
Council Meeting Date: May 16, 2011

Agenda Item: 7(a)

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM
CITY OF SHORELINE, WASHINGTON

AGENDA TITLE:	2011 Shoreline Library Board Report
DEPARTMENT:	Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services
PRESENTED BY:	Lynn Cheeney, Recreation Coordinator Tom Moran, Shoreline Library Board Chair

PROBLEM/ISSUE STATEMENT:

Occasionally, the Shoreline Library Board provides a report to the City Council on activities at the Shoreline and Richmond Beach Libraries, and shares their upcoming plans. The Board also provides information to the Council about future issues facing the library system. This year, Library Board Chair Tom Moran will provide this update.

RECOMMENDATION:

No action is required. This report provides an informational update to the Council regarding Library Board and KCLS activities.

Approved By: City Manager  City Attorney _____

INTRODUCTION:

Occasionally, the Shoreline Library Board provides a report to the City Council on activities at the Shoreline and Richmond Beach Libraries, and shares their upcoming plans. The Board also provides information to the Council about future issues facing the library system. This year, Library Board Chair Tom Moran will provide this update.

BACKGROUND:

The Shoreline Library Board, whose members are appointed by the City Council, was created in 1995 to provide input to the King County Library System (KCLS) on issues facing our local libraries. The Board also serves to act as a liaison between the KCLS and the citizens of Shoreline in promoting library programs and policies. As an advisory group, the Board's responsibilities include making recommendations to KCLS regarding issues of utilization of the libraries, enforcement of rules and regulations, improvements to the library buildings and collections, and scope and quality of service. KCLS is responsible for the operation of 46 branches in King County, including the two Shoreline libraries – Shoreline Library, located at 345 NE 175th Street, and Richmond Beach Library, located at 19601 21st Avenue NW.

The Shoreline Library Board is made up of nine members, including two youth members whose positions recently became effective on April 1st of this year. The seven regular voting members serve four year terms, while the non-voting youth members serve two year terms. The seven regular board members are: Jenny Hannibal, Susan Hoyne, Sara Lorimer, Tom Moran (Chair), Corey Murata, Mary Lynn Potter, and Sidney Strong. The two youth member positions have not been appointed. Applications are still being accepted until the positions are filled. The Board meets six times per year and alternates meeting locations between the two Shoreline libraries.

LIBRARY SYSTEM CIRCULATION, SERVICES AND MEMBERSHIP:

In 2010, the KCLS had a circulation of 22.4 million items (books, magazines, videos, CD's, etc) making it the #1 library system in the United States. For Shoreline's two libraries, the 2010 circulation summary is as follows:

- Richmond Beach Library: 232,217 items circulated
- Shoreline Library: 885,873 items circulated

In addition, the collections at both libraries continue to be expanded and improved to meet the needs of diverse populations, while also focusing on early childhood learning. Moreover, library card registrations continued to grow this past year. In 2010, new library card registrations were as follows:

- Richmond Beach Library: 1,184
- Shoreline Library: 5,335

Programmatically, the Shoreline and Richmond Beach Libraries offer an average of eight story times per week for children and caregivers, in addition to special programs such as puppet shows and music programs each month. For teens, the libraries provide 'Game-On', 'Teen Talk Time', 'Comic Book Day', and NaNoWriMo Writing Month. The libraries also offer computer classes, opera reviews, and other special

programs for adults each month. As well, the Library2Go service launched last September and is currently serving nine day cares in Shoreline and Lake Forest Park. This service is to be expanded to up to 15 sites.

ISSUES FACING THE KCLS:

KCLS Future Staffing Model

KCLS has used their current staffing system for the past 22 years. In an effort to better meet the changing needs of the community, KCLS continually evaluates their operations model and makes changes to improve service. At this time, the KCLS is considering a strategy that would locate librarians in the community, contacting and interacting with non-traditional library users whose language, culture and education may present a barrier to their ability to utilize current library resources.

The new model is currently being piloted in the Bothell-Kenmore and Kingsgate cluster and the Federal Way cluster to evaluate and assess the model before it is implemented at a system-wide level. The future staffing model will give librarians the opportunity to utilize their skills at the branch in the mentoring of staff at the service points, being available to assist them and patrons as needed, but to also focus on using their expertise to develop partnerships with community organizations, attend community events, do more programming at the libraries or in the community, and to develop more online tools or tutorials for the patrons. Duties formally performed at the resource desk would be undertaken by trained assistants.

Automated Materials Handling System

The Shoreline Library checked in almost 800,000 items in 2010. This averages about 2,200 items per day that staff is currently checking in by hand. To make this process more efficient, a "self-check-in system" for library materials is currently under construction at the Shoreline Library. It is anticipated that the system will be operational in early June. This system will give patrons a receipt upon book return, and will also receive, scan and sort returned books more quickly, reducing the number of staff hours needed to perform this task and improving customer service by expediting the availability of materials. This system is currently being offered at 15 libraries in the County, and members of the Library Board have been asked to assist with training for the library patrons in Shoreline.

Richmond Beach Library Art Installation

The Friends of the Richmond Beach Library commissioned artwork by northwest artist, Troy Pillow, to commemorate the 10th anniversary of the library's construction at Richmond Beach Community Park. The artwork titled, "Tailwind," is a kinetic sculpture that graces the entryway to the library. This is intended to enhance the existing collection of art on display at the library.

2010 KCLS Proposition 1

In February 2010, King County voters approved a property tax increase of 50 cents per \$1,000 assessed value to support library services. This vote restored KCLS revenues and has enabled KCLS to preserve their current level of library service, programs and resources at all 46 libraries. It also helped to maintain outreach services to community centers, low-income daycare facilities, and to the elderly and to those who are homebound.

RECOMMENDATION

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