

MINUTES
LAS VEGAS-CLARK COUNTY LIBRARY DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES' MEETING
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA
JULY 9, 2015
(approved September 10, 2015)

The Board of Trustees of the Las Vegas-Clark County Library District met in regular session in the Centennial Hills Library, Las Vegas, Nevada, at 6:00 p.m., Thursday, July 9, 2015.

Present:

Board:	M. Saunders, Chair	K. Crear (via telephone)
	R. Ence	Y. Yturralde (via telephone)
	K. Benavidez	S. Bilbray-Axelrod
	S. Moulton	
	M. Francis Drake	F. Ortiz

Counsel: G. Welt (via telephone)

Absent: R. Wadley-Munier (excused)

Staff: Dr. Ronald R. Heezen, Executive Director
Numerous Staff

Guests:

M. Saunders, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

Roll Call and Pledge of Allegiance (Item I.) All members listed above represent a quorum. Trustees Crear and Yturralde as well as Counsel Welt attended via telephone. Trustee Wadley-Munier had an excused absence. Appendix A.

Trustee Moulton led attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment (Item II.) None.

Agenda (Item III.) Trustee Ence moved to approve the Agenda as proposed. There was no opposition and the motion carried.

Approval of Proposed Minutes, Nominating Committee Meeting, June 11, 2015 and Regular Session, June 11, 2015 (Item IV.A-B.) Trustee Bilbray-Axelrod moved to approve the Minutes of the Nominating Committee Meeting held June 11, 2015, and the Minutes of the Board of Trustees Meeting held June 11, 2015. There was no opposition and the motion carried.

Chair's Report (Item V.) Chair Saunders said that the presentation to former Board Chair Keiba Crear would be moved to the September Board meeting as Crear is participating by phone at this meeting.

Chair Saunders asked Trustees to contact him and Executive Assistant Allison Boyer with their preferences for assignments to Board committees. Appointments would be made at the September Board meeting.

Trustees who attended the American Library Association Annual Conference in San Francisco (SF) in June 2015 provided their verbal

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reports. All Trustees expressed their appreciation to the District for making it possible for them to attend.

Trustee Ortiz attended 4.5 classes at the conference. He spoke about one that focused on library services in county jails. As the United States uses a European model for punishment, finding funding to provide services to jails is hard. The program presenters, from University of Colorado at Boulder, showed that library services in jails are very successful based upon statistics they have collected,. They also encouraged libraries who provide such services to send their statistics to them so they can continue their work in this area.

Trustee Ortiz knows the Undersheriff of SF County and took the opportunity to ask about their jail services. SF County has created a charter school in its jail, which has been better politically in terms of providing services to prisoners. Former prisoners return to the community with a high school diploma, not just a GED. Age does not matter. In addition, library services were provided. While there is a larger jail population in SF County, this may be something to consider. Ortiz praised the District's services provided to local jails, but thought that there might be opportunities for improvement, which is critical if the District and the community want prisoners to be released from jail better prepared than when they went in.

Trustee Ortiz concluded his remarks by saying that he felt the conference featured a lot of exciting individuals who really know their business in all types of libraries. He also really liked the free books as he shipped home two boxes!

Trustee Francis Drake was so impressed with the caliber of the speakers and attended quite a few. She highlighted Gloria Steinem's talk. Steinem said that, as a child, she moved so often that libraries were her salvation and source of much of her education. Francis Drake quoted Steinem as saying, "librarians democratize learning and nothing is more important than librarians." She attended another panel where the presenters had some very humorous comments on libraries. One said, when she was in high school she would cut class to go to the public library and read in the stacks. Another presenter noted that one can find most kinds of information today with a keystroke, but sometimes one wants to see the whole picture and it is important for librarians to remember that sometimes people still want the whole picture.

Trustee Francis Drake said she even participated in a social protest as part of the Exhibits Opening Reception as her husband, and a crowd of about 50 other people, could not get in with an Exhibits-Only badge and detailed what happened. They were eventually let in.

Trustee Francis Drake took an extra suitcase to take home the free books she obtained.

On a slightly different subject, Trustee Francis Drake commented on a ComicCon event at the South Point Hotel she attended prior to going to San Francisco. She spent some time talking to local comic book dealers and they expressed their interest in and appreciation of the Vegas

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Vegas Comic Book Festival at Clark County each fall. She reported that they attend and really enjoy participating.

Trustee Bilbray-Axelrod said she had a fabulous time attending with her daughter, Molly, and her mother even though she was reduced to hobbling around due to a foot injury. She thought it was amazing to be in San Francisco on such an historic weekend. (NOTE: The US Supreme Court ruled in favor of same-sex marriage just prior to the beginning of the conference, which was also the same weekend as the annual SF Gay Pride Parade.)

Trustee Bilbray-Axelrod said she enjoyed seeing the downtown SF library and spoke enthusiastically about the newly-opened maker space in that building. She also was very impressed hearing about the different best practices employed by libraries around the country. She felt that the different innovations employed by libraries around the country are thought-provoking and helpful to get children and families in the door. She was very hopeful that Molly, and other children, once hooked on libraries, will be patrons forever.

Trustee Bilbray Axelrod noted the challenges that the SF library still has in its renovated space such as power outlet issues, but was interested to see the different solutions staff were using to deal with that and to make spaces more flexible, such as utilizing book stacks on wheels.

On Trustee Bilbray-Axelrod's last day at the conference, she saw Molly's favorite author who signed a book for her and she walked all around the convention hall. She said District staff is doing such a great job and its reputation is well-known. Finally, she said her hotel room overlooked the parade route and she had a perfect view from the 17th floor.

Trustee Saunders said the conference was inspiring and exciting that it took place on such a historic weekend. He was happy to represent the District. He enjoyed Gloria Steinem firing up the troops with her remarks, visited the SF library, toured the exhibit hall and noted the wide variety of different products being offered by publishers and other vendors. He attended seminars, especially those in the technology field. He spoke about how impressed he was with the incremental improvements Overdrive keeps making to its platform and encouraged Trustees to put it on their tablets to experience all the digital media the District can offer due to this vendor. Overall, he came away with a greater understanding of library trends and technology as well as the best practices being utilized in the field.

Library Reports (Item VI.)

Trustee Moulton moved to accept Reports VII.A. 1-7. There was no opposition and the reports were accepted.

Executive Director's Report (Item VI.A.)

Prior to beginning his report, Executive Director Dr. Heezen advised Trustees that the order and content of the monthly staff reports had been reordered to conform to the new service areas established by the District's reorganization in May 2015.

Dr. Heezen opened his report with his thanks to staff, stating that they were the most fabulous staff in 40 plus years he has spent working in libraries. He said that the District's Summer Reading Program was in full swing, there are a lot of programs for patrons, and library usage has increased. He noted that all District departments work together as a team to make the District a leader in the country.

Dr. Heezen then reported on some activity at Mt. Charleston regarding the library. At the suggestion of the District's legal consultant, the District is working to rezone its property to residential use to allow for resolution of the remaining property claims that cloud the District's title. This would also be cheaper than dealing with the issues piecemeal. The rezoning process requires a public hearing. Many residents, seeing the hearing notices, as well as hearing about the future library the District is planning in the Kyle Canyon development just down the mountain, grew concerned that the District was planning to close the Mt. Charleston Library. Heezen and General Services Director Steve Rice attended a meeting of the Mt. Charleston Town Advisory Board at which the rezoning of the District property was discussed and declared that the District is committed to staying at Mt. Charleston. In addition, both Heezen and Chair Saunders are signing a letter to be posted at the library that reiterates these comment.

Dr. Heezen next reported on the negotiations with the City of Mesquite regarding the land transfer for use as a location for the new Mesquite Library. He said that the Mesquite Redevelopment Authority and City Council will be taking up the final agreement next week on July 14 and District staff will be at the meeting.

Dr. Heezen said staff are still working with the city of Las Vegas and the Southern Nevada Regional Housing Authority (SNRHA) on the land transfers for the Bonanza and 28th Street property. Heezen, Mr. Rice and Mr. James attended the last SNRHA meeting at which the item was supposed to be discussed but was pulled from the agenda at the last meeting. Heezen praised Trustee Ortiz for his ongoing efforts to facilitate the transfer so that the District does not just have a good parcel, but the ideal parcel for the new East Las Vegas Library.

Dr. Heezen reported that he is one of 80 plus candidates for membership in the 2015-2016 Leadership Las Vegas class. There are 50 slots available and he has an interview on Monday, July 13. Heezen also reported that he is meeting with all other Clark County library directors to discuss a consortium on August 18. The Board enabled him to do this by authorizing the agreement with CollectionHQ. He and his fellow directors will start the formal process to get everyone to work together.

Dr. Heezen invited Trustees to attend an event at UNLV's Lied Library later in July that is sponsored by the Southern District of the Nevada Library Association.

Dr. Heezen reported that the District's next strategic plan, Vision 2020 is on target for a December 2015 completion, due to the hard work of Development Director Danielle Milam and participating staff.

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Dr. Heezen commented, in light of Chair Saunders' praise for Overdrive, the District's digital vendor, that they are announcing a major change in their platform in the fall. According to Saunders, one of the new features will be the addition of periodicals.

Trustee Ortiz encouraged staff to continue what they are doing. The District has a good product and that is why people look to model themselves after the District. He is proud of District staff and knows it started long before he became a Trustee and is confident it will continue long after he leaves the Board.

Trustee Saunders said that each staff member is an excellent brand ambassador for the District. He encouraged staff to continue and this makes the Trustees jobs easier.

**Program and
Delivery Services -
Library Operations
and Security
Reports and
Monthly Statistics
(Item VI.A.1.a.)**

No questions.

**Program Support
Services –
Branding and
Marketing Report
and Virtual Library
Trends
(Item VI.A.2.a.)**

No questions.

**Program Support
Services –
Community
Engagement Report
(Item VI.A.2.b.)**

No questions.

**Program Support
Services –
Development and
Planning Report
(Item VI.A.2.c.)**

No questions.

**Program Support
Services -
Information
Technology Report
(Item VI.A.2.d.)**

No questions.

**Administrative
Support Services –
Financial Services
Report**

No questions.

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(Item VI.A.3.a.)

**Administrative
Support Services –
General Services
Report
(Item VI.A.3.b.)**

No questions.

**Administrative
Support Services –
Human Resources
Report
(Item VI.A.3.c.)**

No questions.

**Unfinished Business
(Item VII.)**

None.

**Discussion and
possible Board
action regarding
Transfer Agreement
and Joint Escrow
Instructions for a
Property in
Mesquite.
(Item VIII.A.)**

Dr. Heezen provided a brief overview of the process regarding the District's process to obtain land for a new, larger library in Mesquite.

The Redevelopment Agency of the City of Mesquite (RDA) has provided a proposed Transfer Agreement that will allow the Las Vegas-Clark County Library District (the District) to purchase the property commonly known as 105 West Mesquite Boulevard and the land upon which the current building sits including the parking, for \$10 and other valuable consideration. Attorney Gerald Welt has reviewed the proposed agreement and has approved the verbiage contained therein.

The RDA was established to actively promote redevelopment along Mesquite Boulevard. They will conduct a public hearing on July 14, 2015, in accordance with Nevada Revised Statutes Chapter 279.470, which provides that the RDA may dispose of publicly owned real property.

The property consists of 3.22 acres and is being transferred for the express purpose of having the District construct a new library facility of at least 16,000 square feet at a cost of \$7 million. The proposed location is directly across the street from the current Mesquite Branch operated by the District. The proposed agreement outlines the following responsibilities of the District:

- The District agrees to pay \$10. Originally, the land was purchased by the RDA for \$1.8 million.
- The District agrees to fund whatever steps are necessary to complete a lot line adjustment to finalize the boundaries in accordance with the agreement.
- The District agrees to fund the costs to secure a title policy for our benefit.
- The District agrees to construct a library of at least 16,000 square feet at a total cost of at least \$7 million.

Counsel Welt has reviewed the proposals and ascertained that the District's interests are protected. Staff feels the proposed agreement is reasonable and recommends that the Trustees adopt it, as amended. A copy of the agreement was provided to Trustees at the Board meeting. The Mesquite City Council is holding a Technical Review Meeting on July 7, 2015, and will vote on the item at that time.

Trustee Bilbray-Axelrod asked how the \$7 million construction figure was determined. Dr. Heezen said it was based upon libraries of similar sizes in comparable areas. Heezen added that he would like to build a larger library. The District will ask the City of Mesquite to apply for a Clark County Development Grant in order to get an additional \$2 million so that the District can add an auditorium to the library. He would also like staff to obtain other grants for not only the Mesquite project but the East Las Vegas project to add an auditorium to each space as well as to hopefully supplement the District's budgeted amounts. The figure includes design costs, zoning fees and construction costs.

Trustee Bilbray-Axelrod said that the amount does not seem like a lot compared to some of the other buildings on the District's drawing board and she is concerned. Dr. Heezen said he is hoping to obtain grants to add additional money to the project.

Trustee Bilbray-Axelrod then expressed her concern about the flood channel on the property and the possible expense to contain any possible damage due to flash flooding. Dr. Heezen said that the previous building on the site was an old church which was sold back to the RDA and apparently did not have issues as far as he knows. He added that the purchase of the property by the RDA was done with the thought that a library would be built on it, which is finally coming to fruition after close to ten years of work by both the District and Mesquite staff. Heezen said that the city has agreed to maintain the flood channel and that the District's budget includes cost of a survey to divide the flood channel from the rest of the property. The survey would also divide the current library location and its property from the park grounds which surround it. He felt the flood channel concern could be addressed during the planning process. Bilbray-Axelrod said she wants the process done correctly from the outset and hopes to avoid staff having to come back to deal with the flood channel problems.

Trustee Moulton asked questions to confirm that the land transfer would include not only the new property but also the current library location and its parking. Dr. Heezen confirmed and added that park users would continue to be able to use the parking lot at the library. Moulton also commented that the street dividing the two pieces of land does not seem to be a safety issue. Heezen agreed, saying that it is a very low-traffic street.

Trustee Ortiz suggested Ms. Milam may want to look into working with the Regional Flood Control District as there may be an opportunity to partner with them to get this project into their capital improvement program down the road to deal with the flood channel issue and

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minimize the property's exposure to flooding. Ortiz will be voting in support of the item. He stated that Mesquite is a gateway into Nevada and this will be critical point for a community neglected for many years. There are a lot of young people in the Mesquite community who will improve their grades and more with this new facility.

Chair Saunders said he will also support the item as he believes it is a win-win for the District and the Mesquite community. He is looking forward to witnessing the economic and cultural flowering in the area due to the new library.

Trustee Ortiz moved to authorize staff to approve the Transfer Agreement and Joint Escrow Instructions, subject to review by Counsel, for the acquisition of property at 105 West Mesquite Boulevard in the City of Mesquite, Nevada, for the purpose of constructing a new library for the patrons in that area. There was no opposition and the motion carried.

**Announcements
(Item X.)**

The next Board Meeting will be held Thursday, September 10, 2015, in the Rainbow Library at 6:00 p.m.

**Public Comment
(Item XI.)**

None.

**Executive Session
(Item XII.)**

Chair Saunders advised attendees that the Executive Session would be closed and said that it would cover possible litigation and labor issues. Trustee Moulton moved to adjourn into Executive Session. There was no opposition and the motion carried. Trustees adjourned into Executive Session at 6:48 p.m.

Trustee Moulton moved that the Regular Session be reconvened. There was no opposition and the Regular Session reconvened at 7:16 p.m.

While Trustees originally agreed to participate in a Purchasing Policy Committee of the Whole with a meeting date to be determined in September during the Chair's Report, Trustees later agreed to meet for that purpose on August 13, 2015, at the Windmill Service Center Boardroom at 6:00 p.m. with that meeting taking the place of the Regular Board Meeting scheduled for that date and time.

**Adjournment
(Item XIII.)**

Chair Saunders adjourned the meeting at 7:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ydoleena Yturralde, Secretary

2015 ATTENDANCE

Appendix A

July 9, 2015 Regular Board Meeting

2015		January 8 Regular Board Mtg	February 12 Regular Board Mtg	March 12 Nominating Committee Mtg	March 12 Regular Board Mtg	April 9 Finance and Audit Cmte	April 9 Regular Board Mtg	May 19 Bylaws Cmte Mtg	May 21 Regular Board Mtg	June 11 Nominating Cmte	June 11 Regular Board Mtg	July 9 Regular Board Mtg		
Benavidez*	Kelly	P	P	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
Bilbray-Axelrod	Shannon	P	P	P	P	P	P		A-E	P	P	P		
Crear	Keiba	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	A-E	P	P	P		
Drake	Marilyn	P	P	P	P	P	P		P		A-E	P		
Ence	Randy	P	P	P	P	P	P		P	P	P	P		
Melendrez**	Jose	X	X	P	P		A-E		P	P	P	P		
Moulton	Sheila	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P		
Ortiz	Felipe	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P		
Saunders	Michael	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P		
Wadley-Munier	Robin	A-E	P	P	P	P	P		P	P	P	A-E		
Yturralde	Ydoleena	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P		

attended Committee meeting but not a member

A-E Excused Absence
 A-U Unexcused Absence

* Term expired March 6, 2015
 ** Appointed for a term beginning March 6, 2015

as of July 10, 2015