The Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees of the Las Vegas-Clark County Library District met in regular session in the Las Vegas Library, Las Vegas, Nevada, at 4:30 p.m., Thursday, February 14, 2008.

**Present:** Committee: V. Davis-Hoggard, Chair  F. Barron  A. Aguirre

Counsel: G. Welt

Absent: K. Benavidez

Staff: Daniel L. Walters, Executive Director  Numerous Staff

Guests: None

V. Davis-Hoggard, Chair, called the meeting to order at 4:43 p.m.

**Roll Call**

All members listed above represent a quorum.

**Agenda**

Trustee Barron moved to approve the Agenda as proposed. There was no opposition and the motion carried.

**Possible discussion and direction to staff regarding planning for future Board meeting dates, agenda topics, and possible discussion and direction to Board committees on future committee tasks.**

(Item III.)

Executive Director Walters briefed Trustees on the Friends of Southern Nevada Libraries (FOSNL) matter.

Mr. Walters noted that the issue began in November, when Trustee Costello asked about the cost figure in the financial reports on the materials that were discarded and asked where the $6.6 million figure shown in the reports came from. While the materials given to the FOSNL are completely depreciated over a period of five years and, in most cases, worth nothing, Walters said the figure is necessary from an auditing standpoint, to show what it would cost the District if it were to purchase those items. He also noted that approximately $300,000 is run through the District’s books due to the FOSNL bookstores in District branches. The money is directly deposited to the FOSNL account. District staff then request funding from the FOSNL for specific projects not covered under the annual budget. In the last year, the FOSNL has provided approximately $186,000 for District programs.

Mr. Walters said the matter was similar to the issue with Mt. Charleston. Once staff started examining the issues, then staff needed to find a resolution.

Mr. Walters reviewed the history of relations with the FOSNL since his arrival and CFO Fred James’ arrival, when several accounting issues were cleared up. He also noted that, since the materials budget has greatly increased, the items discarded by the District and given to the FOSNL has greatly increased in quantity.
Mr. Walters noted that the FOSNL provide a valuable service, as a large number of materials given to them are not saleable and it would require a great deal of District staff time to go through the items. The funding the group provides allows for programs not funded through the District’s general fund.

Last year, at a joint meeting between the Executive team and the Public Services team, staff was told the FOSNL could not always accept books from the District. Public Services staff was concerned that, when RFID tagging began, the FOSNL would not be able to handle the large number of discards that would be sent to them.

Mr. Walters felt it was appropriate that a formal agreement be in place, with safeguards for both groups. In that spirit, he asked for a copy of the group’s articles of incorporation, a copy of their latest audit, and other documents that would provide accountability for the large numbers of materials the FOSNL received from the District without meeting any formal bidding requirements. Since the money raised by the FOSNL is not automatically given to the District, but must be requested for each program, Walters also felt that issue should be addressed, again for accountability.

Mr. Walters discussed meetings that both he and Deputy Director Robb Morss had with FOSNL President Mary Barkan. Both Walters and Morss characterized the meetings as friendly. Ms. Barkan indicated her interest in an agreement, but several proposed drafts did not satisfy her. After the last meeting that included Walters, Morss, Barkan and another member of the FOSNL, the certified letter, addressed to Mr. Walters and sent to the entire Board of Trustees, was received.

Mr. Walters said he did not think it was appropriate to attempt resolution through an exchange of letters from one side to another, and that he had asked Chair Davis-Hoggard to designate Trustees to meet in a low-key fashion with FOSNL representatives to see what can be done about resolving the issue. He was concerned that the District’s quite legitimate concerns for accountability of the process would be wrongly interpreted by the group as a lack of faith in the work or commitment.

Chair Davis-Hoggard said she would talk to Trustees Costello and Overstreet about meeting with FOSNL representatives and asked Mr. Walters to brief them prior to the meeting.

After discussion of the FOSNL matter, Mr. Walters then briefed Committee members on upcoming Board meeting items. At the evening’s full Board meeting, Walters said that Trustees will hear the first of two major consulting reports for the Strategic Plan aside from the Dubberly, Garcia presentations. The presentation, by Hobbs, Ong & Associates, will be on the financing projections for the bonds to fund the Compass Point projects and also will be incorporated into the Strategic Plan.
In March, Mr. Walters continued, Trustees will hear the second major consulting report, a presentation by Calvin Champlin on a demographic analysis of the urban population projection for Clark County, showing areas of greatest growth and density.

Mr. Walters noted that Chair Davis-Hoggard is appointing Trustee Aguirre as the Chair of the Finance and Audit Committee. The next Finance and Audit Committee meeting is scheduled for March 5 to select an auditor for the 2007-2008 Fiscal Year. Mr. Walters said that each firm has also provided cost estimates along with their RFQ’s, which have remained sealed. Once the Committee has reviewed staff’s report and discussed each firm’s qualifications, the staff will open each firm’s cost estimates in the presence of the Committee. The Committee will present their recommendation to the full Board at the March Board meeting.

Mr. Walters said that the proposed changes to the Bylaws will be reviewed at the March Board meeting and voted upon at the April Board meeting.

Mr. Walters said staff was working on the planning for the FY 2008-2009 operating budget. He said the plans are for a very lean operating budget, but the District will begin to draw down its capital account to pay for the Centennial Hills Library construction and Compass Point planning. Once the bonds are issued, the money raised will be used to pay for the two projects as well as to reimburse the capital account for un-budgeted “Compass Point” expenditures.

The schematic drawings for the Compass Point Library and Service Center and the first overview of the first group of four branches scheduled for the efficiency remodels (Las Vegas, Rainbow, Sahara West and Enterprise) will be presented at the March or April meeting. Mr. Walters noted that ten months ago, District staff worried about whether contractors would be interested in the projects and considered bundling the four branches into one project, but now, due to the changing economic situation, many contractors have expressed interest in the projects.

Trustee Aguirre wanted to know if there was one architect for the efficiency remodels or several. Mr. Walters said that Domingo Cambiero Corporation, Welles Pugsley Architects, LLP and Lucchesi, Galati Architects, Inc. are all involved.

Mr. Walters concluded the update for the next few months by saying that staff is working on quite a few projects such as the Strategic Plan planning, RFID conversion, the branch efficiency remodels, the Centennial Hills construction, the Compass Point planning and the FOSNL matter.

**Announcements**

* (Item IV.)

None.
Public Comment
(Item V.)
None.

Adjournment
(Item VI.)
Chair Davis-Hoggard moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:36 p.m. There was no opposition and the motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Verlia Davis-Hoggard, Committee Chair