

Corrected + accepted
1/12/15

MEETING OF THE MONTEREY LIBRARY TRUSTEES
Held at the Monterey Library
November 10, 2014

PRESENT: Mickey Jervas, Laurie Shaw,
Lisa Smyle and MaryPaul Yates
Library Director Mark Makuc
Absent - Kenn Basler and Beth Reiter

EVALUATION OF DIRECTOR: The Trustees met at 6:30pm without the Director present to review his performance for the past year. Once again we acknowledged all the hard work Mark puts into his position. In addition to his face time at the circulation desk, he manages his staff, the budget and the physical plant of the library. The loss of staff member Will Marsh was a blow to plans, but the remaining staff has stepped in and we hope they can fill the void. We wondered if Mark foresaw the amount of extra work applying for the Building Needs Grant would impose upon him. The number of meetings, forums, seminars and surveys he participates in astounds us all. As always flaws are hard to come by. Mark's self evaluation was, as usual, more critical than anything we came up with. Lisa will meet at a later date to give Mark his formal evaluation based on all Trustees input.

Meeting was called to order - 7:12pm.

MINUTES: The minutes of October 20, 2014 were corrected and accepted by motion made by Laurie and seconded by MaryPaul.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT: The Library Needs Forum held on Saturday, November 8th was attended by 38 people. In addition to members of the Needs Committee and most Trustees, the group included members of the Friends of the Library, regular patrons and citizens who are not usually in attendance. It was a pleasure to have them all. The several children who attended were active participants. Since we are planning for the next twenty years, the views of those who will be making the most use in the future provided a good input. The full contingent of 38 broke up into groups of 6-10 to discuss future needs. Each group discussed their views of needs and then voted on what each considered their 5 most urgent needs, or wishes. Marya Makuc has typed out the individual lists so the Needs Committee can review them and organize them by most

prevalent needs/wishes. The Needs Committee will be meeting on Friday, November 14th to start working on this and to getting a community wide survey ready for an early December roll-out.

Mark attended the day long Small Library Forum in Sturbridge on October 29th. Cathy Bort of the Otis Library made the trip with him. Mark applied for a stipend that was made available for travel time/expense. Greg Pronevitz, Head of MLS; and Mary Kronholm and Jan Resnick of the MBLC were present as well as about 150 librarians [only 3 or 4 from Berkshire County], trustees and other interested parties.

Jessamyn West of Vermont was the feature speaker. Her morning presentation was on "Future Proofing the Library", about the use of digital data in the library. Her afternoon session was "What is Your Elevator Speech". In this presentation she emphasized being able to get your point across to someone in a short time frame, as if you had only an elevator ride to catch someone's attention. While digital formats will be expanding, Jessamyn does not see a future with bookless libraries.

Another discussion revolved around the concern about small libraries, should they band together as have Charlemont and Hawley.

Diane Carty, the new Executive Director of MBLC, is making it her priority that all libraries be a part of a digital library system, such as CWMars.

A representative from Digital Commonwealth was also present, which was another good contact for Mark as we hadn't heard from them. A new form was needed and she and Mark were able to work that out over the phone.

There were other sessions available from things like posters to using technology in the library.

All in all a very good day which included getting some face time with various members of the MBLC and others present.

This year's Library Legislative Breakfast will be held at BCC, Pittsfield on January 23rd at 8am. As usual we agreed to support this event. By motion made by Laurie and seconded by Mickey, it was unanimously agreed that we will donate \$25.00 which will come from the Memorial Fund.

The pre-trick or treat Halloween Party was attended by about 40 people.

Veterans Day ceremonies will be held at 11am on November 11th at the World War I memorial on the library lawn.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: Lisa followed up on MaryPaul's question as to whether she can attend meetings via ~~Skype~~ while she is out of town this winter and found that this is acceptable.

Lisa gave Mickey an updated annual agenda form, as she had requested.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: MaryPaul updated us on opening of Brece Honeycutt's show on Saturday, November 1st. About 40 people attended the artist talk at 6pm, with an additional 20 throughout the evening to view the art work.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:07pm by motion made by Laurie and seconded by Mickey.

NEXT MEETINGS: Monday, January 12, 2015 - 7pm
Agenda - Semi-annual financial report
Budget to be readied for Financial Committee

Submitted by: Mickey Jervas, Secretary