



AGENDA REPORT

Meeting Date: August 20, 2013
Item Number: C-1
To: Honorable Beverly Hills Library Board of Trustees
From: Nancy Hunt-Coffey, Assistant Director of Community Services
Subject: ANNUAL REPORT TO THE BEVERLY HILLS LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Attachments: None

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the City Council, acting as the Beverly Hills Library Board of Trustees, accepts the report as presented by the Library staff.

INTRODUCTION

City Ordinance No. 07-0-2537 established that the City Council would serve as the Board of Trustees for the Beverly Hills Public Library. This designation is a legal requirement of the State Education Code. Under this arrangement, the City Council is convened as the Beverly Hills Library Board of Trustees at least once per year to review the state of the library for the year ending the preceding June 30th. This report and the accompanying presentation recaps the activities of the library from the last fiscal year and discusses upcoming library initiatives and programs.

DISCUSSION

The State of California Education Code requires that every general law city have a library board. On November 13, 2007, the Council adopted an ordinance which formally establishes the City Council as the Library Board of Trustees for Beverly Hills. Under the provisions of this ordinance, the City Council is required to meet at least once per year to review the status of the library for the previous fiscal year. This report and the accompanying presentation will briefly provide that update as well as establish some of the goals for the current fiscal year.

For fiscal year 2012-13:

Usage

- Checked out and renewed 598,808 books, movies and CDs. A 4% decrease from last fiscal year.* It should be noted that since the opening of the new Children's Library in February 2013, circulation had increased by 3% each month, compared to the previous year.
- Answered over 118,065 reference questions. A 19% increase from last fiscal year.
- Had 128,645 visits to Library web site. An 11% decrease from last fiscal year.
- Accepted and processed over 5,109 passport applications, generating \$167,333 in revenues. A 57% increase in revenues from last fiscal year.
- Patrons used library public computers approximately 90,000 times. A 36% increase from last fiscal year.
- Offered 346 programs for children with an attendance of 13,798. A 75% increase.

*Likely due to impacts of renovation

Programming, Services & Collaborations

- Offered first very successful Tween and Adult Summer Reading Clubs.
- Kicked off most successful Children's Summer Reading Club in years.
- Doubled number of participants in Teen Summer Reading Club
- Worked with Assouline, publishers of centennial coffee table book, to provide photos from Library's historical collection.
- Expanded number of storyhours with record breaking attendance.
- Worked closely with the Friends of the Library to raise \$93,000 for original artwork for the Enchanted Woods Room.
- Partnered with Fire and Police Departments and Recreation division to celebrate National Night Out by offering campfire stories and sing-alongs.
- Partnered with Police Department and local volunteers to offer displays recognizing local veterans, including Jimmy Stewart.
- Worked with the Friends of the Library to continue the homebound delivery of library materials to seniors.
- Reengineered the literacy program as a result of reductions in State funding.
- Worked with School District to integrate Library Summer Reading Club with the School District's Summer Reading Medalist program, their new Accelerated Reader program and the Superintendent's Reading Challenge. Held an open house for BHUSD teachers.
- Children's librarians continued regular programming at City preschools and summer camps and expanded programming to the Farmer's Market and holiday ice skating rink.
- Held the fourth annual Food for Fines program. Collected hundreds of canned goods for the Westside Food Bank.
- Partnered throughout the year with Homeless Collaboration and hosted homeless outreach meetings to help connect clients with services.
- Hosted children and senior programs that we relocated due to construction of Roxbury Community Center.

Facility improvements

- Moved Children’s Library from temporary location on second floor of Library to permanent location.
- Opened new and very popular Children’s Library.
- Opened brighter and more efficient Library lobby.
- Held ribbon cutting ceremonies for new children’s library.
- Worked with Recreation and Parks to develop plan using existing staff resources for new library at the Roxbury Community Center.

SMART Initiatives

- Continued re-engineering library’s services and collection of materials to meet the needs of library users in the most efficient manner
- Tagged entire collection of more than 250,000 items with new RFID tags
- Implemented new Automated Materials Handling System (AMHS) for return of Library materials
- Expanded e-book, e-audiobook and online database offerings.

The following are the goals for the fiscal year 13-14:

- As approved by City Council, add new weekly and holiday operating hours to Library schedule.
- Scan the majority of materials in the Library’s historical collection for preservation and easy access by the public.
- Offer additional author talks with major authors.

FISCAL IMPACT

None.



Nancy Hunt-Coffey
Approved By