

Citizens Review Minutes
February 10, 2010

Members Present: Mike Wyrick, Robert Speechly, Judith Pruess, Fitz Kelly, Deborah Ikeda.

Others Present: Karen Bosch Cobb, Pat Pondexter, Steve Nitta, Karen Coletti, Becky Wade.

- 1) Call to order: Chairman Mike Wyrick called meeting to order.
- 2) Introductions: Rebecca Wade was introduced from Literacy Services
- 3) Adoption of Agenda: Correction made on Date to Wednesday February 10, 2010 agenda was adopted as submitted.
- 4) Approval of Minutes of October 21, 2009. Moved to approve by Robert Speechly and second by Judith Pruess
- 5) Attendance Roster-Karen reviewed the purpose of the attendance roster since this is the first meeting of the year all members are in compliance.
- 6) Election of Officers- Chairman Mike Wyrick asks for a rotation of Chairman Position due to the fact that he had held office for 8 years. Deborah Ikeda moved that he hold the position for 1 more year due to changes that are taking place, Robert Speechly second the move. Chairman Wyrick tabled till 1st meeting of next year.
- 7) Report of use at Orange Cove: A fact sheet prepared by Terry Sterling was distributed to members. A report on the sheet was given by Pat Pondexter. The Orange Cove Library is a huge success in the community. They have added 816 new borrowers. Circulation is up 127% Year- to-Date. Computer sessions now average over 1,600 per week compared with 112 sessions before the new library. There are 18 computers in use. The People counter recorded 1,646 people entered the library the week of January 11-17, 2010. If we maintain this average, approximately 19,752 people will come to the library in 2010. We have English as a Second Language classes through the Kings Canyon School District Adult Education program. On an average, there are at least 20 people per class. There is also one adult literacy tutor, who is offering an English Conversational Class each week. We are also offering evening courses. Preschool story times are given on a weekly basis and shortly we will be adding bilingual story times. There are also movie nights, art class and book discussion programs. A film club will be starting in March.

- 8) Literacy report by Rebecca Wade- Rebecca gave a PowerPoint Presentation on Literacy Services. There are 5 Literacy Programs and Services. Adult Literacy Services, Families for Literacy, AprendoVan, Mendota Library English Language Resource Center, and English Language Conversation Circles. Adult Literacy Services are a one-on-one or small group, with free tutoring. Covering reading, writing, spelling, math. There are 243 adult learners as of June 30, 2009. We have 203 volunteer tutors as of June 30, 2009. We have offered 10,554 hours of instruction. The outcome is 107 learners met at least one goal. There were 47 that got a job or promotion. Eleven passed part or the entire GED test. 19 read a book, newspaper or magazine. A total of 21 got a library card and 17 used them regularly. Families for Literacy assist learners in promoting literacy and learning in their children ages 0-5. It provides training, fun family events, and free children's books. 108 adults were served with 156 children 0-5. We distributed 993 children's books. 74 children participated in the summer reading program. Our Big Read program did very well with a large adult participation. AprendoVan provides bilingual early literacy training to parents with children 0-5 in Western Fresno County. It serves Adults and Children. It distributes a large portion of children's books along with other learning tools such as kindergarten paper and pencils. Survey results have shown that parents just entering our program read to their children an average of 4.1 times per week compared to 6.3 times per week for parents who had visited our program at least 8 times. The English Language Resource Center in the Mendota Library assists patrons in improving their English skills. It offers a study room, office, computer and collection area. The center has Books, CDs and DVDs especially for second language learners. English conversation circles and citizenship study groups offer a great comfort, relaxing, and no intimidating learning environment. English Conversation Circles are small groups that practice speaking English to each other. There are Circles in Mendota, Woodward Park, Orange Cove, and Kingsburg. Rebecca stated we are the only library that has stayed with the mission of Measure B. Free books come from State money. \$60,000.00 a year is spent on the Aprendo Van and the materials that we give away to our patrons.
- 9) Pat Pondexter gave introduction of West Fresno Regional Center. The Center is a County an multi-service building. It has several different County services in the building. The Library has 6, 873 square feet with a capacity to hold 16,000 items. The center was funded by Measure B and Friends of the Library. Services in desk computers with free internet service, specially designed areas for teens and children, it offers spacious conference rooms and study rooms. The Community is very excited about the Grand Opening on Wednesday February 24, 10:30 a.m.
- 10) Centennial of County Library Celebration was introduced by Karen Bosch Cobb.
 - a) Fresno County Library was the 3rd County to become a County Library under the 1909 State Law. There will be a Centennial Celebration on March 12, 2010 at 10:00 a.m.

- b) The Library will be filled with a day of celebration and many fun filled events, including speakers and the opening of the Cornerstone.
There will be many guest speakers throughout the day.
 - c) The book that our own Bill Secrest Jr. wrote will be available for purchase.
It is titled, "A Century of Service: From Dewey Decimal to Digital. The book was published by and is being sold by the Friends of the Fresno County Public Library.
- 11) Measure B: Karen presented a draft Measure B presentation for the Board of Supervisors on March 9, 2010. The PowerPoint was organized based on the Expenditure Plan for Measure B:
- a) Continuing the current increased open hours, and increasing open hours further where possible
 - i) Charts showing annual open hours since the beginning of Measure B were reviewed
 - b) Continuing to replace worn and out-of-date books and materials, and continuing to add new books and other materials
This is measured in increase use. Staff also discussed a shift from inputs (i.e., adding an additional 8% each year to library materials) to an output measure using turnover of library materials. This year the overall turnover was at 1.7%. What we would like to do is increase this number by 2/10's by every year. This should be achievable with our reorganization of Adult materials selection for the first time the library actually has enough money for some parts of our collection, i.e., Youth and Reference. Adult services still needs more funds.
 - c) Continuing the current expanded programs and services, and expanding programs and services further, for children, young adults and adults: Charts showing programs, program attendance, and computer use and reference questions were reviewed.
 - d) Continuing the reestablished locally funded literacy services in support of California Library Literacy Services
 - e) Maintaining local public libraries throughout the County: 18 libraries have been refurbished.
 - f) Constructing new libraries or remodeling and expanding existing libraries throughout the County
 - i) Renovations included: Central with HVAC and Fire Marshall Compliance, and Laton with a historic renovation, and structural work for San Joaquin.
 - ii) There were 6 new leases
 - iii) We have had 8 new libraries and 3 new bookmobiles. These were all funded by Measure B, State grants and private donations. Measure B really allotted for more than was expected.
 - iv) We will not be adding new facilities at the present economic time

The vision for Measure B continues to meet its promises with a balanced budget through the end of March 13, 2013. The structure of next sales will be based on the

needs of the community. Our fund balance is helping us through the revenue declines. However, we have reorganized and deleted positions and will delete more positions next year. Every time a position is vacant we evaluate it. Eighty percent of our staff has been hired after the first Measure B and do not have an understanding of what library service was like prior to Measure B.

A member of the commission asked that we report on usage of new libraries. This will be an agenda item for the next meeting.

12) Next meeting in May 5th at New West Fresno Regional Center.

13) Adjourn