

Council accepted
5/15/23

MEETING of the MONTEREY BOARD of LIBRARY TRUSTEES
Held at the Monterey Library and via Zoom
April 24, 2023

PRESENT: John Higgins, Mickey Jervas,
Rebecca Wolin and Cheryl Zellman
Via Zoom: Nancy Kleban
Director: Mark Makuc
Absent: Judy Kaminstein
Guests: Rob Hoogs, Historical Society, via Zoom

Meeting was called to order 7:07pm.

MINUTES: The minutes of March 20, 2023 were corrected and accepted by motion made by Cheryl and seconded by Rebecca. The vote to accept was unanimous.

FRIENDS: The camp movies Go-Fund-Me has raised over \$2,000, plus money has been received by check.

The Council on Aging will be supporting the Parkinson's Group funding through the Town.

The 175th anniversary is almost ready for the printer.

The Friends want to schedule a meeting with the Trustees to review goals and funding for the upcoming year.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY: Rob reported that the talk on Monterey Civil War involvement given by Barbara Swann in The 1931 Room on March 20th drew 20 people and was well received.

The Monterey Native Plants Working Group is working with Courtney Morehouse, Senior Environmental Planner for the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission, to restore the vegetative buffer at Bidwell Park which was severely damaged when downed trees were removed. Courtney has contacted Rob and they will walk the property to be sure that everyone is aware of the locations of Historical Artifacts from the town mill sites and will avoid damaging these precious sites.

Rob will be hosting a historical walk on Saturday, September 23rd in connection with the Housatonic Heritage Walks. There will be a talk in The 1931 Room followed by a walk along the Konkapot River behind the Library.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT: The Children's Summer Program schedule is coming together. To date two magicians are planned, as well as a live animal show.

Mark is advertising for an intern to help with the children's summer reading program and the Saturday morning programs.

Unfortunately, due to scheduling conflicts, Simon Winchester will not be able to speak at the Library this spring. Mark will try to get a fall date scheduled.

The MBLC meeting at the Library is scheduled for Thursday, May 4th. Twenty people from their office are expected to attend. They plan to arrive at about 10AM to begin setting up for their meeting which will commence at 11AM. Lunch will follow. Most of the trustees are expecting to attend the meeting.

The library carpets were cleaned on Sunday, 4/23. The refinished tables and 12 new table chairs are expected to arrive on Tuesday, 4/25.

The Reiki session on Saturday 4/22 was successful. This was a part of the training for the people working the tables, and so was a free event.

STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE: The survey was discussed at their 4/19 meeting. The Committee plans to distribute the survey early in the summer. They are working on shortening it to about three pages. Next meeting, Wednesday, 5/31. Carey Vella, chair of the Friends, has some experience with surveys and has agreed to review the proposed survey.

POLICY SUB-COMMITTEE: The committee met on 4/21 to discuss the Materials Selection Policy for which a rough draft has been drawn.

CHAIR: John stated that he may not be able to attend the upcoming Town Meeting and wanted to be sure that other members of the Trustees would be ready to answer any questions which might arise.

Since John is not running for re-election, this will be his last meeting, at least for now, he has retired before. We

all joined to wish John a happy second retirement and shared some refreshments and a relaxed, non-business, time.

OTHER: John informed us that since he will no longer be on the Trustees, we have to appoint another member to replace him on the McLaughlin-Wilson Scholarship committee. The committee meets in the spring to review applications from 6-8 [rarely maybe 12] Monterey students looking for financial assistance to help fund their college education. The application includes a letter from the applicant, which can be the most telling and interesting part of the application. The Scholarship is well funded and they are able to give a minimum of \$2,000 or \$3,000. Freshmen usually receive \$10,000 to \$15,000. After some discussion about the scholarship and the committee's duties, Mickey suggested that Cheryl, with her education background, would be a perfect member. Cheryl was thrilled to be considered and all agreed that she fill John's place on the scholarship committee.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35pm by motion made by Rebecca and seconded Cheryl.

NEXT MEETING: Monday, May 15, 2023, 7pm

In person and on Zoom

Agenda: Organization
 Minutes
 Friends report
 Historical Society report
 Director's report
 Strategic Planning
 Policy sub-committee
 Other

Submitted by: Mickey Jervas, Secretary