



**THE LIBRARY COMMISSION
AMENDED MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING
28, November, 2011**

The Library Commission convened in a regular Meeting on Monday, November 28, 2011 at the Austin History Center at 810 Guadalupe St. in Austin, Texas.

Chair Price Todd called the Board Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Board Members in Attendance: Chair Carol Martin, Vice Chair Wendy Price Todd, Dave Fox, Ben Ornelas and Olga Wise

Board Members Absent: Peggy Lee Pleasant

Staff in Attendance: Brenda Branch, Director of Libraries; Toni Lambert, Assistant Director of Libraries; John Gillum, Facilities Process Manager; Mike Miller, Austin History Center Manager; Toni Grasso, Administrative Manager; Margaret Valenti, Planner, Planning & Development Review Department

1. Citizen Communication: None

2. Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the Regular Called Meeting of 10/24/2011 were approved with the following amendments on Commission Member Martin's motion, Commission Members Fox second on a 5-0-0 vote. The amendments were: item 3.a., in which the following was added: Commissioner Martin expressed support for the collaboration between the Library and Austin Energy and encouraged staff to find more opportunities for City Departments to offer appropriate services to library visitors.

Those members voting aye were: Chair Price Todd, Vice Chair Ornelas and Commission Members Fox, Martin and Wise

Other – Commission Member Pleasant was absent

3. Presentations

a. Imagine Austin Briefing

Margaret Valenti, Planner, Planning & Development Review Department

The Imagine Austin Plan takes direction from the public and is based on five core principles: Become a compact, connected city; Provide paths to prosperity for all; Embrace the natural world; Grow a healthy, affordable city; Live within our resources.

The plan was the result of participation from over 17,000 unique individuals/citizens. It will be presented to City Council the Spring of 2012.

Vice Chair Ornelas stated the importance that APL's Facilities Master Plan & Strategic Plan is clearly spelled out in the Imagine Austin final report.

Commission Member Fox: asked what effect the prioritization has on implementation and that CSF 29 had more to do with the fact that this is a mission statement and not an action item and therefore too vague to be useful.

All Commission Members expressed concern with the numbers of unique individuals/citizens. They think a large number of the participants were staff.

- b. Austin History Center's digital collections (e.g., The Chalberg Photo Collection and the O. Henry Collection) and AHC's partnership with University of North Texas

Mike Miller, Austin History Center Manager

In 2005, the AHC began offering selections from its collections with the Austin Treasures online exhibits website, providing 10 thematic exhibits highlighting manuscripts, photos and maps. Since that time, the AHC has worked with a number of partners to continue providing online access to its collections, primarily through the Portal to Texas History, which hosts the AHC's Neal Douglass and Russell Chalberg photo collections and the recently digitized O. Henry collection.

4. Old Business

- a. 2012 Calendar

Motion by Commission Member Wise and Commission Member Fox's second to adopt 2012 calendar as proposed with the exception of no December meeting failed on a 3-1-1 vote

Those members voting aye were: Vice Chair Ornelas and Commission Members Fox, and Wise

Those members voting nay were: Commission Member Martin,

Those members who abstained were: Chair Price Todd

Motion by Commission Member Martin and Chair Price Todd's second to adopt 2012 calendar as proposed failed on a 2-1-2 vote

Those members voting aye were: Chair Price Todd and Commission Member Martin,

Those members voting nay were: Vice Chair Ornelas and Commission Member Wise

Those members who abstained were: Commission Member Fox

Motion by Commission Member Martin and Chair Price Todd's second to adopt 2012 calendar as proposed with the understanding to reconsider when the vacancies on the Commission are filled passed on a 4-0-1 vote

Those members voting aye were: Chair Price Todd, Vice Chair Ornelas and Commission Members Fox and Martin,

Those members voting nay were: Commission Member Wise

5. New Business

- a. Departing Commissioner Remarks

Commission Member Fox explained that since no details or duties are described in the mission of the Library Commission, the Commission primarily engages in ceremonial functions. He met with Council Member Tovo to share his opinion that the board should dissolve or meet less frequently, perhaps quarterly, since the work accomplished during his time of service was attending meetings and writing two letters; one endorsing the budget and the other was regarding the comprehensive plan

- b. New Board Member Orientation: Commission Member Wise discussed the need for orientation that covered three areas: mentoring of a new member by a commission member with longer standing; a unified vision for meetings with City Council and a way

to report back to the Commission; a unified vision for Branch Liaison Briefings including how often a branch should be visited

- c. Seaholm District Poster Session Update – all City departments with projects displayed information and answered questions from citizens. The session was particularly heavy with citizens who lived downtown.
- d. Branch Liaison Briefings – No briefings at this time
- e. Staff Briefings
 - 1) Effective November 20, 2011, Public Services made several organization changes. Karen Baker will manage Central Library Services; Dave Inabnitt will manage Branch Services and David Spradling will manage Youth Services. This re-org will bring fresh perspectives.
 - 2) The Request for Council Approval (RCA) to negotiate and execute a design and commission agreement with the recommended artist for the New Central Library Project is currently scheduled to be on the December 15, 2011 Agenda.
 - 3) The Carver Computer and Job Search Center opened on October 29. Regular training is offered seven days a week.
 - 4) The AHC opened a new photo exhibit in the David Earl Holt Photo Gallery, Deco and Moderne: Austin Architecture of the 1930s. The exhibit will run November 1, 2011 to April 29, 2012.
 - 5) Facilities Update: see Director's Report
 - 6) The City is hosting a special website to advertise all COA holiday activities
 - 7) The City's new website Austin Go will launch December 19 at 9am.

6. Future Agenda Items: None

Adjourn: Chair adjourned the meeting at 9:06 p.m. without objection.