

**CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH
MINUTES OF THE LIBRARY COMMISSION**

November 16, 2009
6:30 p.m.
Manhattan Beach City Hall

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ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Adams, Cooperman, Hook, and Rhees

Absent: Commissioner Popovich

Others Present: Recreation Services Manager Mark Leyman, Steven Klein, Los Angeles Council Library, Manhattan Beach Library Manager Don Gould and Manhattan Beach Librarian Cindy Roth.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the October 5, 2009 Library Commission were approved as written. (MSC: Adams/Hook; unanimous).

CEREMONIAL

None

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

None

GENERAL BUSINESS

09/1116-1 – Update on Library expansion project meeting between the City and County

Mr. Leyman reported that the City and County representatives met to discuss the Library expansion project. Both parties were in full support of moving forward with the project. The next step will be for the County to evaluate the financing alternatives (based upon the excess Library Services property tax dollars) and return to the City with their projections.

09/1116-2 – Discussion of future programming ideas for the Manhattan Beach Library

Commissioner Cooperman stated that he met with the manager of Borders to determine potential programs that could be provided to the Manhattan Beach Library. Specifically, he discussed the “Art of Racing in the Rain” that is currently the group read in the City of El Segundo. He suggested that the Commission look at partnering with Borders or publishing companies to provide additional programs and build the relationship with the community. In addition, he suggested a quarterly book club to partner with local businesses such as meeting at The Belamar Hotel.

Commissioner Adams suggested that we need to reach out to particular demographics that are underutilizing the library. In particular, she spoke with the Leadership Manhattan Beach group, and many of the attendees were not familiar with the Manhattan Beach Library.

Don Gould stated that approximately 33,000 Library cards are issued of which approximately 11,000 are utilized on a regular basis.

Cindy Roth discussed adult summer reading programs. In particular, she mentioned the American Library Association's "One Summer, One Book". Cindy stated that it is sometimes difficult to get numerous copies of a book for a book club to read (even with 87 other loaner libraries).

Commissioner Hook stated that she felt underutilized and that she would like to be called upon to assist with upcoming library programs. In addition, she asked what she can do to be most helpful as her role as a Library Commissioner. She also stated that she forwards all of the program flyers she receives to American Martyr's School for distribution.

Stephen Klein suggested that one area that the Commissioners can assist is public speaking engagements. He suggested that Commissioner's provide information to community organizations such as the Rotary Club.

Commissioner Adams wanted each of the Commissioners to have a consistent message of what to tell the community about the Library expansion project and upcoming programs. She would like to see a set of "facts" agreed upon by the Commission to share with the public.

All of the Commissioners agreed to put together a set of talking points about the Manhattan Beach Library before the next Commission meeting and to come up with additional program ideas. The talking points should include what you would like the public to know about the Library and a set of "Did you know..." bullet points. Each of the Commissioners agreed to send their comments to Mark Leyman who will consolidate the information and distribute it before the next Commission meeting in January.

Don Gould mentioned a few "Did you know" points including"

- Did you know circulation has increased 12% from last year?
- Did you know that the shelf space for holds has doubled?
- Did you know that the library has an inter-Library reservation system online?

OTHER COMMISSION BUSINESS

Commissioner Rhees suggested that future Library Commission meetings be held at the Manhattan Beach Library. The commissioners agreed to the suggestion and Mr. Leyman will reserve the Library for the meetings when available.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

Jane A. Grace
Recording Secretary

Jan Rhees
Commission Chairperson