



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

Department Name: Community Services
Department No.: 057
For Agenda Of: October 9, 2018
Placement: Departmental Item
Estimated Time: 30 minutes
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from: N/A
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department
Director: George Chapjian, Community Services Director (805) 568-2467
Contact Info: Ryder Bailey, CPA, Chief Financial Officer (805) 568-3526

SUBJECT: Formation of a Library Ad Hoc Committee; All Supervisorial Districts.

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Approve the formation of a Library Ad Hoc Committee, and appoint two County Board of Supervisors to be determined, the four library zone administrators, Library Advisory Committee Member Judith Dale, Library Friend Member Patricia Saley, and Community Services Director or his Designee for the purpose of addressing the need for an effective and sustainable long term library service delivery model; and
- b) Determine that the formation of the Ad Hoc Committee is not the approval of a project that is subject to environmental review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15378(b)(5), finding that the action involves government organizational or administrative activities which do not involve any commitment to any specific project which may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment.

Summary Text:

Formation of Ad Hoc Committee

On June 5, 2018, the Board of Supervisor's directed staff to create an Ad Hoc committee, a Brown Act Committee, comprised of two members of the Board of Supervisors, the four Library Administrators, and County Staff. After the June 5th Board meeting, at the September 19th Library Advisory Committee (LAC) meeting, the LAC unanimously recommended for appointment to the Ad Hoc Committee LAC member 3rd District appointee Judith Dale and Library Friends member 1st District appointee Patricia

Saley. Approval of recommended action A) above would appoint two County Board of Supervisors to be determined, the four library zone administrators, Library Advisory Committee Member Judith Dale, Library Friend Member Patricia Saley, and the Community Services Director or his Designee to the Ad Hoc Committee. Staff will be involved in the coordination of this committee and will seek to engage a consultant with a professional services contract to assist the Committee in addressing the need for an effective long-term library service delivery model.

Background:

Management Partners Study – April 3, 2018

Between October 2017 and April 2018, Management Partners consulting firm was engaged by the County to study the County of Santa Barbara library system. In their presentation to the Board on April 3, 2018, Management Partners made five recommendations; briefly summarized, those recommendations are as follows;

1. Add the City of Goleta as the fourth contracting party in providing library services; and
2. Assign a new fourth zone with Goleta which would include Buellton, Solvang, Eastern Goleta Valley, Community Service Area 3, Isla Vista and Hope Ranch, to the City of Goleta for the provision of library services; and
3. Develop a funding formula based on equity principles including socioeconomic factors, geographic location/remoteness, literacy rates, and contributions from other sources; and
4. Address allowable overhead/administration fee for all entities accepting County library funding, as well as minimum service levels; and
5. Direct staff to explore the viability of forming a library Joint Powers Authority to deliver library services;

At that time the Board directed staff to implement recommendations one and two while holding off on adding Buellton and Solvang to Zone 4 for contract year 2018-19 to allow time for Goleta to establish their library. Staff incorporated the City of Goleta into the Fiscal Year 2018-19 Countywide Library Agreement.

The Management Partners study was a large undertaking, with significant contributions from many stakeholders, mostly Friends Groups and the Library Advisory Committee Members. However, convinced more work still needed to be done, the Board directed staff to form a library ad hoc committee to address the need for an effective and sustainable long term library service delivery model.

Directed to Form a Library Ad Hoc Committee

On June 5, 2018 the Board of Supervisor's received a presentation from staff seeking direction for the annual library contract and anticipated budget shortfalls for County Branch Libraries. While the Board of Supervisors deferred budgetary issues to the June Budget Hearings, the Board directed staff to create an Ad Hoc committee comprised of two members of the Board of Supervisors, the four Library Administrators, and County Staff. Approval of recommended action A) above will appoint two County Board of Supervisors to be determined, as well as the four library zone administrators, Library Advisory Committee Member Judith Dale, Library Friend Member Patricia Saley and Community Services Director or his Designee to the Ad Hoc Committee. Staff will be involved in the coordination of this committee and will engage a consultant with a professional services contract to assist the Committee in addressing the need for an effective and sustainable long-term library service delivery model.

The objective of the Library Ad Hoc Committee will be to review the library service delivery structure to determine if the zone model continues to be the most effective service model along with any other relevant and sustainable improvements to the system. Some of that may involve the development of a funding formula based on equity principles including socioeconomic factors, geographic location/remoteness, literacy rates, and contributions from other sources.

Fiscal Analysis:

Budgeted: Yes, during June Budget Hearings the Board provided an additional \$200,000 to address small library budget shortfalls and ad hoc committee assistance. Once deficits were addressed, \$76,160 in funding remains to hire a Consultant to assist the ad hoc committee in its goals of addressing the need for an effective and sustainable long term library service delivery model.

Performance Measures:

The County has contracted with City municipal libraries over fifty years. The libraries have met their goals of operational hours, book circulation, visitation and internet use by patrons. However, recent strains within the system have necessitated further study to determine whether the existing model is the most efficient use of available resources.

Attachments:

Attachment 1 – PowerPoint Presentation