

MULTNOMAH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
PUBLIC TESTIMONY SIGN-UP

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Please complete this form and return to the Board Clerk

\*\*\*This form is a public record\*\*\*

MEETING DATE: Dec. 22, 2011

SUBJECT: Multnomah County Library Funding

AGENDA NUMBER OR TOPIC: Create a stable funding mechanism for the library to be referred to the spring ballot to maintain current service levels

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FOR: X AGAINST: \_\_\_\_\_ THE ABOVE AGENDA ITEM

NAME: Kenneth R. Olson, Sarah D. Allen

ADDRESS: 4345 NE 72<sup>nd</sup> Ave.

CITY/STATE/ZIP: Portland, OR 97218

PHONE: DAYS: 971/221-9306 EVES: \_\_\_\_\_

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**IF YOU WISH TO ADDRESS THE BOARD IN PERSON:**

1. Please complete this form and submit to the Board Clerk.
2. Public comment on non-agenda items is at the beginning of the board meeting, immediately after the consent agenda vote. Public comment on current agenda items, occurs at the end of the presentation of that item. Submittal of this form at the beginning of the meeting is appreciated.
3. Individuals making public comment will be called up in the order these forms are received. The Chair may call on Invited Guests or Elected Officials to speak first.
4. When your name is called, come forward & be seated at the Presenter's table.
5. When it is your turn, start by stating your name for the record. Make sure to speak clearly into the microphones. All meetings are recorded.
6. Public comment is limited to **3 minutes** per person, but the Chair has the authority to shorten time, based on the number of folks testifying.
7. If you wish to present written documentation with your oral comments, please bring 7 copies and submit to the Board Clerk, who will distribute them to the Commissioners. Your testimony will be kept permanently.

**IF YOU WISH TO SUBMIT WRITTEN INSTEAD OF ORAL COMMENTS TO THE BOARD:**

1. Please complete this form along with your written testimony and return to the Board Clerk at the meeting, or submit by e-mail at: [lynda.grow@multco.us](mailto:lynda.grow@multco.us)
2. Written testimony will be entered into the official record.

Dec. 21, 2011

To the Multnomah County Commission:

As small business owners, the Multnomah County Library System has been instrumental to our success, and we urge the commission to take a strong stand and create a stable and adequate funding mechanism to continue operating the library at nothing less than current service levels.

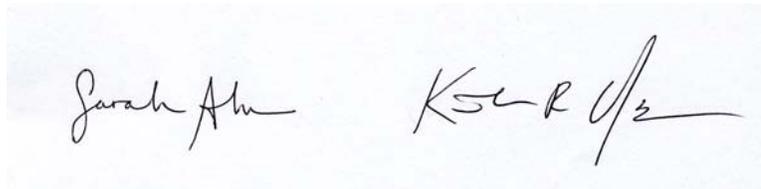
The library has been a source of inspiration, research and professional development for our small business, *Barista Magazine*, which we started eight years ago. And we support the library and its mission fully.

In fact it's because of institutions like the Multnomah County Library that made us decide to base our business in Portland, and it's one of the facets of our community which makes Portland such a terrific place to live.

But the library is about more than us. It's about our whole community, especially in difficult economic times, the library's mission and service have never been more important. At our local branch, nearly every day there are classes for immigrants to learn and practice English, teenagers can play games and learn skills, children have story time and craft classes, job seekers find helpful resources, computers and wi-fi. Across the spectrum, the Multnomah Country Library helps us build a stronger community for our neighbors, our business and ourselves.

We urge you to continue supporting one of the defining characteristics of Portland: our belief in our city, county and community, and our willingness to invest in each other and the future. Create a stable funding mechanism now to be voted on by the citizens of Multnomah County this spring, so that we can maintain current service levels and so that our world-class library can keep serving all of us.

Sincerely,

The image shows two handwritten signatures in black ink on a light blue background. The signature on the left is 'Sarah Allen' and the signature on the right is 'Ken R Olson'.

Sarah D. Allen  
Editor/Owner  
*Barista Magazine*

Kenneth R. Olson  
Publisher/Owner  
*Barista Magazine*