Library Advisory Board
March15, 2007
Milton, Florida

The Library Advisory Board met on the above date with the following members present: Chairman Peggy Toifel and members Martha Lyle, Michael Sandler, and Pat Rose. Also present were the Library Director (Linda Hendrix) and Human Resources Director (DeVann Cook). Toifel called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Toifel moved approval without objection of the minutes from the January 18, 2007 meeting.

Director's Report

Hendrix presented a Power Point Presentation on Santa Rosa County Library statistics (Attachment). She said between October 2006 and February 2007 there was a 42% increase in circulation from the previous year. Hendrix said there are currently 31,394 borrowers, approximately 22% of Santa Rosa County's citizens. She said 12,000 of the 25,000 students in Santa Rosa County have registered for a library card. Hendrix said the library launched a Homework Help Program in January that 4 th grade through early college students can access.

Hendrix said library employees have been busy getting the new Pace Library ready to open. She said the Grand Opening will be on April 12 th at 4:00 p.m., and the library will officially open for business on April 13 th at 9:00 a.m. Hendrix said borrowers at the Pace library will be able to checkout books without library employees assistance. She said the Pilot Project, allowing reservation of computers without library employee assistance, will begin this week at the Milton library and will be available at the Pace library when it opens. Hendrix said patrons who want to checkout books or reserve computers without library staff's assistance can register for this option at the library. She thanked Friends of the Pace Library for donating the self checkout units at the Pace Library.

Lyle said she is thankful for the new Pace Library. She commended the Board of County Commissioners for allowing use of recreation funds to supplement the State grant for the
Pace Library.

Library Foundation Update

Toifel said all paperwork has been sent in for the 501C3 process, and she hopes it will be approved quickly. She said the Library Foundation has come up with their 2 year fundraising plan. Toifel said a required procedure for giving money back to the library system has been established. She said two new board members have been appointed. Toifel said the Foundation is developing a team of experts consisting of lawyers, accountants, and officials that will be available for their expertise.

Other Business/Next Meeting

Lyle said Tuesday will be Library Day in Tallahassee. She said this day is designed for librarians fromall over the State to participate in a talk with legislators. Lyle said this day will give librarians an opportunity to request an increase in appropriations for libraries. She said there is a proposed bill to revise the State Law that governs libraries and the distribution of appropriations more equitably. Lyle said Equalization Grants are for counties whose libraries operate below average per capita revenue from their county governments. She said Santa Rosa County Library System could potentially lose their grant this year due to their low ranking. Lyle said the revision proposed by the State Library Task Force is to graduate the loss of the Equalization Grant by thirds. She said Santa Rosa County librarians going to Tallahassee have made appointments with two Senators to discuss issues.

Toifel said the Joint Friends of Libraries met yesterday at the Gulf Breeze Library, and they will meet again on June 18, 2007 at the Milton Library.

Toifelsuggestedthe Library Advisory Board attendthe Pace Library Grand Opening next month in lieu of having an officialmeeting.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Library Advisory Board at this time, the meeting adjourned at 4:17p.m.