

# City of Mesa Library Advisory Board Meeting

Date: March 18, 2008  
Time: 6:30 p.m.  
Location: City of Mesa Main Library  
64 E. 1<sup>st</sup> Street

## Members Present

Doug Gerlach  
*Chair*

Diane Cantile  
Cheryl Laflen  
Dorothy Shupe  
Liz Purtell  
Michael Yates  
Dilworth Brinton, Jr.  
Kay Henry

## Staff Present

Heather Wolf  
Kellie Gillespie  
Barbara Bingham  
Dawn P. Kucerak

## Members Absent

Oonagh McQuarrie

## Guests Present

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION
<b>Call to Order</b>	Board Chair Doug Gerlach called the regular monthly meeting of the City of Mesa Library Advisory Board to order at 6:40 p.m. on March 18, 2008.
<b>Approval of Minutes</b>	Board member Dilworth Brinton, Jr. moved and board member Kay Henry seconded that the minutes of the January 15, 2008 regular meeting be approved as presented. Motion passed, all voting yes.
<b>Public Comments</b>	There were no public comments.
<b>Welcome and Introductions</b>	Board Chair Doug Gerlach welcomed Diane Cantile to the Library Advisory Board. Ms. Cantile is replacing Mr. Jaime Herrera. Ms. Cantile is from Chicago, has retired from the Mesa Public Schools, MPS, although she now continues to work for the MPS part-time. The Library Director, Board Chair, and Board Members introduced themselves to Ms. Cantile.
<b>Director's Report</b>	Budget Update: The City's revenues are not coming in as projected and are currently \$17M behind in revenues. All City departments have been asked to reduce their FY 2008-09 budgets by 5%. There is currently a hiring freeze and some capital projects have been held back. The new Council members have begun to attend council meetings and may provide input. The current Council, though, will approve the FY2008-2009 budget. The budget will be adopted the end of June 2008 and will go into effect July 1, 2008. The Library's proposed reductions are not available until after the Council presentation on Thursday, March 20, 2008. A detailed e-mail will

**AGENDA ITEM** **DISCUSSION**

be sent to the Library board as to the Library’s proposed reductions, a little over \$500,000. No filled library positions will be cut and operating hours will remain the same.

Board member, Dilworth Brinton, Jr. re-confirmed that patron holds are no longer being wrapped and received clarification on what the “Polaris” demonstration was about. “Polaris” is a vendor that provides software to keep track of library materials.

The Community Festival held on Saturday, February 23, 2008, was a huge success. The event was funded by donations from Bookman’s, SRP, the Mesa Community College Alumni Association, and the Friends of the Library. Over 1,500 were in attendance at this family event that featured food, entertainment, and activities. There were three story times with 150 participants, 800 bags of popcorn were given out, and the Friends of the Library raffle for Chicago Cubs ticket raised \$600+. During the month of March, each library location is hosting “open houses” for City employees to learn about the services their library provides. April 14-20 will be “Food for Fines” and in June and July Origami Programs for Youth will be offered.

The Library will be partnering with the Maricopa County Library District for this year’s Summer Reading Program from May 27 thru July 27, 2008.

**YAAC Report**

No report available. The Winter 2008 edition of “Open Shelf” was distributed.

**Friends of the Library Report**

No report available.

**Board Position Elections**

Both the nominations and vote to elect a Chair and Vice-Chair will take place at the May 20, 2008, regular monthly meeting before the board adjourns for the summer.

**Red Mountain Library Presentation**

Library Director, Heather Wolf introduced Kellie Gillespie, who has been the Branch Coordinator II at Red Mountain for the past year. Ms. Gillespie had previously been at the Dobson Ranch branch for one year.

Ms. Gillespie shared recent events and goals for the Red Mountain branch that include:

The “grand opening” of the “Open Book Lounge,” formerly the training room, on Monday, March 24, 2008 and the “open house” at Red Mountain as part of the 100+ year celebration on Wednesday, March 26, 2008. Invitations to both were extended to the board members.

Promoting the use of self-checkout by re-arranging circulation’s floor plan. Continued recruitment of library volunteers and expanding the types of service opportunities for volunteers. Currently there are 50+ volunteers at Red Mountain. The sales desk is now staffed by volunteers and Michele Meyer, is recruiting for a supervisory volunteer to supervise the teen volunteers.

Supervisory Librarian, Vickie Hoff, will attend the Public Library

**AGENDA ITEM****DISCUSSION**

Association conference in Minneapolis.  
Wi-Fi is now available at Red Mountain.  
Staff continue to enjoy the “morale booster” activities-February Fun month featured games and March Madness had a sports theme.

Ms. Gillespie responded to any questions the board had. Ms. Shupe inquired as to how many people came to Red Mountain on a daily basis. Both Main and Red Mountain are about equal in visits with at least 40,000 people visiting Red Mountain monthly. Mr. Brinton, Jr. offered providing information to the library about the scouting merit badge for reading and will provide Ms. Gillespie with that information.

**Items for future agendas**

Board Chair, Doug Gerlach, recommended reviewing the library’s operating hours particularly the hours at the branches. Mr. Gerlach posed the question, “Is there a better way to allocate the hours?”

Discussion ensued about the budget. Board member Michael Yates expressed frustration and disappointment that the Library Director had been instructed to withhold information about proposed cutbacks in the library budget from the members of the board, which prevents citizen input into the budgetary process in a timely fashion. As a result, Mr. Yates motioned and board member Kay Henry seconded the motion for a special meeting on April 8, 2008 to discuss the budget and related matters. After further discussion, board member Michael Yates restated the motion to convene a special meeting on April 1, 2008. Board member Kay Henry seconded the motion. Motion passed, everyone voting yes.

**Announcements**

None.

**Adjournment**

Board member Cheryl Laflen motioned and board member Dilworth Brinton, Jr. seconded that the meeting be adjourned. Motion passed, all voting yes. The meeting was adjourned at 7:28 p.m.

The next special meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 1, 2008 at 6:30 p.m. in the Main Library Youth Activity Room, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, 64 E. 1<sup>st</sup> Street.

The next regular meeting will be held on May 20, 2008 at 6:30 p.m. in the Main Library Boardroom, 64 E. 1<sup>st</sup> St.