Minutes of the
ALAMEDA FREE LIBRARY BOARD
January 12, 2005

The regular meeting of the Alameda Free Library Board was called to order at 7:01 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present:	Leslie Krongold, President Ruth Belikove, Vice President Karen Butter, Board Member Mark Schoenrock, Board Member
Absent:	Alan Mitchell, Board Member
Staff:	Library Director Susan Hardie, Secretary Jenna Gaber, Recording Secretary

CONSENT CALENDAR

Board member Butter MOVED approval of the Consent Calendar. Vice President Belikove SECONDED the motion which carried by a unanimous voice vote.

An asterisk indicates items so enacted and adopted on the Consent Calendar.

A. *Report from Library Director highlighting Library Department activities for the month of January 2005. Accepted.

B. *Draft Minutes of the Regular Library Board meeting of December 8, 2004. Approved with 2 corrections.

C. *Library Services Report for the month of November 2004. Accepted.

D. *Report from Finance Department reflecting FY 2003-04 Library expenditures (by fund) through December 2004. Accepted.

E. *Bills for ratification. Approved.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Main Library Project Update

Board member Butter asked when Project Manager Bob Haun would be available to give the members of the Library Board an updated report on the main library project. Director Hardie stated that in an effort to make the best use of everyone's time, we are hoping that Bob's monthly report to Council will serve to inform the Board as well. She also commented that the Board receives the Construction Report each month. She stated that Bob Haun is very willing to answer questions directly, and is available by phone or email. Board members indicated that this arrangement is fine for now.

The Library Director reported that on February 28th a Notice to Proceed will be given to the contractor. The groundbreaking ceremony will be in early March. The Steering Committee will have representatives from Alameda's library and business community.

Vice President Belikove asked if there was a list of changes from Value Engineering that the Board could review. Library Director Hardie reported that there is a list of items and recapped some of the items for the Board. She noted that the City Council decided to proceed with LEED Certification.

Vice President Belikove asked if donations could be solicited to help keep the curved staircase that was eliminated during Value Engineering. Board member Butter stated that

the construction contract has already been approved. To change the stair again would incur substantial additional cost. Director Hardie mentioned the concern that additional fundraising may be needed for the branches.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Library Building Team (M. Hartigan)

The Library Building Team did not meet during December.

B. Alameda Free Library Foundation (R. Belikove)

Vice President Belikove stated that the Foundation did not meet in December. The Foundation will be meeting later this month. The Foundation sent out a year-end fundraising letter which had some success.

C Friends of the Alameda Free Library (M. Skeen)

Molly Skeen reported that the Junior Friends will host a themed storytime at the Main Library on January 22nd. On February 10th the members of the Friends will attend a benefit screening and reception for Leslie Krongold's documentary *My Rabbi.* On February 18th, 19th and 20th the Friends will host a mid-winter book sale at the Al DeWitt Officers' Club at Alameda Point.

D. Library Building Watch (L. Krongold)

President Krongold reported that the newsletter will be sent out this week. The logo team met this week and they decided not to move forward on the logo for awhile.

F. Patron suggestions/comments (Speak-Outs) and Library Director's response.

None.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS, NON-AGENDA (Public Comment)

None.

LIBRARY BOARD COMMUNICATIONS

Vice President Belikove commented on the 20th anniversary of Alameda Reads. She suggested that everyone in Alameda read the same book as a way to celebrate this occasion. She also noted articles on *Library Closures in Salinas*, *Reading at Risk* and *Time Running Out for Libraries.*

Board member Butter distributed an article on Literacy and immigrants.

Board member Schoenrock asked if the City is still having a budget deficit. Library Director Hardie replied in the affirmative and stated that the new Interim City Manager is meeting with Council and staff to discuss this issue. The City Council wants to maintain services and to date no budget cuts have been approved.

DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS

Library Director Hardie stated that she has not yet received her appointment for *Day in the District* but will keep the Board informed. She reported that there was a theft of 5 computer monitors at the Bay Farm Library. The police department is investigating. The library received a bequest that will be used to purchase materials for the opening of the new library.

ADJOURNMENT

Board member Schoenrock MOVED to adjourn the meeting at 7:53 p.m. Board member Butter SECONDED the motion which CARRIED by a unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Hardie, Secretary