



## PACIFIC GROVE LIBRARY BOARD MINUTES



Tuesday, February 26, 2008  
Pacific Grove Community Center

1. **Call to Order:** Acting Chair Susan Steele called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m.
2. **Roll Call:** Laura Courtney Headley, Susan Steele, Nancy Hauk, Neal Whitman, Sarah Paff, and Mary Housel.
3. **Acceptance of the minutes of February 12, 2008.** February 12 minutes were approved and accepted. (Whitman/Paff)
4. **Board Member Announcements:** There were no board member announcements.
5. **Oral Communications:** Pacific Grove City Councilmember Lisa Bennett presented a draft report of library funding sources other than the general fund. A revised report was later distributed to board members via e-mail. Marty Lipp provided the board with the draft of a timeline he compiled for drafting a possible ballot measure in support of the library for inclusion in the November 2008 ballot.
6. **Reports:**
  - a) **Friends of the Library Update:** President of the Friends of the Library, Joe Brookshier, reported that the next FOL meeting will be held on Tuesday 3/31 at 5:15 p.m. at the Little House at Jewel Park. The FOL is moving forward with the research and hiring of a consultant. The FOL approved an amount of \$1,000 to spend on PGPL Centennial celebrations. They also decided that the FOL will *not* officially support the two current tax proposals currently planned for the November ballot.
  - b) **Report on discussions with City Manager:**
    - i) A meeting was held on February 23 between Pacific Grove City Manager Jim Colangelo, Mary Housel (PGPL), Susan Steele, Dave Whittick (FOL ) and Joe Brookshier (FOL). At the meeting, Jim Colangelo proposed to take the library's new budget to each potential provider (PGPL, Monterey City Library, Monterey County Free Libraries, and LSSI) to see what services could be provided by each. The FOL would commission a citizen survey to evaluate the results of the various proposals. Colangelo was concerned that the presence on the ballot of other measures might weaken support for the library measure, but that it still stands a good chance of passing. The meeting helped to clarify the roles of the various parties involved (the City Council, the Friends of the Library, and the Library Advisory Board). Colangelo advised against the use of a "Maintenance of Effort" clause because the library needs fully dedicated funding in order to be secure. Colangelo said that the City would be available to assist in the writing of the ballot measure once the details are worked out, and that he believes that it is realistic to assume that we could put an initiative together by November. Brookshier said that a PAC would have to be formed in order to raise the funds for the campaign. Steele pointed out that any money raised by such an initiative wouldn't likely come in until several months into 2009. Whitman raised the idea of scrapping the survey asking citizens how to support our old library in favor of community education and a carefully researched and articulated strategic plan for the future library.

- c) **Report on results of the 2/22/08 City Council Meeting:** Senior Librarian House1 reported that the Library budget was cut 50% at the council meeting of 2/20/08 as was expected. The Library's new reduced hours start March 3 and will give Library staff time to start reviewing the new, reduced budget to see where we need to cut staffing and services.

**7. New Business:**

- a) **Planning for the last quarter of fiscal year 2008 and the next fiscal year**
- i) **Review of the role of library consultants in this plan:** Steele spoke to two library consultants to see what it would cost to survey 300 to 400 active voters to see whether voters would support a ballot measure, and might also include questions regarding various library services and service levels. The estimated cost would be between \$8,000 and \$15,000, depending on the number of people questioned and the number of questions.
- ii) **Discussion of the role of LSSI:** Headley briefly summarized her research on LSSI, distributed a representative article, and offered further resources. She recommended that the board advise the City Council against contracting with LSSI. The board decided unanimously that it would be best to wait until the LSSI has submitted its proposal. We can then review the proposal along with the materials available and make our recommendation at that time. Whitman/Steele
- b) **Board input on agenda items for March 11 meeting.**
- i) **Election of new officers** (Headley/Steele)
- ii) **Discuss plans to develop a set of criteria that says what Pacific Grove needs and wants in a library in order to inform our evaluation of the various proposals for running the library.** (Steele/Headley)
- iii) **Strategic planning: update the library's mission and articulate a vision of a future for the library.** (Whitman/Headley)

**8. Adjournment:** at 8:42 p.m. (Steele/Hauk)

Respectfully Submitted,

*Laura Courtney Headley*

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Secretary

**Next Regular Board Meeting:  
Tuesday, March 11, 2008, 7:00 p.m.  
Pacific Grove Community Center  
515 Junipero Avenue**