

**Minutes: Thursday, August 10, 2023**  
**Monterey Community Center Committee**

**Present:** Laurie Shaw, Mary Makuc, Wendy Jensen, Wendy Germain, Mark Andrews, Dennis Lynch, Elaine Lynch, Roz Halberstadter, Kyle Pierce

Meeting commenced at 10:05 am

July 8, 2023 Minutes approved.

Next Meeting Date: **Thursday, August 31, 2023 @ 10am at the MCC**

**Financial Matters:**

Our bill from Gary O'Brien for lawn maintenance has gone up 96%. We are paying \$160/month. There was discussion about the previous year's budget and we were over our budget. There was much concern about the increase in O'Brien's fees which accounted for most of the overage. There was a suggestion that we get a monthly budget report for the CC from Town Hall. There was discussion about getting the field mowed this fall but will check with the pollinator group prior to doing so.

**Past and Ongoing Programs:**

- Eric Martin and Karen Axelrod concert was a big success with approximately 90 people in attendance. There was a discussion about the musicians putting out a tip jar. We decided that it is up to the performers if they want to do this but we will not suggest it.
- The Decluttering workshop had about 30 participants.
- Exercise with Annie had 5 participants. COA is helping with the fee. Annie charges \$100/class.
- Dreamcatcher workshops: the first was cancelled due to no enrollment but the second has 4 registered so far.
- Monday night Supper Club Potluck had about 23 folks in attendance. This has been well received.
- Cookbook Club had 8 participants for their July meeting.
- Spanish Speakers had 9 for their first meeting and 10 the second time

**Upcoming:**

- Dreamcatcher workshop has 4 registered so far.
- Hanna Jensen is considering a pie crust making demonstration/workshop. It was suggested that maybe before Thanksgiving might be a good time. Possibly late October
- Crossword Magic workshop will hopefully be happening soon
- A concert with Bernice Lewis (local musician) was suggested by Natalie Manzeno, Mary will follow up with Natalie.
- Is there any interest to have Berkshire Pulse back again? Veronica Bone is our contact. We will try to have a workshop outside next year.
- Peter Poirier's concert is coming up on August 20<sup>th</sup>. Mark will contact Peter to see about what he needs as far as the sound/platform are concerned.
- Marshall Messer will offer a concert on Saturday, Sept. 2 @ 5:30pm. We are not providing a sound system, they need to procure their own. We will promote the concert. Leftover monies from the Cultural Council

grants will be used to pay them, \$400. Mary will check with Maureen about adjusting the poster to add Marshall's concert to the others we already have.

- No interest in Backgammon

- Possible program about old coins. Need more information

- Molly Goodchild has offered to hold a workshop for beginning knitters or crocheters.

- Mushroom Program with John Wheeler on Sept. 9. A poster is needed to get the word out. Program starts at the CC at 10am. John Wheeler's cost is \$250. There is Cultural Council monies for this.

- Hoping to have the Chestnuts program again this Thanksgiving weekend. Janet Jensen usually runs this.

### **Other Business:**

- Mark Andrews is working on cost for the pavilion. He is collecting estimates from companies that bid on commercial projects to get some preliminary pricing.

- Lighting: National Grid put up two new lights in the parking lot. They will be on from dusk to dawn. The lighting is better in the parking lot but they do not help the walkway by the building. Laurie, Mary, and Mark are meeting with Jim Hunt, Melissa and Frank (Selectman) to discuss the lighting.

- Mary Makuc has put in her notice that she will be leaving as Director of Programs as of Oct. 1. She will continue to be on the MCC Committee. We will need a group to start the hiring process. Laurie, Dennis, Kyle, and Roz will work on this. Mary will be greatly missed.

- Mary has spoken with our cleaning person and she will clean upstairs to keep things tidy.

- It was noted by a few members that the Decluttering program was hard to hear. We have a hearing assisting appliance that we need to learn how to use. We will try to use it at our next meeting. Mary will meet with Lin Saberski for information.

- There was discussion about a more visible Donation box. Dennis will look online for a lockbox to set above the fire extinguisher.

- Mary reports that the desk area needs to be more workable. Laurie will put on the next agenda. There was also a discussion about storage as there is no closet space downstairs. It was suggested that we have a cart to roll out the folding chairs.

Meeting adjourned: 12:00pm

Respectfully submitted by Wendy G. Jensen