

**Berkeley Public Library
Board of Library Trustees**

II Consent, Item A

**Regular Meeting
November 10, 2010**

**MINUTES
6:30 p.m.**

**South Branch
1901 Russell Street**

I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS

A. Call to Order

The Regular meeting of November 10, 2010 was called to order by Chair Kupfer at 6:32 PM.

Present: Trustees Winston Burton, Abigail Franklin, Carolyn Henry-Golphin, Susan Kupfer and Darryl Moore.

Absent: None.

Also present: Donna Corbeil, Director of Library Services; Dennis Dang, Library Admin Manager; Suzanne Olawski, Branch Library Manager; Debbie Carton, Librarian; Steve Dewan, Kitchell CEM; Eve Franklin, Administrative Secretary.

B. Public Comments

1. Jane Scantlebury – identified herself as a retired librarian from Central Branch, past SEIU 1020 Library chapter president, and a neighbor of the South Branch. Ms Scantlebury reported the support of Otis Street neighbors in particular and neighbors in general to build a new South Branch library. A few individuals who have very little relationship to our branches are trying to prevent this library from being built. There seems to be this idea that a building is more important than the need to bring optimum library services to the community. Whatever we need to do to make this building happen as soon as possible, you have the support of this neighborhood. This is a very dangerous building. If we delay this new building we're risking people; children, people from the community and our employees who are here all the time. The library is so small the entrance way is often blocked. Adults often sit in the children's section even though it is library policy to not allow adults without children to sit in the children's section, due to limited seating.
2. Bradley Wiedemier – Spoke in favor of renovation of South and West Branches. Raising issues of concern in this area is not trying to stop building, it's saying have we tracked our resources for demolition and replacement without considering what they offer to our community. It's not impossible to renovate renew buildings, other communities have done it. It's really necessary to take the social history of our communities into consideration. This building was highly awarded. Hans Ostwald was a refuge from Nazi Germany. He was trained in German modernism. It offers a certain esthetic that connects us back to historic issues. West is largely there, it's underneath, it's got suspended ceilings and built around. Have the possibilities of renovation really been given a balance? I don't think asking that is out of line.
3. Terry Powell – We worked very hard to pass measure FF. You have the support of everyone I know in the community for renovating or rebuilding the neighborhood branches. We don't want any neighborhood in the City of Berkeley to go without these much needed improvements to their facilities. We have seismic, mechanical and accessibility issues. Our state deficit is \$25 billion. There won't be a state fund for library renovations for quite a while. We tried our hardest to get some of those state funds and we were not able to do that, so we did it on our own. I'm really proud of all of us who worked hard to do that and I want you to know that we're there with you and behind you and we really want these rebuilding and renovation projects to go forward, all of them.
4. Peter Warfield, Library Users Association – The West Branch Library was determined to be a structure of merit by the city of Berkeley. A lot of its charm and beauty have been covered by the 1970's renovation. Measure FF promised voters to renovate and expand all of its branches. The library has decided since the time of Measure FF passage to tear down West and South branch despite their very evident excellent qualities. Expressed concern about statistics regarding books in the renovated and replaced branches. Concerned about an overall program of dumbing down libraries, book de-emphasis, tremendous amount

of floor space expansion. Would support expansion and renovation as originally planned and as put out in the literature the library put out and with appropriate emphasis on books and library services.

5. Dmitri Belser – Identified himself as Executive Director of Center for Accessible Technology and President of the Ed Roberts Campus (ERC). When I came to Berkeley 25 years ago I came to the South Branch Library. I looked at this library and thought I see what the city thinks about South Berkeley. This building is an access nightmare. It's terrible for people with disabilities. I never come here because it's very difficult to get through this building. I have a friend who is a wheel chair user who I told about this meeting. He said he wouldn't come because he knew he wouldn't be able to get in to the meeting. If you look around, there is no way for a person in a wheel chair to be comfortably in this meeting. Spoke in favor of building a new library that would accommodate people with disabilities. I'm also a preservationist and I love old buildings. But I think the uses by people are incredibly important. This building is a shame in this community. This is a community that has so many people with disabilities and we have this completely inaccessible library and this building can't be redesigned. Recently gave a tour of the new ERC to someone who remarked that the ERC is like the Marin Civic Center; it's a building that 60 years from now people will still be coming to see. I'd like to see the library do that as well. Let's build something beautiful and let's build a library that is a real model of disability access and community access and let's really make something this community can truly be proud of; 50 years from now it won't be a questions of whether it's a landmark of course it will be a landmark because it's such an amazing building. That what I'd like to see you do.
6. Diane Davenport – Identified herself as President of the Friends of the Berkeley Library and a Berkeley resident and taxpayer. I'm here representing a 500-member organization that's going to support you and this process; has from the beginning and will until the end. Two of our branches are being preserved. We've done a stunning job at preservation. We now have two branches that need to be replaced, they don't work any longer, and they don't work in these communities. We as Friends will support you. We've supported you in the community meetings to get to this process to have new buildings. We're here now, we'll be here until the very end, we'll be there on opening days of these two new libraries.
7. Tommie Larkin – identified himself as a student of the Berkeley Reads program, adult tutoring program at West Branch. Anything that can be done for the 21st century to upgrade I think it needs to be done. I came to this program a year and a half ago. You meet people from all over the world, it's like travelling without having to have a passport. Anything you can do to preserve this library, please do it. At lot of people depend upon this library. People from other countries gravitate towards the library. Its where a lot of people get to meet. They have wonderful people who volunteer their time and are kind and gentle and just want to see people help people. Sometimes you need to destroy something to make it better. Please do what you can do to preserve the library programs that draw the patrons in.
8. Linda Schacht Gage – Chair of the Capital Campaign to rebuild the four branch libraries, undertaken by the Library foundation. There have been dozens of meetings in the neighborhoods surrounding South and West branches attended by hundreds of people. When those meetings started no one had decided what to do yet. Input from those people who use those branches led to the decision to construct new buildings for South and West Branches, these buildings are not safe, not accessible, seismically dangerous and one doesn't have fire sprinklers. The Library Foundation has been able to raise a million dollars from people in our community to help with this project. They are buying into the concept of demolishing these buildings and building new ones for these communities. As the chair of this campaign, as I look down the road and I anticipate this lawsuit, and I think that Claremont and North might get renovated if they can get past the appeal that has been filed by the same people who are filing the suit to keep these two buildings from being rebuilt. The possibility exists, that we'll be spending money on legal fees, that the cost of construction will go up, that the permit process will change and that South and West ultimately will not be built and that to me is an unacceptable outcome of this whole process. It's not what I'm working for, it's not what many of people in this room are working for, it's not what the people who have contributed to this campaign are working for. Frankly even if the word demolish was missing from the language of Measure FF, in the community's minds, demolition is totally acceptable if not completely supported.

9. Cindy Shamban – Identified herself as a user of the West Branch Library, was a strong supporter of Measure FF and library tax measures and has been a resident of Berkeley since the mid 1980s. Have been to many of the community meetings at West Branch to hear the presentations from the architects. At the beginning when there was a discussion about the feasibility of whether it would be renovation or demolition, I was open to either one, depending upon what would give us the best product. As the discussion of what it would mean to try and renovate, no one really knowing what shape the original building was in, and that it would cost 2-3 hundred thousand dollars to even find out whether it could even withstand being moved, whether it was structurally sound, it became clear to me that it was not worth the resources to keep it together in order to be able to build a new library that would give the West Branch community the most flexibility in terms of safety, floor space use, being able to have books. But also in terms of the 21st century, 10-15-20 years from now maybe there will be books and maybe there won't. Whatever is being built now has to be flexible enough to meet the new realities whether we like them or not. I strongly support a new building at west branch and anything less would be a huge disservice to the community.
10. David Snyder – Identified himself as Director of the Berkeley Public Library Foundation, not a resident of Berkeley. Has refrained from making public comments except for opportunities to make presentations on behalf of the Berkeley Public Library Foundation. Stated that the pending lawsuit and zoning variance permit appeal that is challenging the Board of Library Trustees work and direction for the four branch libraries required that he make a statement. We launched and started new and renovated libraries in our promotions because that is what we believe. In the last year, the participants in the public meetings have not said anything other than that. I've sat quietly and watched and listened. And they have given you testimony, they have given you input and you have adapted your plans and the architects have been very flexible in what they have done and those designs currently reflect the input of the community. What has happened is some people who have voiced opposite ideas have not been successful in influencing in a significant way many of the things they would like to do. Therefore they have filed a lawsuit against the City of Berkeley, the Library. They are filing an appeal against the zoning that has been passed by the city to hold up, to delay, and to stop these projects. It's going to cost you the taxpayers here in Berkeley more money, more time and resources. Offered support of the Library Foundation. I want to encourage you to come out on December 7 for a City Council meeting where an appeal will be addressed from Judith Epstein who is a resident of Berkeley who has also filed the lawsuit. Peter Warfield from the Library Users Association, who is not a resident of Berkeley, and Judith Epstein are standing in opposition of your project. I encourage you to continue your support and to come out and participate.
11. Jody Levin – Identified herself as a neighbor of the South Branch Library. Comes to the library weekly with her son. Is proud to live in a community where there is a lot of diversity and wants the library to be accessible to disabled. As a library studies student has been studying how people use libraries in this day and age. Her son reads about ten books per week, he also likes video games and he likes to watch movies. When he comes to the library he wants to learn and to use these skills, he wants to learn how to write citations for his reports, and he wants to learn how to look up resources. These are things the library can teach him if they have the electronics available. In terms of the original building, the building is beautiful if it didn't have all that stuff in it. But it has all the stuff and it's unsafe and our community can't use it the way it is. Suggested having a display about the importance of the original building's architect as a permanent display. I can't see the disservice to the community. This community is struggling. We need a safe place for our kids to come.

12. Trina Ostrander – I want to commend the Board of Library Trustees for pursuing the restoration of all our libraries. I know it's been a long haul and I know it's not over yet. Thank you for your perseverance, vision and commitment. I've lived in Berkeley since 1970. One of my favorite things about living in Berkeley is having been able to see the restoration of so many of our public institutions. When I came to Berkeley, I couldn't help notice how over-crowded and dilapidated our public institutions had been despite the fact they were originally constructed with a lot of civic pride and ambition. I'm really glad to be part of a generation that has seen the problems, pays taxes, and pass bond issues and done an enormous amount of work to make this stuff happen. It's at our city hall, our school district and our libraries. It's one of the great things that we are doing in this town now. I think it makes us unusual and it makes me proud to be part of it. I have been a part of it; 14 years at the Berkeley Public Education Foundation; and 3-4 years at the Berkeley Public Library Foundation that raised more than \$4 million dollars for the Central Branch. I've had a great opportunity to be a part of raising the money. One of my favorite things was to see opening day when everyone in town is walking towards the Central Library, kids and families with smiles on their faces. Because we're celebrating how much we walk the walk around here. It's sensitive and thoughtful and made to serve our people now and into the next century. It's a good and a needed thing that we are doing. I have an enormous amount of confidence and demonstrable faith in the library staff, in our city staff and all the heroes who put so much time and effort into making this happen, politically, financially and the construction managers who get all this stuff done. We're going to be green, accessible, up-to-date and modern and we're going to service our people. Let's do it. This is good.

13. Jody Levin – Asked the people behind the lawsuit to please consider dropping the lawsuit.

C. Report from Library employees and Unions, Discussion of Staff Issues – Debbie Carton, Local 1021, SEIU, Library Steward, read a statement of support for construction of a new South Branch Library. (Attachment 1)

D. Report from Board of Library Trustees – Trustee Franklin reported she and Trustee Burton had attended the Public Art meeting for Claremont and North Branches. We have three finalists for each branch. Will meet again in January.

E. Approval of Agenda

Megan McArdle was unable to attend. The Technical Services Update (II Presentations, Item C) will be postponed to a later date.

R10-079 Moved by Trustee Franklin, seconded by Trustee Henry-Golphin, to approve the agenda as amended.
Motion passed unanimously.

Trustee Burton left the meeting at 7:11 PM and returned at 7:38 PM.

II. PRESENTATIONS

A. West Measure FF West Branch Library Update

Presentation by Harley Ellis Devereaux / GreenWorks Studio on the Design Development Phase; and Staff Report on the Process, Community Input and Next Steps. (Attachment 2)

Exterior - Reviewed new rendering. Warm and soft gathering places with redwood lumber plank siding and wisteria in trellis above. Large window wall allows light into the main space.

Interior – Large Reading Room with stacks on the west side. Some changes from schematic design. Public computers are now in hallway instead of a separate alcove. Teen room geography is slightly different. The service desk and computer area use same redwood siding treatment from the exterior. Ceiling area is light colored and contains skylights. Electric light to be used down low at people level, natural daylight above. Children's area has a smaller scale nook with view of the redwood tree and garden. Multipurpose room can be used as an adult reading space when not in use for programs. Berkeley Reads Program has dedicated space. Both the Multipurpose room and Berkeley Reads spaces could be accessed when the rest of the library is closed.

Landscaping – John Northmore provided an update of changes. A Disabled Parking Space serving the library will be placed on University Avenue. Accessible Loading/Drop-off zone. Main entry will feel like a garden. In the rear, one redwood tree will stay and one will be removed. A stump grinder will not be used on the remaining stump. There will be no public access to the rear garden. Too much space would need to be paved to make it accessible. It will be a beautiful garden to look at from inside the library. Planters around the building will work to filter all the roof runoff before it enters the storm water drain system.

Statistics - Seating increases from 30 to 51. Computers increases from 8 to 15. Shelving increases from 2,827 to 3,156 linear feet. Floor space increases from 5,944 to 9,399 SF.

Net Zero – Outdoor air used for ventilation and cooling, skylights open and roof fans for warmer days. On very hot days, can close up windows and run cold water through radiant slab. Solar thermal system and pump for heating in cooler months. Biggest use of energy will be for electronic components (computers, printers, etc.) We expect that in the first year of use there will be more energy used than the model predicts. Will monitor use and fine tune systems. Usage should drop as people get used to different conditions.

Public Comment

Peter Warfield – Pictures are beautiful. Concern is that an old building is not planned for renovation and expansion as originally intended. Statistics still show large increase in overall floor space but small increase overall in shelving and public space. Net Zero sounds nice, but any new building compared with a old building has a bigger environmental impact.

David Snyder – I want to complement the architects and designers with the layout and the design of the building. In keeping with Measure FF much of the attention was to be looking at accessibility and ADA requirements and seismic elements. There have been concerns expressed about the issues of books and shelving but it's very evident that you see at West when you go in, the need for space to be able to actually get in and out of aisles and to be able to browse books to get access to tables and chairs and I feel the openness of the design has done much to accommodate that. The design speaks directly to Measure FF and the expectations of the community to really look to those that need and have additional needs when it comes to accessibility and be able to have ease in access.

Diane Davenport – When I started my career at Berkeley Public Library I was the Branch Head at West and we were constantly having to tell people where we were because that concrete front never said library to the community, it never drew people in. This is a warm and open space that I think is going to be an amazing presence for both the city and for the library system. It will be much more of a community center. I love that library and have a fondness for it. It didn't work then in 1982 and it doesn't work now. Let's get a new library built that is a prideful place for both the community and the library.

Bradley Wiedemier – The current state of west branch is certainly dreadful. The additions and maintenance are problematic. The actual historic building is hidden within and could be used as a design theme. It's a very handsome design that the architects have presented us today and certainly the architects are carrying out the direction of the program they've been given. I'm surprised at how extensive the office space is and how cut off it is from the library proper. The nice thing about libraries historically is that librarians have been accessible. Alarmed that a third of the space is separated off.

Cindy Shamban – The staff spaces at West are extremely limited, are very crowded, they have no room to work. There is a difference between the kind of work that staff does when they are out in the public at the desk or on the floor and the other work that they have to do out of the public sight. There are two very different functions. I attended at least three community meetings at West Branch where there were a lot of very engaged people talking about the functions of the library and what they wanted to see. It was a very good back and forth process. The changes in the design over the last six months are reflective of community participation.

Ed Dean – It's kind of misleading to compare the staff areas of the two buildings. The existing building is totally a non functional building. It has no circulation, to get from one space to another you have to walk through the functional spaces. The Berkeley Reads program is currently squatting on library space. When you add that to basic circulation that any building would have and new code requirements the area needs change. If you

compared the new plans with another modern buildings you might be able to ask that question. You can't compare old building to new, it's like comparing apples and oranges.

Board Comment

Trustee Franklin – It's such a thoughtful, well considered plan. It's incredibly exciting. The light is phenomenal. The Net Zero Energy is exciting and forward thinking and just fabulous for the 21st century. I like the more active role of staff roaming around. That's a great model and I am glad we're embracing it. The garden area is beautiful.

Trustee Burton – We might not have the opportunity to do this for another 50 years. I was fortunate enough to be on the Foundation and to work to try to bring the public together to vote for this and they're very excited about the possibilities and the future. I've got three kids and three grandkids and I see this as an opportunity for them to learn and grow in a safe, technology-advanced, up-to-date facility. And to not let this move forward would be to block my kids from something that would benefit them for the next 50 years. I am passionate about the designs and about the level of changes that have happened because of community input. There were a lot of things I didn't like earlier, but the architects were able to make changes the community wanted. I've heard a lot of people who were very excited about the plans.

Trustee Moore – Tremendous job, stunning. There has been lots of public process and input. Net Zero is an amazing step in the right direction.

Director Corbeil - Next Steps – Draft EIR should be released in mid-December 2010, to be posted on the city's Planning page for public comment; Landmarks Preservation Commission; Design Review Board and ZAB Use Permit application hearing, all to come later.

B. Kitchell CEM Quarterly Update

Steve Dewan provided an update of progress since May 12, 2010. (Attachment 3)

Trustee Franklin - Is there a way to quantify cost of delays? *Mr. Dewan – There could be one with a wide range of assumptions. You could incorporate concepts of cost escalation, extended consultant costs, it's hard to quantify things like loss of competition; right now there is a good bidding atmosphere out that that drives down prices, if this gets extended out and the economy starts to turn and there's less competition you get less bang for your buck.*

Trustee Moore – Are there economies of scale if we choose the same contractor for Claremont North. *Mr. Dewan – Not really. They are two completely separate bid packages and contracts. Might have some different contractors attracted to the different projects, some contractors might be very skilled at renovations, others at new construction. It might be more work to combine two different project. Advantages of two different contractors: spreads the work around and divides the risk.*

Trustee Kupfer – If somebody bids on both contracts, I assume we would consider it. I like the spread the risk concept after the difficulties we had when renovating Central.

C. Staff Update - Technical Services

Postponed, to be rescheduled.

III. CONSENT CALENDAR

Item B- 2011 Meeting Schedule for the Board of Library Trustees - Trustee Moore requested correction of meeting start time to 6:30 PM.

- R10-080** Moved by Trustee Moore, seconded by Trustee Franklin, to approve Consent Calendar as amended. Motion passed unanimously.
- A. Approve minutes of October 18, 2010 Special Meeting**
- R10-081** Moved by Trustee Moore, seconded by Trustee Franklin, to approve the minutes of the October 18 2010 specials meeting of the Board of Library Trustees as presented. Motion passed unanimously.
- B. 2011 Meeting Schedule for the Board of Library Trustees**
- Trustee Moore requested correction of meeting start time to 6:30PM.
- R10-082** Moved by Trustee Moore, seconded by Trustee Franklin, to approve the resolution setting the dates for the 2011 regular meeting schedule for the Board of Library Trustees. Motion passed unanimously.
- C. 2011 Holiday Schedule for the Berkeley Public Library**
- R10-083** Moved by Trustee Moore, seconded by Trustee Franklin, to approve the resolution approving the 2011 calendar of holidays for the Berkeley Public Library. Motion passed unanimously.
- D. Opening the Central Library and All Branches One Hour Late**
- R10-084** Moved by Trustee Moore, seconded by Trustee Franklin, to approve the resolution authorizing the Central Library and all Branches open one hour late on April 29, July 29 and September 30, 2011 to allow adequate time for the quarterly all-staff meetings. Motion passed unanimously.

IV. ACTION CALENDAR

A. Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson Nominations and Election of Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson

There are two separate motions captured in one resolution.

- R10-085** Moved by Trustee Moore, seconded by Trustee Burton, to nominate and elect Trustee Kupfer to sit as Chairperson for a one-year term commencing on November 10, 2010. Motion passed unanimously.
- Chair Kupfer noted she will term out from the Board in May 2011.

Moved by Trustee Kupfer, seconded by Trustee Henry-Golphin, to nominate and elect Trustee Moore to sit as Vice-Chairperson for a one-year term commencing on November 10, 2010. Motion passed unanimously.

Trustee Burton – Let’s stay the course.

Chair Kupfer – We will begin the process to select a new Trustee in January 2011.

Trustee Moore – Suggested revising the questions posed to trustee candidates. *Chair Kupfer reported Trustee Franklin has offered to work on revising the questions. Trustee Franklin has some ideas on ways we can integrate new trustees.*

V. INFORMATION REPORTS

A. FY11 1st Quarter Budget Report – Dennis Dang - Trustee Moore requested addition of a column to Attachment 1 showing % spent to date for sub-categories.

Local Vendors Local Hiring– Winston Burton - Trustee Burton meet with library and City of Berkeley staff. The City Manager has been negotiating a PLA (project labor agreement) with trade unions. Other cities have goals for hiring. Want to keep this on our minds as a goal.

Trustee Franklin – Hiring locally makes sense for a lot of reasons. The library follows City of Berkeley hiring practices, so can the library legally do this?

Trustee Burton – The City Manager is working on the PLA. Some towns have policies around local hires that Berkeley does not have in place yet. That’s one of the things being worked out in the PLA agreement. The PLA will be in place before construction starts. I feel the PLA is not necessarily enough, I’d also think CoB needs to have goals and percentages written into the city’s policies.

Trustee Moore – Other communities like Oakland and Hayward have local hiring goals written into their procurement policies. The Supreme Court has ruled they are permissible as long as they are done in a correct manner. Enforcement is the tricky part– how to make sure contractors are doing what they promise. CoB needs to find the persons and resources to do enforcement.

Chair Kupfer – We’re going to keep talking about this topic. Project Labor Agreement is with unions, and we would get a manager or consultant that would work on these projects.

- B. Administrative and Fiscal Services Classification Change** - No discussion.
- C. November 2010 Monthly Report from Library Director** – No discussion.
- D. Update on the Branch Bond Program** – No discussion.
- E. Library events:** Calendar of events and press releases for various Library programs are posted at <http://www.berkeleypubliclibrary.org>

I. AGENDA BUILDING

A. The next meeting will be a Regular Meeting held at 6:30 PM on Wednesday December 8, 2010 at the South Branch Library, 1901 Russell Street, Berkeley.

- 1. Possible topics for the agenda
 - December
 - Annual Personnel Evaluation for the Director of Library Services
 - Informational report on FY 2012/13 biennial budget.

II. ADJOURNMENT

R10-086 Moved by Trustee Burton, seconded by Trustee Franklin, to adjourn the regular meeting of the board at 8:44 PM. Motion passed unanimously.

COMMUNICATIONS

- 1. SEIU 1021 Support for New South Branch Library.
- 2. New and Renovated Libraries