I. CALL TO ORDER: Chairperson Scott called the LAC meeting to order at 5:10 p.m.

Roll Call

Commissioners Excused: Evelyn Wesley, Deborah Eudaley, Lottie Rose.

Commissioners Absent:

Staff Present: Director Martínez, Julie Odofin, Gene Tom, Gerry Garzón, and Rosalía Arteaga-Romo (recorder).

Disposition of Minutes
Commissioner Kelly made a motion to approve the minutes of April 26, 2004, as corrected. Commissioner Katz seconded the motion and all commissioners present approved the minutes.

II. REPORTS

a. Chairperson’s Report
   ➢ Welcomed newly appointed Commissioners Silvestre and Katz to their first official meeting.
   ➢ Chairperson Scott would like to plan a retreat once all vacancies are filled, sometime in August or September 2004. In the meantime, Commissioners should be thinking about ideas for the retreat.

b. Director’s Report
   ➢ Staff has been working on the Library budget and preparing for the June 10th Budget review before City Council.
   ➢ As part of the budget review, staff has been planning major changes in the areas of collection development; hiring new librarians; and, expanded library hours.
   ➢ The Library has put great effort into recruiting librarians who represent the community we serve.
   ➢ The Library submitted its annual request for Friends funding to the Friends of the Oakland Public Library.
   ➢ The Friends of the Asian Branch Library held its annual fundraiser event on May 16.

Master Plan Update
Gerry Garzón reported that staff spent the month preparing the long-term plans for the Master Plan. The Community Action Committee (CAC) will resume meeting within the next month to discuss inclusion of the Main Library into the Master Plan. The CAC will also be conducting a speakers’ forum in the fall.
Branch Division Update

- Julie Odofin reported that staff is very excited about the new Chavez Branch Library; there are still some details that need fine-tuning. One issue is the RFID (Radio Frequency Identification) self-checkout equipment. This technology is very new and the Chavez Branch is one of the first libraries in the Bay Area to use it made available to the public. Staff has been working with the vendor to resolve this continuing issue. Mr. Garzón elaborated a bit more on the problem, and also referred to a handout reassuring patron privacy when using RFID.
- Staff is looking to have all branches open 6 days a week. This is a direct result of the passage of Measure Q.
- The new bookmobile has arrived and we hope to have it running in the fall, after the graphic designs and application of the graphic designs to the exterior of the vehicle have been completed.

Proposition 14 Update

Mr. Garzón distributed a hand-out and reported that Senate Bill 1161, the California Reading and Literacy Improvement and Public Library construction and Renovation Bond Act of 2004 was passed by the Senate and is being considered in the House. If approved by the voters, it would authorize new bonds in the amount of $2,000,000,000 for statewide library construction and renovation grants. The Library submitted its Prop 14 application and it has gone through the first hurdle. We’re waiting to hear from the State Library during the summer if they have any questions or clarifications. The final decision for grant awards will be announced in the fall. Chairperson Scott added that Commissioners could send letters of support and lobby for the Library. Commissioner Wong asked whether the Asian Branch Library would be included into the Master Plan. Mr. Garzón replied that staff is considering 3 options for the Asian Branch (one of the largest circulation branches). Commissioner Katz and Silvestre agreed to organize a sub-committee for a letter campaign. Mr. Garzón would provide the contact information to them.

c. Commissioners Advocacy Report

- Commissioner Wong reported that the Friends of the Asian Branch held its annual fundraiser event. The Friends donated $10,000. It was a great event and Commissioner Wong exhorted Commissioners to get more involved in their local branch and Friends group, it is very rewarding.
- Commissioner Kelly, in response to Judi Hirsch’s suggestion of appointing 2 youth representatives to the LAC, would prefer a youth who brings an ability to work on the Commission, with initiative and activism. We could probably split one vacancy between 2 youths. She also expressed concern to ensure a school representative remains on the LAC to keep it connected to the School District.
- Chairperson Scott is working with the Mayor’s staff to fill the vacancies and build a team. Requested Commissioners to submit names of possible candidates, particularly for youth representation.
- Commissioner Katz referred to a handbook she received from the City Clerk’s Office for Boards and Commissioners. Staff will contact the office for additional copies for the rest of the commissioners.

III. OLD BUSINESS – None

IV. NEW BUSINESS – None

V. AGENDA BUILDING
VI. OPEN FORUM – No comments

VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Judi Hirsch asked whether the Bookmobile could incorporate visits to elementary and middle schools, to provide books to those schools which lack libraries. Director Martínez added that 4 outreach librarian positions have been added to the Library budget to cover schools, under Measure Q funds.
- Betty Griffin, teacher and school librarian at OUSD, came to observe the meeting.
- Gerry Garzón distributed documentation regarding the benefits and patron privacy concerns on the RFID. He encouraged Commissioners to read the information and learn more about it. Self-checkout systems free up staff to do other things and allow them to interact more with the public.
- The July 26 LAC meeting will be held at the new Chavez Branch.
- The August meeting is cancelled. There may be a retreat instead. To be confirmed.
- The September LAC meeting will be held at the Asian Branch.

Meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Submitted by,

Carmen Martínez
Library Director