

**Approved Minutes**  
**For the Boulder Public Library Commission Planning Meeting**  
May 13, 2010

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT

Nadia Haddad  
Annette Mitchell  
Sam Fuqua  
Jim Zigarelli  
Ann Sawyer

LIBRARY STAFF PRESENT

Tony Tallent, Library and Arts Director  
Jennifer Miles, Strategic Planning & Administrative Services Manager

COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT

None

PUBLIC PRESENT

None

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:45 p.m.

PLANNING FOR THE STUDY SESSION WITH CITY COUNCIL IN AUGUST

Haddad stated that focus of this special planning meeting was to determine what key messages the Commission wants to convey to City Council at the August study session. Commissioners reviewed Library Mission and Vision statements in the 2007 Master Plan. Discussion focused on the Business Plan (pg 17), buildings versus services, and the Facilities Sustainability Study. Zigarelli suggested that all commissioner's identified finding more money for the library was a priority; asked that the Commission consider focusing on finding enough money to meet the 'Vision' items and beyond, not just the 'Essential' items in the Business Plan.

Fuqua suggested that the study session with the City Council should be used to make recommendations to extend the .38 sales tax by putting it on the ballot, and to indentify how this money will be used. The Commissioner's discussed election process and timing, and determined more information was needed with regard to how to proceed. Sawyer concurred that a .38 extension should be discussed, and that forming a district is a long term process, and recommended that the Commission also discuss other funding options in the future as well. Mitchell recommended that the Commission discuss whether this was a majority opinion.

Haddad asked the Commission to brainstorm "What do we want [City] Council to know about the library?"

**Brainstorming ideas from the Commission included the following:**

- Portion of 0.38 sales tax going to pay off library debt will expire in 2011.
- The Library has taken a disproportionate share of cuts over past decade. The central library is understaffed.
- There is a "funding gap." How does the commission support funding in the future?
- How do we ensure balanced distribution of library services across the city?
- How do we provide more computers and technology to libraries?
- Focus on safety and security of the library.
- What our customer base says about the library, include summary of customer survey.
- Show use statistics, awards, etc.
- There is a strong desire for a community meeting space/community center that is free-of-charge.

The Commissioners discussed use of DET funds and impact fees, and how they apply to capital projects.

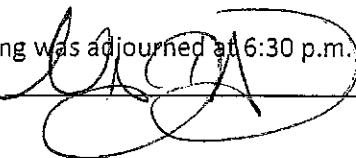
Haddad proposed condensing the discussion into a couple of overarching statements that include the Commission's recommendations to shore up the funding gap, the importance of library in community (customer survey), the safety and security concerns at the library, and the relevancy of the library. Sawyer, Mitchell, Fuqua and Zigarelli agreed. Zigarelli suggested that subsequent meetings be used to define what it is going to take to do a ballot initiative; what it is going to take to raise more money either as a regional or municipal library. Fuqua recommended that the Commission specifically focus on extending the .38 sales tax money for the library. Sawyer suggested preparing the Commission's statement on the direction that it wants to pursue with regard to longer term issues (e.g. preparing for a ballot initiative, etc.), and how it wants to approach immediate general funding issues.

Haddad expressed that she is concerned that the Commission keep a respectful tone and not approach matters in a combative manner.

The Commissioner's agreed that they did not need a meeting to further discuss the vision of the library agreeing that the vision statement, action & vision plan in the master plan and visionary goals accurately outline what they would like the future of the library to look like, and that they would spend about 40 minutes at the June meeting to educate themselves on a 'ballot initiative' to capture the .38 sales tax, how it will be used, as well as opportunities for private funding.

The Meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Approved by



Date

8/4/10