

Renton Library Advisory Board



Meeting Minutes

Renton City Hall, 7th floor
Council Conference Room
March 16, 2016 ~ 5:30 p.m.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Erica Richey called the meeting to order at 5:43 p.m.

In Attendance

Members: Laurie Beden, Lynne King, Catherine Ploue-Smith, Erica Richey
City Staff: Kelly Beymer, Michael Kirk, Margie Beitner
KCLS Staff: John Sheller
Excused: Kim Unti

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Laurie Beden made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Lynne King seconded. All were in favor, motion carried, agenda approved.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Lynne King made a motion to approve the February 2016 minutes, Laurie Beden seconded. All were in favor, motion carried, minutes approved.

IV. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS/PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

V. BOARD COMMUNICATIONS

None.

VI. ACTION / BRIEFING

None.

VII. CITY REPORT / Kelly Beymer

Kelly Beymer introduced Michael Kirk, as the new Facilities Director. Michael has been in this position for about four weeks now. Michael commented that he is excited and glad to be here and that he has enjoyed his first month at the City; he is excited about rolling up his sleeves and getting things done and looks forward to continually serving. Michael also mentioned that this is his first city he has worked for; he has worked for private developers and private entities and is originally from Florida. Michael has a Bachelor's degree in Architectural Engineering and Construction Management. He previously served in a Director role at both Larimer and Pima Counties.

Kelly provided a short update for on-going Capital Improvement Projects within the Community Services Department.

Sunset Redevelopment Plan – Kelly Beymer reported that Michael Kirk, Facilities Director has been working on the driveway and easement at the Highlands Library. There is also some minor finishing work for the Downtown Library.

It was noted that the Renton Housing Authority and City of Renton are working on the parking as part of the 2nd phase of the Sunset Neighborhood Park. The 1st phase included grant money for grading and turf.

Kelly indicated that the restroom facility will be a first priority. Paving around Sunset Lane is scheduled to be completed by August 2017 (approximately one year out). They are working on permits at this time.

Erica Richey inquired about the intended use for the old Renton Highlands Building. Kelly explained the North Highlands building is being considered for underprivileged programs (*approved by Neighborhood House service organizations for resources and classes*). The city may potentially reapply for CNI Grant; with a possible phased payback to go towards park and current Highlands Library. Re-purposing the building is what the City is looking into. The city is in the negotiating stage with this facility.

Erica Richey also asked about the artwork; the Turtle sculpture to be specific. Kelly indicated that the historic artwork will be preserved.

Catherine Ploue-Smith inquired about Liberty Park. Kelly Beymer said it is on the capital plan and is slated to be done in 2016. This includes the south portion – playground update, shelter and area leading to the Library. There are plans to widen the path and add three pieces of outdoor exercise equipment.

VIII. KCLS REPORT/John Sheller

John Sheller reported on the opening scheduled for Highlands Library. The North Highlands Library will be closed for one week; they are putting new books up first in the new facility and then they will close the existing Library on Saturday, March 19 at 5:00 p.m. – staff will be in to pack up books. Movers arrive on Monday, March 21 at existing Library and will move everything in one day. A notice is posted on the website and on building and information is provided on Library holds as well.

Starting on February 23, the Library has been open on Sundays. The public seems to like this new addition to the library hours.

John mentioned the “soft launch” for the Highlands Library is scheduled for Saturday, March 26 with a sneak preview on Wednesday, March 23 (5:30 – 6:30 p.m.). John noted that Dri Ralph, Design Coordinator will be there Wednesday evening to go over the artwork. He voiced some concerns over the parking availability due to lack of surface street parking because of on-going construction and active landscaping in the area. He noted that all fencing will be out before soft opening.

Laurie Beden inquired about the number of parking spaces available. John advised there are 30 spaces in the garage and then with the additional surface parking that should double what is available currently.

Catherine Ploue-Smith asked if the parking garage under the Library is only available for Library Patrons. John confirmed that this garage is designated as Library Patrons only. With the community park they feel there will be more people walking from the neighborhoods and hopefully this will reduce the need for parking along with surrounding surface streets. Kelly Beymer indicated that this issue will be monitored and if it becomes an issue then the City and KCLS will work together to find a solution.

IX. OLD BUSINESS

2016 Goals: Erica Richey discussed the revised list of 2016 goals; explained how the board members re-grouped into four major categories and talked about some of the changes made. Board members present agreed this was a better way to establish and achieve goals.

Boardmember Terms: A list of current terms was distributed for review.

X. NEW BUSINESS

Review of ByLaws/Boardmember Terms: It was decided that the review of ByLaws and terms, with the possibility of adding new members and/or teen member, would be pushed to the April 20 meeting. Copies of the ByLaws and terms were provided at the March meeting to allow members time for review and to make notes for discussion.

Kelly Beymer offered to invite the Police to come to a Library Board meeting to talk about the downtown area and what is being done to deter unwanted behavior. Lynne King suggested it might be better to wait until the new library opens and then invite them as there might be new areas of interest that develop. John Sheller agreed with her.

There was some discussion about the homeless camps and resolving these issues. Kelly mentioned that Renton said “No” to the proposal of designating safe locations for the public to disperse drugs. The idea was to attempt to contain the activity in one spot and possibly

offer services or aid to those trying to detox. The City is looking into other possibilities but did not want to offer a place for these people to congregate.

Erica Richey opened discussion on electronic access Student ID cards. John Sheller indicated their goal is to have this program available to all districts before the end of the 2016-2017 school year (June 2017). John mentioned one of the hurdles is transportation for students and another being privacy issues. He also advised they will be sending out notices through the schools where teachers distribute to the children to take home.

Lynn King asked about the Manual/Handbook as part of the 2016 Goals. She thought a write up on the history of the construction for libraries in Renton would be of interest to new members coming on board and also a brief synopsis of what has been going on with recent developments.

XI. INFORMATION

No additional information provided.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Lynne King made a motion to adjourn the March meeting. Catherine Ploue-Smith seconded. All were in favor, motion carried, the meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Signature

<u>Next Meetings:</u>	
	April 20, 2016 Renton City Hall Council Conference Room 7 th floor
	May 18, 2016 Renton Library 100 Mill Avenue South, Renton WA King Parker Room
	