

MONROE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY
Minutes of the Library Advisory Board
Key Largo Library
February 24, 2015

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Monroe County Library Board was called to order at 10:55 a.m. by Chair Michael Shields. Present were Board members Stephanie Griffiths and George McHugh.

Participants included (alphabetically), Director of Libraries Norma Kula, Library Administrator Anne Layton Rice, and Key Largo Library Manager Paulette Sullivan. Karen Beal, Fred & Frieda Feldman, and Medina Roy of the Key Largo Friends of the Library were also in attendance.

INTRODUCTIONS: Participants briefly introduced themselves.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes for the December 9, 2014 meeting were unanimously approved.

COMMUNICATIONS:

- Board member Susan Miller is unable to attend today's meeting.
- Deputy County Administrator Debbie Fredericks sends her regrets.
- Fred Feldman was recently named President Emeritus of the Key Largo Friends of the Library. George McHugh is current President.
- Chair Michael Shields distributed information about the Council on Library and Information Resources' Hidden Collection grant opportunity and suggested that staff actively pursue this funding.

NEW BUSINESS:

- The Board agendaed review of Sections 3—6 of the Handbook until the next meeting.
- Director of Libraries Norma Kula announced that a special BOCC meeting will be held April 8th in Marathon to begin budget discussions. She will be providing more information to the Board as it becomes available.
- Director of Libraries Norma Kula announced new staff and staff changes at Key West and Islamorada Libraries.

CONTINUING BUSINESS:

- Director of Libraries Norma Kula updated the Board on the purchasing and implementation timeline for the Useful software/hardware system. The contract has been approved and training dates were being discussed.

- Director of Libraries Norma Kula updated the Board on progress for the new Marathon Library. Monroe County BOCC and the School Board have executed an Interlocal Agreement for a shared facility. An RFP for architectural services has been released and the Director of Libraries is a member of the review committee.
- The Board determined that their Takeaway items will be to review the Bylaws for possible edits and to begin lobbying for budget increases.

Add-On Item:

- Director of Libraries Norma Kula requested the Board consider a change to Library Policy § 3.01.B.3 for use of library auditorium/conference rooms. Board member Stephanie Griffiths made a motion to approve, seconded by Board member George McHugh. The motion was approved unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 12:05 pm. The next meeting will be April 28, 2015 at the Big Pine Key Library. Mayor Kolhage is on rotation to attend.

Respectfully submitted,



Anne Layton Rice
Library Administrator

San Antonio Public Library Strategic Plan
Appendix:
Trends, Best Practices, and Issues
The Ivy Group, Ltd., 2011

TRENDS, BEST PRACTICES, ISSUES AND INNOVATIONS IN LIBRARY SERVICE

LIBRARY FACILITIES

Inviting, Flexible, Experiential, and Green

Some of the most important decisions challenging libraries are those related to library construction projects. Leaders have to gauge the level of political and public support for such projects and assess the likelihood that sufficient funds can be raised from public and private sources.

Leaders who have taken on a capital campaign and construction projects have learned the importance of proceeding in a logical way beginning with a dream and ending with ribbon cutting.

They have also learned they have to delineate appropriate roles for the Board, the director, the community assessment and fundraising specialists, the building consultant, and finally the architect.

In those instances where the Board starts with architect, they sometimes end up with a facility that is beautiful but does not necessarily meet the needs of the community or the staff who have to work in the building. Public library spaces are changing to respond to sociological and technological shifts in four overarching ways:

Libraries are inviting.

Library design is focused on creating welcoming, comfortable, and attractive destinations that can accommodate those in a hurry (self-service features) and those who wish to linger in cozy surroundings (lounge chairs and fireplaces). “Destination place” and “community space” concepts are being integrated into many building programs.

Libraries are green.

Environmental sensitivities, especially in planning for the construction of new facilities, have driven the design process. Municipalities that have committed resources to protecting the environment, decreasing fuel dependency, and increasing operational efficiencies have often driven library “greening” programs.

Despite the higher cost of green buildings, LEED certification is a gold standard; libraries that can’t afford certification are employing whatever energy efficiencies they can afford in their plans. Sustainable materials, energy-efficient lighting, and recycling workflows can provide high cost recovery and savings over time.

Libraries are flexible.

Libraries are anticipating less need for collection space, as the book warehouse concept is outdated, and are activating more “gathering” and “creativity” areas, such as art galleries and small group study rooms. Other incorporations include open floor plans, multi-purpose rooms, interchangeable and mobile furniture and equipment, and smaller and mobile service desks.

Libraries are experiential.

New library design incorporates flexible features for a variety of activities and audiences, as the user’s experience becomes the key consideration. Libraries are designing zones geared to:

- Ages (senior spaces, teen areas),
- Activity (creative computing, gaming, galleries),
- Socialization (meeting rooms),
- Solitude and “sanctuaries of silence”(lounge and study rooms free from cell phones and other noise),and
- Technology access (fixed, mobile, wired, and wireless devices).

See also:

American Library Association,
LLAMA/BES Library Building Awards Committee [Presentation],
http://www.slideshare.net/LLAMA_ALA/top-library-building-trends
(2010).

Prairie Librarian [Blog],
Green Libraries,
<http://prairielibrarian.wordpress.com/green-libraries>
(2010).

Interior Design,
<http://www.interiordesign.net> (2010).

Louise L. Schaper.
“Let Green Creep: Ten steps to sustainable library operations.”
Library Journal,
05/15/2010
<http://www.libraryjournal.com/article/CA6727897.html>

Trend Ideas,
<http://trendsideas.com>
(2010)