

Corrected & Accepted
April 24, 2017

MEETING OF THE MONTEREY LIBRARY TRUSTEES
Held at the Monterey Library
March 13, 2017

PRESENT: Kenn Basler, John Higgins, Mickey Jervas
Beth Reiter and Lisa Smyle
MaryPaul Yates, on sabbatical,
joined via Skype
Library Director Mark Makuc
Absent - no one

Meeting was called to order - 7:05pm.

MINUTES: The minutes of February 6, 2017 were corrected and accepted by motion made by Kenn and seconded by Beth.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT: The Trustees of Reservations, who offered no passes last year, are this year charging \$350 for 100 individual passes - one pass/one person/one time. These passes will be good for one year only. They will be good at all Trustees locations except for Monument Mountain where the Trustees have a kiosk and charge for parking. Mark still thinks it will be a good deal for us so we approved purchasing these passes.

On Thursday, March 9th, Mark attended an MBLC Long Range Planning Strategy Meeting at the Stockbridge library. Our long range plan was completed five years ago and is due for an updating. Representatives from the Egremont, Richmond and Otis libraries were also in attendance. They seemed very interested in the Monterey building program and asked many questions of Mark.

The new library cards are on order. The new router is installed, making it much easier to Skype. And BOOPSIE is now working, although the logo needs to be updated.

In order to avoid having to work through a third party at Town Hall, Kenn was able to put Mark in contact with Clark at Uni-bank, which does municipal borrowing throughout Massachusetts. Clark will help Mark with writing the warrant article, which will be a very complex piece. Three conditions will need to be met: First, borrowing will only be sought if the MBLC grant is obtained. Second, town funds can be reduced using monies raised by other means. Third, the town approves this as a debt exclusion item.

Clark is thinking we may have two avenue of borrowing, one for the state \$1,900,000 which will be paid in five years and the second for the town's \$1,200,000 portion which would be for ten or fifteen years.

Mark has been keeping in touch with Roe and Lauren at MBLC throughout these dealings.

Mark has continued working with Dennis Lynch on obtaining a Federal Grant. Dennis will also check to see if borrowing through a Federal agency would be applicable to our building needs.

The committee to review our construction grant application has been chosen and Mark learned that David King is to be the architect on the committee. As David had applied for the position of architect for the library and had been interviewed but not chosen Mark wondered if this was a conflict of interest. He called Dan Palotta, who saw red flags and urged Mark to call the MBLC. He called Lauren our MBLC contact person. Lauren did not know the history and she called Roe, who is lead for the MBLC building program. Roe knew the history and had no problem with it. She feels David King will do a good and impartial job. David called Mark and they agreed that Saturday, March 4th would be a good day for David's visit. David came and reviewed the plans. It was a very busy Saturday. Dennis Lynch came in to discuss some grant questions and a number of people asked questions about the plans. So David actually saw the enthusiasm the Town has for this project.

Mark had sent each Trustee a draft of an article for the Monterey News to bring the Town up to date and ready for the warrant article. We reviewed the draft and offered suggestions. Mark will put the final copy together with our suggestions and have it ready for the April News. We also planned for an Open House on Saturday, April 22nd at which time Mark and Trustees will be available to answer any questions.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: In connection with the Trustees being available to answer questions from the community Lisa wondered if our e-mail addresses should be made public. Kenn told us that the Broadband Committee has an e-mail address that sends incoming e-mails to the individual members of the committee. This could be set up for the Trustees. He and Mark will put this together and the Trustee e-mail address will be on the Library site.

Lisa and Mark met with Don Clawson of the Finance Committee about the Library budget requests for FY18. Don advised them that all wages were being held to a 2% raise for FY18 and so our request was revised to:

Wages -	\$ 35,998.
Maintenance -	5,740.
General -	30,030. *
Total -	\$ 71,768. *

**** NOTE:** Subsequent to Lisa and Mark meeting with the Finance Committee the Committee mistakenly put our request through with General Expenses at \$30,000, reducing our total request to \$71,738.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: Kenn sadly advised us that due to too many conflicts at this time he will not be running for re-election this year. He did say that he would like to be back on the board in the future and we will hold him to that.

Discussion followed as to who might be interested in running for the empty position. Stephen Moore, editor of the Monterey News, has expressed interest but feels there could be conflict in reporting the news. Someone had mentioned Rebecca Wollen might be interested. And MaryPaul suggested Shannon Lee Amidon Castile who has done some work for the Friends and has been a library patron since she was a little kid. MaryPaul will call Shannon to see if she would be both interested and able to take on the position.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35pm by motion made by John and seconded by Kenn.

NEXT MEETING: Monday, April 24, 2017 - 7:00pm

Agenda - Discuss April 22nd Open House
Preparation for Town Meeting
Building program up-date

Submitted by: Mickey Jervas, Secretary