CITY OF OAKLAND OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERY CARLAND CARLAND AGENDA REPORT 2008 MAY 29 PM 3: 22

TO:

Office of the City Administrator

ATTN:

Deborah Edgerly

FROM:

Library Department

DATE:

June 10, 2008

RE:

Annual Report of the Library Advisory Commission

Attached is the Annual Report from the Oakland Public Library Advisory Commission, covering the period from February 1, 2007 to April 30, 2008. Chairperson Marilyn Citron will be available to answer questions.

Respectfully submitted,

Carmen L. Martínez Library Director

Attachment

FORWARDED TO THE LIFE ENRICHMENT COMMITTEE

OFFICE OF THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR

Item: ______ Life Enrichment Cte.

June 10, 2008



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June 10, 2008

LIFE ENRICHMENT COMMITTEE Oakland City Council

Subject: Annual Report of the Library Advisory Commission

Chairperson Chang and Members of the Committee:

The Library Advisory Commission hereby reports on its activities covering the period from February 1, 2007 to April 30, 2008

Commission Activities:

During the past fifteen months, the Library Advisory Commission (LAC) has continued to promote the value and importance of Oakland libraries in the community. The following report details how Commission members have represented the City of Oakland and its libraries to regional and state policy makers and to the broader library community. Additionally, as part of their responsibility, each member takes an active role in relaying to staff the variety of Library needs of the many Oakland neighborhoods that they represent.

In 2008 (to date) the LAC engaged in the following advocacy activities:

- Commissioners Gilden, Citron and Yascolt attended the California Association of Library Trustees and Commissioners (CALTAC) workshop in April to hear about and discuss issues surrounding library advocacy and agendas. The meeting was held at the San Mateo Public Library, a fairly new 90,000 square ft 3 story building with two levels of underground parking, state of the art resource center for literacy and lifelong learning and 100 public internet terminals, expanded areas for children and teens and a sustainable, energy efficient design.
- Commissioners Citron and Yascolt, along with youth members of the Youth Leadership Council (YLC) attended the annual Library Legislative Day in Sacramento. Oakland was, once again, the only library with teen representation. Scheduled meetings were held with aides from the offices of Loni Hancock, Sandre Swanson, Mary Hayashi, State Senator Don Perata, and Ellen Corbett's Chief of Staff.

Item No:
Life Enrichment Committee
June 10, 2008

- Commissioner Citron represented OPL and attended the quarterly meetings of the Bay Area Library Information System (BALIS) Advisory Board. Commissioner Citron also served on the plan of service sub-committee of BALIS for the 2008/2009 term.
- Commissioner Noble maintains his active involvement with the Second Start Literacy Program

In 2007 the LAC engaged in the following advocacy activities:

- Commissioners Scott, Katz, Manley, Citron, Yascolt and Alabi attended CALTAC (California Associate of Library Trustees and Commissioners) workshop in March. The workshop focused on "Keeping Pace" and was held at the Alameda Public Library.
- Commissioners Citron and Yascolt, along with 11 youth members of the Youth Leadership Council attended the annual Library Legislative Day in Sacramento. Oakland was the only library with teen representation. Scheduled meetings were held with aides from the offices of Loni Hancock, Sandre Swanson and State Senator Don Perata.
- Commissioner Citron represented OPL and attended the quarterly meetings of the BALIS/System Advisory Board.
- Commissioners Scott, Yascolt and Citron attended "Day in the District' and met with Representative Sandre Swanson.
- Commissioner Scott attended the Thacher Hurd mural opening in the Children's Area of the Main Library

Throughout the year Commissioners have continued their advocacy and advisory roles by meeting with Library staff and individual members of the public. In an effort to increase its visibility, the Commission held its meetings in the Rockridge, the African American Museum and Library at Oakland (AAMLO), West Oakland, Chávez, Golden Gate and Melrose Branch Libraries.

During 2008 the following new commissioners were appointed by the Mayor and approved by City Council:

• Billie Wooldridge: active member of the Eastmont Library Friends

• Carolyn Mixon: book consultant and volunteer at AAMLO

• Jacky Wu: UC Berkeley student and youth representative to the LAC

• Susanna Gilden: retired library director

• Stephen Tidrick: attorney and community activist

The LAC thanks commissioners who ended their terms on the Commission:

Ms. Tracey Scott

Dr. Evelyn Wesley

Ms. Beatrice Wong

Ms. Sharon Crandall

Future Issues and Activities:

The long term budget planning will continue to be the Commission's main focus over the next few months. Additionally, in the Commission's role as the Measure Q Oversight Committee, it will continue to explore its concerns about the preservation of Measure Q funds and associated commitments.

The Library Advisory Commission will continue to work closely with the Library Director, the City Administrator and City Council to ensure that the public has a voice in how decisions are made about the future of public libraries in Oakland. The LAC will continue to work with the OPL Youth Leadership Council and other organizations to identify a candidate for the one remaining commission appointment representing Oakland's youth.

Respectfully submitted,

Marilyn Citron, Chairperson Library Advisory Commission

> Item No:_____ Life Enrichment Committee June 10, 2008