

## **LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD**

### **Minutes of July 24, 2003**

Present: Nancy van Overbeek, Sandy McDowell, Marilynne Allen, Randee Stidham, Peg Bowen, Christina Lee, Sheridan Beuving, Dave Lopez, Susan Lilly, Vanessa Czopek, Cindy Thomlison

#### I) Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:35 p.m. by Library Advisory Board President Marilynne Allen. Marilynne also introduced new member Nancy van Overbeek

#### II) Approval of Minutes

Motion by Sheridan Beuving, Second by Dave Lopez, Unanimous Approval.

#### III) Old Business

The board asked Susan Lilly to look into the possibility of having a mural painted in the downstairs conference room.

#### IV) Public Comment Period

Sandy and Marilynne commented that the Patterson Library staff is "fabulous."

#### V) New Business

A.) Dave Lopez and Nancy van Overbeek have been appointed to 3 year terms beginning July 1, 2003 .

i. Nancy introduced herself. As a parent, who loves to read, Nancy looks forward to contributing to the success of the library in her role as a Library Advisory Board member.

B.) Library Budget – Cindy Thomlison, library business manager, reported that the library is increasingly dependent upon sales tax revenue, as other funding sources continue to decline. Before the sales tax went into effect in 1995, all the cities in the county contributed toward the library budget. Currently, sales tax revenue accounts for approximately 75% of the library's \$10 million budget. The county match is approximately \$820,000 and the library expects to receive about \$200,000 from the state's Public Library Fund (pending the state budget). This leaves a gap of \$1.3 million. The library makes up this amount through a fund

balance that was accumulated over several years of conservative spending. At the current rate, the fund balance will likely be depleted by 2005.

C.) 49-99 Report – David Epps. No report. David was unable to attend.

D.) County Librarian 's Report – Vanessa Czopek.

- Vanessa thanked Dave Lopez for speaking to the Board of Supervisors in support of fee increases (used book sale, Interlibrary Loan fees, meeting room rental fees). All fee increase recommendations were approved.

- Vanessa reviewed library statistics and contact information.

- Vanessa reviewed the USA Patriot Act, which was enacted 6 weeks after September 11. Under the Act, libraries and bookstores are required to reveal (to domestic and international law enforcement) personal records of customers, without a requirement of probable cause. In addition, libraries are prohibited from reporting whether such records have been requested. There may be a chilling effect on the right to read. The Freedom to Read Protection Act is in process to exempt libraries from this broadened access to customer information. Vanessa has been in contact with legislators regarding this matter.

- Vanessa also reviewed CIPA (Children's Internet Protection Act). The U.S. Supreme Court recently ruled to uphold CIPA, which requires that if libraries accept federal funds to provide public Internet access, filters must be installed. Filters are problematic, because legitimate sites are often blocked, limiting access to information. Detailed information about how this decision will be implemented will follow and the final decision about accepting funds and filtering will be made by the Board of Supervisors.

- Susan Lilly suggested possible Library Card Sign-up Month themes with related sponsors. The board opted for "Go Nuts for the Library" or "Go Nuts for Reading ," with the idea of approaching the Almond Board of California for a product donation. Sheridan Beuving offered to make initial contact with the almond board.

E.) Old movies and copyright – Sandy McDowell. Sandy asked whether it was legal for an individual to check out old movies and show them to a group (a senior citizen's group, for example). Vanessa explained that the library does have public performance rights for some movies and the tapes are labeled to reflect this.

VI) Next Meeting Scheduled for October 23, 4:30 p.m. , at the Modesto Library.