

MINUTES
LAS VEGAS-CLARK COUNTY LIBRARY DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA
March 11, 2004
(approved April 8, 2004)

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 6:00 p.m., Thursday, March 11, 2004.

Present: Board: E. Sanchez, Vice Chair L. Overstreet
K. Carter, Secretary V. Hoggard
A. Arthurholtz, Treasurer A. Aguirre
T. Wong F. Sponer
M. Pohl

Counsel: G. Welt

Absent: R. Barlow, Chair

Staff: Daniel L. Walters, Executive Director
Numerous Staff

Guests: Links, Inc. representatives: LaVonne Lewis, President
Dr. Christine Lewis, Vice President
Hannah Brown, Treasurer

E. Sanchez, Vice Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:09 p.m.

Roll Call All members listed above represent a quorum.

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

Approval of Proposed Minutes Regular Session, February 12, 2004 and Finance and Audit Committee Meeting, February 12, 2004. Trustee Sponer moved to approve the Minutes of the Board of Trustees Meeting held February 12, 2004. Trustees Sanchez and Wong abstained from voting. There was no opposition and the motion carried. Trustee Arthurholtz moved to approve the Minutes of the Finance and Audit Committee Meeting held February 12, 2004. Trustees Carter, Wong and Sanchez abstained from voting. There was no opposition from Committee members and the motion carried.

Chair's Report (Item IV.) Trustee Sanchez thanked staff that had attended the PLA conference in Seattle and noted that LVCCLD is fortunate to have such a great group of employees. West Las Vegas Library Branch Manager Felton Thomas introduced LaVonne Lewis, President of Links, Inc. along with officers, Dr. Christine Clark, Vice President and Hannah Brown, Treasurer. The LVCCLD Board of Trustees recognized Links' generous gift to the West Las Vegas Library of photographs of African American

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celebrities who had worked in Las Vegas in the early years.

Trustee Aguirre gave a brief summary of a meeting that he and Executive Director Walters had with Las Vegas Art Museum Director Karen Barrett and Jerry Facciani to advance mutual interests and benefits for the District and the Museum.

Executive Director Walters added that Ms. Barrett and Mr. Facciani recognized and appreciated Sahara West Branch Manager Kim Clanton-Green's willingness to work cohesively with the Museum on various activities and programs.

Trustee Hoggard moved to accept Reports V.A. 1-7. There was no opposition and the reports were accepted.

Executive Director's Report (Item V.A.)

Accepted.

Public Services and Security Report (Item V.A.1.)

Accepted.

Business Office Report (Item V.A.2.)

Accepted.

Human Resources Report (Item V.A.3.)

Accepted.

Technology Report (Item V.A.4.)

Accepted.

Projects Report (Item V.A.5.)

Accepted.

Marketing Report (Item V.A.6.)

Accepted.

Development Report (Item V.A.7.)

Accepted.

Unfinished Business (Item VI.)

None

Presentation of a report from the Executive Director and possible Board discussion regarding planning for new services for the "growth areas" of the District

Executive Director Walters stated that after speaking with Board Chair Barlow regarding the fact that not all of the Trustees would be able to attend both days of the upcoming retreat, they agreed that it would be helpful to give a brief accounting at this Board meeting of what would be covered in depth at the retreat. The resulting preliminary discussion will assist pending retreat discussion of topics and strategies.

Walters noted that Trustee Pohl had asked last year if there was a

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without bond funds. (Item VII.A.)

"Plan B" in the event that the bond issue failed. The retreat will allow the opportunity to develop service strategies without bond funds.

Discussion regarding the alternatives for providing services in the District's "growth areas" is of paramount importance. Given that all areas of the District are taxed for services, if there will not be enough growth in the operating budget for expanding branch services, is it fair to maintain full service levels in existing branches while "growth areas" that are also taxed go without services? This "equity issue" among others, should be addressed by the District.

At the retreat, staff will provide detail of the most critical budget needs over the next three years and will report on how selected near-term projects could be funded over three years. A new planning cycle is proposed that would include staff involvement and community participation through branch meetings and surveys and comprehensive financial planning.

The current Strategic Plan emphasized getting the highest return from public investment for services, collections, meeting rooms, etc. Since its inception, turnover rate and circulation have increased dramatically; new outreach services have been established for teens, Latinos, seniors and other residents. A virtual library has been established and a new private foundation has been formed. Several new policies have been adopted by the Board and over 800 new computers have been installed. In addition, open hours were analyzed and increased from 68 hours to 72 hours in the urban branches with additional Sunday service hours added for Mesquite and Laughlin.

The Strategic Plan included a strategy to meet the challenge of Clark County's unprecedented growth through proposing a bond issue to fund projects identified by thorough analysis of needs and costs, but because a bond issue was not passed, many of the strategic objectives will not be accomplished or will have to be reexamined.

There are areas in the District without services and a strategy for services is needed. A new planning study would help the Board confirm the areas in greatest need and provide for community involvement in developing ways to best address challenges with little revenue.

Staff reports will be presented on Saturday including the current status of the Strategic Plan, high priority projects that were included in the first phase of the bond proposal, automation planning for the Integrated Library System and PC replacement, facilities maintenance, budget planning along with projected budgetary issues.

The CFO will present an outline of current savings levels and operating budget projections to give the Board an indication of funding resources in order to determine those projects that would be most viable. Without careful financial planning, there is little assurance that a long-term plan will work or that new service outlets can be

maintained along with current service levels.

Perceptions of "equity" differ between existing neighborhoods served by the District and the new "growth areas." A new planning process would be an ideal forum for broad examination of the levels of tax support and the opportunity for services. The goal is to achieve the most cost-effective balance between service equity and support.

In the absence of a successful bond issue, the District is still faced with the challenge of serving the fastest growing metropolitan area in the nation. Due to the Board's foresight and good management, \$1.7 million has been put aside to replace the Integrated Library System, (ILS). There are also major building problems that will require investments including new construction or rehab of current facilities.

Once the planning process and revenue and expenditure forecasts have been completed, the Board will determine which projects should be funded. Whatever the District decides, the bulk of funding will have to go toward capitalization costs.

At the retreat, the CFO will propose and explain the dynamics of how \$4 million can be transferred into capital reserves. This item will be brought to the Board for discussion at the April Board meeting. This would be the first of three proposed transfers, pending availability of funds in future years.

The retreat will enable the Trustees to assess the current Strategic Plan and determine if a new planning process should be initiated given the District's accomplishments and new challenges. The retreat agenda has been developed to provide the Trustees with more comprehensive information on alternative strategies for the District's future.

Trustees deferred asking questions until the retreat.

**Announcements
(Item VIII.)**

The next Board Meeting will be held Thursday, April 8, 2004 in the Clark County Library at 6:00 p.m.

**Public Comment
(Item IX.)**

None

**Adjournment (Item
X.)**

Trustee Sponer moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:55 p.m. There was no opposition and the motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Ken Carter, Secretary