

Corrected &
Accepted
April 11, 2016

MEETING OF THE MONTEREY LIBRARY TRUSTEES
Held at the Monterey Library
March 7, 2016

PRESENT: Kenn Basler, John Higgins, Mickey Jervas,
Beth Reiter and Lisa Smyle
Via Skype: MaryPaul Yates
Library Director Mark Makuc

Meeting was called to order - 7:02pm.

MINUTES: The minutes of February 8, 2016 were corrected and accepted by motion made by Kenn and seconded by John.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Building Program - Mickey and Tim Eagles of EDM, our architect, have hashed out the final changes in the AIA Contract and Jeremia Pollard, Town Counsel, has approved it. Mark handed out five copies for the Trustees' signatures. The Building Committee will be meeting again on March 14th. Lauren Stara, of the MBLC, will attend this meeting at which time we will start making serious headway toward our new or newly revised library. Mark handed out and we reviewed an MBLC hand-out entitled "Construction Grant Round - General Outline of Requirements and Procedures." Luckily the title was worse than the contents. Our next step with MBLC is to send a letter of intent with documentation that a qualified OPM and registered Massachusetts architect have been hired, together with a copy of the building program. Mark will be attending a workshop in South Hadley on March 23rd. Library attendance at this Information Session is mandatory. EDM's attendance is optional. The Library's application for a construction grant must be submitted January 26, 2017. That application, in nine months, will include our plans for the changes to be made to the library. And we will need to go before the Town Meeting in May 2017 to apply for any necessary funding.

The Library will host the Easter Egg Hunt on Sunday, March 27th at 1pm. As we did last year, once again the small children will hunt inside the library and the older children outside. This is always a well attended and fun event.

Songwriting Intensive, the song writing series hosted by Robin O'Herin has been attended by three or four enthusiasts for each of the first three nights it has run so far. The last night will be March 14th. The news that a teen was an attendee brought about discussion on how to get more teens active in the library and library activities.

Following up on our discussion to open Thursday mornings during July and August, Mark spoke to Rosemary. She is willing to staff that shift in addition to her current shifts.

There was much discussion about continuing problems with Town Accountant, Paul. Mark is concerned about receiving accurate year-end figures in a timely manner which he needs for reports to the State. Paul has insisted on paying from invoices, not statements, but does not always follow his own directive; and has at times charged payments to the wrong account. Errors are human and acceptable; not owning them is not acceptable. Paul changed the protocol for paying the library cleaning lady without consulting either her, or Mark. This change is now under review by the Town Attorney.

Good news on the financial end, we seem to be getting our New York Times Book Review, again.

Mark suggested we check out the library website. All the Knox Gallery posters are now on-line.

Reporting for the Friends, Mark informed us that as of February 29th they had \$22,853.47 in their account. This is enough to cover their pledged amount for this stage of the Building Program, plus having funds on hand toward the summer programs. Maria Makuc has worked on the database and has purged duplicate names.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: None

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: MaryPaul, who has joined us via Skype and could interact with us this month, told us that Cheryl Zellman was interested in becoming Secretary of the Friends. MaryPaul would take over as Treasurer to relieve Mari, should she want this relief. Perhaps April would be a good time to meet with the Friends.

Peter Heller made a nice donation to the Friends in thanks for the showing of his mother's sculptures, which was an enjoyable exhibit.

MaryPaul told us that the Berkshire Record had a nice article about Andrew Zdziarski and the show of his bold art work which is on view through April 23rd.

In response to discussion about introducing some of the new owners in town to the library MaryPaul suggested sending them a letter inviting them to an art show opening.

Mickey brought up the subject of bags for the booksale and suggested that the Friends look into printed cloth shopping bags.

On a whole different matter, Kenn mentioned that the town is looking into available grants, primarily for the new town transfer station. It seems that the DCR has money available which may be an avenue for funding work on the dam behind the library. It would be nice to have that safe and as an avenue to Bidwell Park once again.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:12pm by motion made by Lisa and seconded by MaryPaul.

NEXT MEETINGS: Monday, April 11, 2016 - 7pm
Agenda - Discuss Building Committee Progress
Preparation for Town Meeting

Submitted by: Mickey Jervas, Secretary