

**Council Meeting: December 16, 2008**

SUBJECT: Authorization to Accept and Appropriate \$20,000 in Grant Funds from federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) funds through the California State Library (CSL) for the *We've Only Just Begun: Learning and Leisure* Grant, and Approval of Budget Modification No. 20

REPORT IN BRIEF

The Library is requesting authorization to accept and expend \$20,000 awarded by the California State Library (CSL) for a federally funded Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grant. This LSTA *Transforming Life After Fifty (TLAF)* grant will provide funds so that programs can be planned, publicized and presented that focus on interests and needs of adults born between 1946 and 1964. The *We've Only Just Begun: Learning and Leisure* program will also begin a Volunteer Speakers' Bureau, so that expertise possessed by community residents on various topics can be channeled into Library programs for the public. An Advisory Committee, made up of community organization representatives and individuals in the targeted group, will help improve the program throughout the year. The *We've Only Just Begun* program will add depth and variety to Library programs that are offered to the community.

BACKGROUND

Library staff attended a training institute on programming at public libraries for Baby Boomers entitled *Transforming Life After Fifty (TLAF): Public Libraries and Baby Boomers*, which was sponsored by a federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grant and organized by the California State Library (CSL) in November, 2007. Forty-five libraries, after approval through an application and selection process, were chosen to send participants to the training institute which featured several expert presenters on topics such as: Brain Research; Understanding Boomers; Health Care; Economic Security and Work; Civic Engagement; and Lifelong Learning. Following the training institute, Sunnyvale Public Library conducted Needs Assessment activities in the community to determine interests of Baby Boomer age residents. These activities included a Focus Group discussion and surveys that were distributed and completed within the Library and online. The Needs Assessment was sent to the CSL before an application for a *Transforming Life* grant could be submitted. Libraries in California, that had participants at the training institute and submitted Needs Assessments for their communities, were eligible to apply for TLAF grants to explore programs, specifically targeting Boomers and working with other organizations in the community. Staff did not seek authorization to apply in advance due to the short timeframe for the

application submittal. Sunnyvale Public Library's application was one of 20 approved by the California State Library to move ahead with a *Transforming Life After Fifty* program.

EXISTING POLICY

Programs and Publications

Goal 6.2C Provide Library programs and publications to educate, enrich and enlighten Library users

Policy 6.2C.2 Provide programs for teens and adults to reflect and expand the broad range of interests of community residents

Action Statements:

6.2C.2a Provide programs which emphasize the enjoyment of reading and enhancement of knowledge

6.2C.2b. Provide an opportunity for teens and adults to connect with experts in areas where they seek skills and knowledge

6.2C.2c. Deepen customer awareness of Library resources through programs

DISCUSSION

Sunnyvale Public Library has offered programming for adults for many years. During the 2007/2008 fiscal year, Sunnyvale Public Library presented 102 varied programs for adults. Staff is continuously looking for speakers and subjects for classes and learning opportunities that will interest the community, which is diverse in age, ethnicity and interests. Nearly one fourth of Sunnyvale's population falls in the Baby Boomer age group, born between 1946 and 1964, according to the *2005 American Community Survey*, conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau. The *Transforming Life After Fifty (TLAF)* grant seemed tailor-made to help Library staff explore a plethora of programs for residents who are recently retired, or who are looking forward to retirement, encore careers, or meaningful volunteer positions.

The goals that Sunnyvale Public Library will address with the *We've Only Just Begun: Learning and Leisure* project, funded by a federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grant through the California State Library (CSL) are: 1) to offer life enrichment through extended learning opportunities, and 2) to locate volunteers to share specific knowledge and experience with others in the community. In order to offer learning opportunities, Library staff is planning several series of programs, dovetailing with interests expressed by Baby Boomers in Sunnyvale through surveys and focus groups. Experts will be engaged to present programs in broad subject series such as: Science (e.g.

physics, chemistry of cooking), Health and Wellness (e.g. brain health, Advance Care Directives, physical and mental health), Personal Finance (e.g. retirement, wills, Social Security). Staff will work with other organizations in the community to identify qualified, dynamic, speakers and to assist with publicizing programs to different segments of the adult population. To locate volunteers who have specific knowledge and experience to share with public audiences at the Library, staff will work with the City's Volunteer Resources Coordinator to establish and continue a Volunteer Speakers' Bureau. Volunteer speakers will be scheduled to present public programs after a selection process. During the *We've Only Just Begun* project, an Advisory Committee will meet periodically to assess the project and discuss improvements and changes. The Advisory Committee will be made up of representatives from organizations that are involved in the Library's project and individuals from the community. In addition to Library staff, the City's Volunteer Resources division of the Office of the City Manager, Fremont Union High School District's Adult and Community Education division, and the Mid-Peninsula Chapter of AARP are enthusiastic about working with the Library to publicize programs, being part of the *We've Only Just Begun: Learning and Leisure Advisory Committee*, and contributing expertise to the Volunteer Speakers' Bureau.

FISCAL IMPACT

The California State Library has awarded \$20,000 in federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) funds to present and promote programs for older adults and establish a Volunteer Speakers' Bureau during FY 2008/2009. If accepted, the grant award will be established as a special project for FY 2008/2009. There is no net fiscal impact to the General Fund for accepting this grant award

Budget Modification Number 20 has been established to accept \$20,000 in grant funding and appropriate it to a new special project.

**Budget Modification No. 20
 Fiscal Year 2008/2009**

	<u>Current</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Revised</u>
<u>General Fund</u>			
<u>Revenues</u>			
LSTA Transforming Life ...Grant	0	\$20,000	\$20,000
<u>Expenditures</u>			
(New Project) LSTA <i>We've Only Just Begun: Learning and Leisure Grant</i>	0	\$20,000	\$20,000

PUBLIC CONTACT

Public contact was made by posting the Council agenda on the City's official-notice bulletin board outside City Hall, at the Sunnyvale Senior Center, Community Center and Department of Public Safety; and by making the agenda and report available at the Sunnyvale Public Library, the Office of the City Clerk and on the City's Web site. The Board of Library Trustees reviewed the Report at their meeting on December 1, 2008.

ALTERNATIVES

1. Council accepts \$20,000 in federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) *Transforming Life After Fifty* funds through the California State Library for the *We've Only Just Begun: Learning and Leisure* program, and approves Budget Modification No. 20
2. Council rejects \$20,000 in federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) *Transforming Life After Fifty* funds through the California State Library for the *We've Only Just Begun: Learning and Leisure* program.

RECOMMENDATION

At the December 1, 2008 Board of Library Trustees meeting, the Board voted unanimously to recommend to Council alternative 1 which accepts \$20,000 in federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) *Transforming Life After Fifty* funds through the California State Library for the *We've Only Just Begun: Learning and Leisure* program, and approves Budget Modification No. 20.

Staff recommends alternative 1.

Prepared by:

Susan W. Denniston, Interim Director, Library

Reviewed by:

Mary Bradley, Director, Finance

Approved by:

Gary Luebbers
City Manager

Attachments

- A. Award Letter, California State Library
- B. Draft Board of Library Trustees Meeting Minutes of 12/1/08

Attachment A



CALIFORNIA
STATE LIBRARY
FOUNDED 1850

September 2, 2008

Susan Denniston, Interim Director
Sunnyvale Public Library
665 W. Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-3707

Dear Ms. Denniston:

I am pleased to approve the grant application for the We've Only Just Begun: Learning and Leisure for a total of \$20,000 in federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) funds.

Your proposal is to be commended for encompassing many of the strategies deemed critical to successfully meeting the needs and engaging the interests of baby boomers, such as including boomers in your planning and implementation process, creating physical and/or virtual spaces and outreach approaches that specifically appeal to this age demographic, offering new programs that support the specific knowledge, skills and interests of boomers, and forming partnerships that expand your library's capacity to reach this significant population group. The potential of your project to transform library practice and more effectively serve and engage boomers in your community is most promising. I look forward to following your progress as you identify lessons learned, promising practices and new solutions.

The Library Development Services Staff is ready to assist you in making your project a success. Please understand that no grant payments can be processed until the governor signs the State budget. State processing of grant payments can require 6-8 weeks before you receive your check.

Best wishes for a successful project year.

Yours truly,

Susan Hildreth
State Librarian of California

Enclosures

cc: Colette Moody
Suzanne Flint

Attachment B

PUBLIC HEARINGS/GENERAL BUSINESS:

2. Boardmember Orientation:

Chair Griffith welcomed newly appointed Boardmember Miller to the Board of Library Trustees. Boardmember Miller provided a brief overview of her background. Boardmembers shared their experiences and roles as representatives for the community and as advisors to the City Council on library issues.

Chair Griffith opened the public hearing and there being no public testimonies, closed the public hearing.

3. Draft RTC: Authorization to accept and appropriate \$20,000 in grant funds from federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) funds through the California State Library (CSL) for the *We've Only Just Begun: Learning and Leisure* Grant, and approval of Budget Modification No. 20:

Interim Director Denniston provided the Board with an overview of the draft RTC.

Chair Griffith opened the public hearing and there being no public testimonies, closed the public hearing.

Boardmember Su moved, and Vice Chair Lilly seconded, to recommend to Council Alternative no. 1 to accept \$20,000 in federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) *Transforming Life After Fifty* funds through the California State Library for the *We've Only Just Begun: Learning and Leisure* program, and to approve Budget Modification No. 20. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Library Policy A-38 b: Library Holiday Schedule 2009 (review):

Interim Director Denniston provided the Board with an overview of the 2009 Library holiday schedule.

Chair Griffith opened the public hearing and there being no public testimonies, closed the public hearing.

Boardmember Miller moved, and Boardmember Pathak seconded, approval of Library Policy A-38b: Library Holiday Schedule 2009 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

5. Customer Appreciation Day:

Interim Director Denniston informed the Board that the 2008 customer appreciation day has been canceled.

Chair Griffith opened the public hearing and there being no public testimonies, closed the public hearing.

NON-AGENDA ITEMS AND COMMENTS

• BOARDMEMBERS OR COMMISSIONERS ORAL COMMENTS

Chair Griffith informed Interim Director Denniston that Santa Clara County Librarian Melinda Cervantes offered to participate on the interview panel for the Sunnyvale Library Director requirement.