many serve as board members of the Library Friends and Foundations and are involved in fundraising activities for their community libraries.
- § Commissioners attended Countywide Friends Council meetings.
- § Commissioners attended many library programs and events in their communities and exchanged information about community libraries at the Commission meetings.
- § Commissioners shared library services information with their communities.
- § Commission Chair, Ruehlig (Antioch), wrote the Contra Costa Times Editorin response to a column about future libraries.
- § Commissioner Smith (District IV) served as Contra Costa County coordinator for Proposition 81, the California State Library Construction Bond.
- § Commissioner Smith served as President of the California Association of Library Trustees and Commissioners (CALTAC), completed a series of six articles for CALTACTICS about getting to know your elected leaders, conducted board effectiveness training for Alpine County Library Commission.
- § A sub-committee of the Commission interviewed and selected Commissioner Smith to serve two more years as Bay Area Library and Information Systems (BALIS) representative.
- § Commissioner Burstyn (Walnut Creek) wrote a front-page article on the Danville Library's 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary for the *Danville Times*.
- § Commissioner Villegas (Oakley) was recognized by the Board of Supervisors for the "Stop the Violence" poster contest.
- § Commissioners were surveyed by the Library's government document special about their use of government information.
- § Commissioners acknowledged former Deputy County Librarian, Rose-Marie Westberg upon her retirement for her 34 years of service to Contra Costa County Library.
- § Commissioners toured Contra Costa County Library facilities on January 28 and February 25, 2006.
- § Commissioners participated in California Library Association's Day in the District January 27 and February 3, 2006 and Legislative Day in Sacramento April 26, 2006 and Commissioners worked with State and local representatives throughout the year to support funding for public libraries, the Public Library Construction and Renovation Bond Act, and other legislation of interest to local libraries.
- Commissioners participated in Senator Torlakson's Holiday Run, which raised \$1,000 for the library.
- Commissioners received a report on the Public Library Foundation (PLF) and Commissioner Smith initiated educational lobbying effort with the California Library Association's Legislative Committee for full PLF funding.
- § Commissioners received an update on the January 9, 2006 City Managers' meeting on the Library's Strategic Plan.
- § Commissioners received a report on the Library's 2006-07 budget.
- § Commissioners received a demonstration on OCLC's Open WorldCat and California Library Catalog (CALCAT). Open World Cat gives access through search engines to library holdings and points more people to library collections as a first source of information.

- § Commissioners received a status report on the Library's database pilot program that was conducted in San Ramon, Hercules, and Antioch.

## 2. Accomplishments

- § The Board of Supervisors and the Mayors' Conference reauthorized the Library Commission for five years, July 1, 2006 – June 30, 2011.
- § Commissioners passed a Public Library Foundation (PLF) resolution and submitted a draft resolution that unanimously was supported by the Mayors at their November 2, 2006 Mayors' Conference.
- § Commissioners supported Proposition 81, the California State Library Construction Bond, which passed in Contra Costa County by 54%. As a citizen, Commissioner Smith made 25 presentations and obtained over 50 endorsements for Proposition 81, from school boards, labor and business groups, and current and former elected officials. BALIS passed their first resolution supporting Proposition 81.
- § Commissioner Smith was selected to receive the California Library Association's (CLA) President's award for 2006 and the Board of Supervisors recognized Smith for this award at their October 24, 2006 meeting.
- § Commissioners receive reports and updates, discuss and provide significant input to all of the library's major issues, initiatives, and new programs. Some of the topics covered this year included: the Strategic Plan for Contra Costa County Library and discussion of the City Managers at the January 9, 2006 meeting; Project Second Chance's literacy programs and outreach, the Library's partnership with the County's Office of Education on the educational portal, Ed1Stop; Library e-card service; Library's RSS Feeds (Really Simple Syndication); and Library's e-Vanced Solutions software.
- § Commissioner Nolte (San Ramon) worked with San Ramon Library staff on the annual jazz program and on the retirement party of former San Ramon Senior Branch Librarian, Joyce Gunn.
- § Commissioners continue to support city read programs throughout Contra Costa County.
- § Commissioners worked with local businesses, organizations, individuals, Friends of the Library groups, and library staff to raise funds for library materials.
- § Commissioners who are Friends and Foundation members were recognized at the Board of Supervisors October 24, 2006 meeting when October 22-28, 2006 was proclaimed as "Friends and Foundations of the Library Week in Contra Costa County".

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### 3. Facilities

- § Commissioner Hoisington (City of Lafayette) participated in fundraising for the Lafayette Library and Learning Center.
- § Commissioners **plan to attend** the November 11, 2006 opening of the Hercules Library.
- Commissioners participated in the May 19, 2006 opening of Concord's Monument Futures library opening
  - Commissioner Burstyn, Hoisington, Fugazzi, Fuller, Enholm, Madfes (Friends Council), McGrady (City of El Cerrito), MacAulay (City of Hercules), and Chair Ruehlig worked with their communities to plan new libraries.
  - Commissioner Fugazzi attended several meetings with the City of Brentwood and served on the City's Capital Facilities Task Force.

#### 4. Attendance/Representation

The 29-member Library Commission is diverse and meets the Board of Supervisors' goal to maintain an ethnic, economic, and geographic balance. A wide range of ages is also represented including a member from the Countywide Youth Commission.

All six meetings in 2006 achieved a quorum (*Attachment- individual Commissioner attendance*).

#### 5. Training/Certification

- Commissioners have viewed the videotapes on the Brown Act and Conflict of Interest.
- Commissioners were updated at the County's June 27, 2006 training for all advisory bodies to the Board of Supervisors.
- Commissioners renewed their membership in the California Association of Library Trustees and Commissioners (CALTAC).
- Commissioners attended California Library Association's 108th Annual Conference, November 2006.

### 2007 WORK PLAN Library Commission

#### Proposed Work Plan/Objectives for 2007

*Goal 1: Support funding for the library*

Objective 1: Continue to work with the Friends of the Library groups, local businesses, cities, and the County to maintain partnerships for funding of increased library hours, services, and collections. Involve all Friend's groups and other Countywide organizations in seeking participation from their library communities.

Objective 2: Bring feedback and ideas from library communities to the attention of Library Administration.

Objective 3: Continue to work with State and local representatives to obtain full funding for the Public Library Foundation (PLF) in conjunction with other organizations such as the California Library Association (CLA) and the California Association of Library Trustees and Commissioners (CALTAC).

Objective 4: Participate in the 2007 California Library Association's Day in the District and Legislative Day in Sacramento.

*Goal 2: Work with local communities on the various efforts to plan new library facilities*

Objective 1: Work with communities planning new library facilities.

Objective 2: Alert community regarding valuable support of new library technology on improved patron services.

Objective 3: Continue to alert and educate communities to the services and resources provided by the Contra Cost County Library.

*Goal 3:* Continue to be involved in the library's major initiatives

Objective 1: Work with Library staff and communities on the Library's Strategic Plan and revise the plan as necessary.

Objective 2: Continue involvement and strengthen relationships with Bay Area Library and Information Systems (BALIS), California Library Association (CLA) and California Association of Library Trustees and Commissioners (CALTAC), County Office of Education with expansion of library electronic resources; youth groups and local businesses.

Objective 3: Continue to expand Internet access to materials.

Objective 3: Schedule library staff, speakers, and other volunteer to give updates and discuss:

- Capturing teens as reading advocates and obtain a strong youth visibility with activities within the Library, including library teen advisory bodies and consider an annual teen advisory body meetings with all members
- Various library programs, services, technology, and initiatives
- Continue education on library activities and services

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