Library Advisory Board
MINUTES
April 13, 2017, 4:30-5:30 p.m.
Modesto Library Conference Room
1500 I Street, Modesto, CA 95354

Present: Board Members Dorothy Finnegan, Sue Henderson, Jon Rodriguez, Lise Talbott and Joshua Vander Veen; Library Staff Members Patti Boardrow, John Fleming, Bryan Sontag; Friends of the Modesto Library Co-President Denise Nordell.

I. Call to Order, Welcome & Introductions – Chairman Josh Vander Veen called the meeting to order at 4:35 p.m.

II. Approval of Minutes of Meeting of January 12, 2017 – Minutes were unanimously approved.

III. Public Comment – None

IV. Correspondence – None

V. Welcomed new District 3 Representative Jon Rodriguez to the Board.

VI. Report from County Librarian – Bryan Sontag sat in for Diane McDonnell who was unable to attend.

Link+ is getting ready to launch next week. This is an Inter-library loan service that allows customers to borrow items from other libraries in the network of public and academic libraries throughout CA and NV. The Link+ catalog is separate from the Stanislaus County Library catalog. The system is currently being tested in-house before it goes live. Megan Mizuno will be the coordinator for Link+ in the Stanislaus County Library. Link+ item check-outs are for three weeks with the option to renew one time. DVDs check out for seven days. SCL belongs to a library cooperative called 49-99, and the CA State Library is funding this service through the cooperative. Link+ fines are $1.00 per day. If an item is lost, there is a $115 fine. Customers are requested to return borrowed Link+ items to the Circulation Desk. There will be a public promotion about this exciting new service.

The Empire Community Hall Association generously donated property located on the north side of Yosemite Blvd. for the development of a new library site. The Empire Library will be relocated to this site, which is closer to schools, a park, and the community pool. A steel-frame building will be put on the property to house the library, which we hope to occupy within the coming year.

On March 25 there was a visioning meeting for the Turlock Library expansion project. It drew a good crowd which led to great discussions. Architects will be sought. The existing library is very small for the size of the community.

The interior of the Denair Library will be updated. The library will seek approval from the Board of Supervisors to close the library temporarily to paint, install carpet, new furnishings and update interior lighting. We need to give the public 30 days notice, prior to the closure.
VII. Reports from Library Support Groups

- Friends of the Library

Friends of the Patterson Library: Sue Henderson reported that the Patterson book sale starts next Wednesday. They could use more books. They set aside a few thousand dollars for the marquee. An LED sign board may be an option. They need to know who owns what. What is allowed in Patterson regarding signs. Bryan Sontag will find out. We need general public to know what the library does. Announce programs, etc., to get the attention of passersby.

Friends of the Turlock Library: Turlock Carnegie Arts Center (the former Carnegie Library building) was destroyed by fire years ago, and was subsequently remodeled into a functional and attractive facility.

The current library will be redesigned, and plans are to expand on the current property. It’s a very nice setting. The existing library was built in 1968 and the city has since outgrown the library. Among the many facilities needs; new bathrooms, a teen area, and a community room. An architect will develop a design plan, and construction will follow.

Friends of the Modesto Library: Denise Nordell announced that Modesto Library’s annual used book sale will be held on May 6th outside on the portico. Recent activities included the annual Día de los libros, Día de los niños on April 1, and a fabulous Rosemary Wells author event. The Little Shop in the Modesto Library will be closing but they hope to reopen in a better location at some point.

Save Stanislaus Libraries is in “active” mode now. Community Coordinators are needed. They need help in Modesto. Coordinators receive the list of precincts, schedule people to walk, put up signs, poll, etc.

- Library Foundation – No report.

VIII. Old Business

- Update on Board Vacancies – District 3 opening has been filled but there are still three at-large vacancies: Agriculture, Education and Youth Advisory Council.

IX. New Business

- Radiofrequency Identification (RFID) for Library Books/Materials

John Fleming gave an update on where we are in the RFID process. Backstage is doing the hiring for tagging all of our materials in the Modesto Library. They are hiring local staff, training them, doing background checks. In a couple weeks they will start tagging and expect to be done in a couple months. DVDs are about one-third of our Circulation. Double-sided DVDs will have a hub tag. Library staff will tag the other twelve branches. The goal is to be done with tagging at all libraries by June 30.

There are good reasons why DVDs will be kept in a public area. It is very time consuming and requires repetitive motion to retrieve and fill DVD cases for each customer who checks out DVDs. Tags will be right on the DVDs and also on the cases and those will alert staff if someone walks out without checking out. Locking DVD cases would have cost $100,000 if
you include the cost of the unlocking equipment. It will take less space. Currently, two cases are required for each set of DVDs from the children’s DVD collection: one case for display and one for the back room that holds the DVDs that are ready to trade out. The back room in Circulation has DVDs in sleeves that they pull and load into cases when checking out DVDs from the adult collection.

Gates at Library Branch entrances, for RFID, will be the last thing to install for this process. This system allows a regularly scheduled inventory.

Dorothy Finnegan asked what total cost would be for tagging. Backstage is $93,000 to tag Modesto’s collection of books and materials.

One of the benefits of this new RFID system is that the customer doesn’t have to wait in line for anything. It takes only seconds to check out. Staff can be proactive and help as people learn the new system. There will be four checkout stations right up front at Modesto. At times, 40% of checkouts are done at self-checks.

Virtual Desktops are being installed for ease of use. Updates will be much more efficient.

Self-check kiosks will have credit card capabilities, coin and bill acceptors, and customers will be able to pay for and release their own print jobs.

Library Document Stations (LDS) – Customers will be able to scan documents and fax or email to their Smartphone.

IT is in the process of updating public computers. Salida, Modesto, Keyes, Empire, Hughson, and Denair have been done. Riverbank is next.

The Library is very progressive. Quite a few years of planning was done prior to the start of some of the current projects. John is trying to get us modernized. We’re in the forefront in the County where customers can do things themselves. Customers will never have to suffer through having to use outdated software again.

X. Announcements – All

XI. Next meeting date: July 13, 2017, 4:30-5:30 p.m.

XII. 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.