



**MINUTES OF THE MORRO BAY FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
March 19, 2010**

**Call to Order:** President Karen Robert called the meeting to order at 11:30 a.m.

**Present:** Karen Robert, Robert Davis, Christine Johnson, Laurie Allen, Ric Deschler, Jude Long, Susan McElhinney, Jan Goldman, Jennifer Redman, Joan Decker, Joseph Carotenuti, Mary Blair. Excused Absence: Jack McCurdy, Joan Peterson

**Introductions:** Friends of the Library (FOL) Board members introduced themselves.

**New Business:**

1. **Recommendation of New Board Member:** A motion was made and passed to approve the appointment of Member-at-Large, Library Advisory/Vision, Christine Johnson, to the Board of Directors (moved Decker, second McElhinney). Ms. Johnson noted that she has lived abroad, and a public library was the thing she missed most of all!
2. **Recording Morro Bay Library History:** Joseph Carotenuti reported that he is working on the history of the Morro Bay Library. His work on the history of the Santa Margarita Library is available online. He noted that libraries are "parallel sources" of history. He pointed out that the money for the library system in San Luis Obispo came from Andrew Carnegie in 1904 and 1906. He is looking for someone to work on our own library's history. It was decided that an ad seeking help would be included in the next newsletter. There is already information on the website. Find out more about the history projects at [www.SLOJOURNAL.com](http://www.SLOJOURNAL.com).
3. **Newsletter Production:** Director Davis noted that the people who have been volunteering to label, fold and mail the newsletter are no longer able to do it. He suggested looking into a mailing service. One bid was for \$280 per year for the service, for a quarterly newsletter. Director Allen inquired as to how much effort was being made to go electronic. That option is being pursued, but Director Redman pointed out that many people like getting a paper edition. Director Allen suggested that we may need a webmaster as a board position. Director Deschler offered to do the folding as a cost cutting measure, and noted that the electronic delivery list is growing. President Robert noted that the newsletter has a budgeted amount and the use of that money is up to the editor. Director Davis was authorized to choose his own mailing vendor and that coming back to the Board is only necessary if there is a budgetary shortfall. It was further mentioned that an announcement of the "email only" option would go into the next edition.

**Old Business:**

**1. Status of Lease Agreement:** The Board discussed the current status of the lease negotiations between the City and the County. Director Deschler presented a proposal for Board consideration. It was moved by Director Deschler, and seconded by Director Decker that the Morro Bay Friends of the Library authorize Jim Grant to negotiate with the City of Morro Bay regarding a contribution by the Friends of the Library to the City, not to exceed (*amount must remain confidential until such time that the lease has been resolved between the City and County*), based on the proposal for financial assistance submitted to the Board of Directors by Director Deschler. The first payment to the City would not occur until January 15, 2011, and date of payment is conditioned on the date of February 1, 2011, as the date by which the City will have vacated the Program Room at the Library. If the City holds on to the Program Room beyond January 31, 2011, the payment will be delayed accordingly. It was determined that the County can decide whether the Friends will pay the City directly or pass it through County. The vote was as follows:

- a. President Robert--Aye
- b. Director Deschler--Aye
- c. Director Allen--Aye
- d. Director Decker--Aye
- e. Director McElhinney--Aye
- f. Director Redman--Aye
- g. Director Goldman--Aye
- h. Director Davis--Aye
- i. Director Johnson—Aye

Motion approved.

### Reports

**President's Report: 1.** President Robert requested that Board members use the Board email system ([board@morrobayfriendsoflibrary.org](mailto:board@morrobayfriendsoflibrary.org)) when emailing the full board. She also reminded us to use our individual FOL address when sending out email in the course of Friends business. **2.** The President gave a special thank you to Director Deschler and Director McCurdy for formulating an action plan for the Friends to follow in encouraging the community to contact the City Council in reference to negotiations between the City of Morro Bay and the County. **3.** The President noted that Noah Smukler reminded the Friends that the Oak Tree on the Patio is a candidate for landmark status. If there is any discussion in the future about patio expansion, we need to reflect that fact.

On motion by Director McElhinney, seconded by Director Goldman, the President's report was accepted as read.

**Minutes:** The minutes of the January 22, 2010, meeting were accepted as presented for the record (moved Goldman, second Decker). The email meeting of February 12-15, 2010 was also approved on motion by Director Decker, seconded by Director Allen.

**Vice President/Library Foundation Report: 1. Foundation Report:** Vice President Decker reported that the Foundation intends to pursue its Access Campaign to raise a minimum of \$25,000 to improve online services, WiFi for all branches, and training on access. There is a new logo for the Foundation, which will appear on donation request

letters to be sent out in the near future. **2. Vice President's Report:** Park Ranger Darrell Daniels told Director Decker that the planters weigh too much to move with available equipment, but that he has a plan to level them, using lower tech alternatives. The west side of the Library also needs help with the landscaping, which he has plans for. Directors Decker and Petersen attended an RSVP volunteer "fair," which was very enjoyable and successful. Materials on opportunities with the MB Friends were handed out, even though the majority of the attendees were from San Luis Obispo. The Vice President's Report/Foundation Report was accepted for the record (moved Redman, second Davis).

**Membership Report:** Director Redman reported that she is hoping to get more work done by computer. Her report was approved as presented (moved Goldman, second Johnson).

**Treasurer's Report:** 1. Treasurer Deschler presented the Treasurer's Report showing that, although Friends budgeted \$1,200 for the Jude Sanner Long Peace Pole, the final cost was only \$916.50. There were donations for the Pole of \$1,561, and the unused donations will be given to the library for the acquisition of books and other materials with an emphasis on peace and the environment. 2. The painting which had been in the library office was painted by Albert deRome. It had sustained some damage, but was accepted on consignment by the Rieser Fine Art Gallery in Carmel, CA, for a price that will result in a \$10,000 payment to us upon sale. The report was approved as read on motion by Director Redman, seconded by Director Decker.

**Ways and Means:** The February book sale brought in \$3,000, even though the weather was wet and stormy. Other sales are listed in the Treasurer's Report as posted on the Friends' website ([www.morrobayfriendsoflibrary.org](http://www.morrobayfriendsoflibrary.org)). The report was accepted for the record (moved Davis, second Goldman).

**Program Report:** Director Goldman reported that things were in place for the annual Volunteer Appreciation Brunch on April 16, 2010, from 9-10:30 in the morning. The theme is "Libraries Grow Minds." The expected cost is between \$750 and \$800. This report was approved on motion by Director Redman, seconded by Director McElhinney.

**Correspondence:** Director McElhinney reported that several "Thank You's" were sent out in response to donations, primarily toward the Peace Pole. The report was accepted for the record on motion by Director Davis, seconded by Director Deschler.

**Library Report:** 1. Retiring Branch Manager Jude Long stated that this was her last meeting as representative of the library. A new branch manager has been selected, and the new person was highly praised for her energy and ability to connect with people. 2. Ms. Long noted that the Friends role in advocating for the library with respect to the new lease was very helpful in getting things moving in a positive direction. 3. She also thanked everyone for her retirement party, which she said she loved and that she was overwhelmed by the outpouring of love and support from the community. She stated that her party was the "best party Morro Bay has ever had without alcohol!" 3. Events at the library include an Earth Day event that promises to be interesting, educational and fun. The report was accepted for the record (moved Allen, second McElhinney).

### **Committee Reports:**

**Library Advisory/Vision and Public Relations:** No reports. President Robert read a message from Director McCurdy on the benefits of activism to Morro Bay Library.

**Newsletter: Member-at-Large:** Newsletter Editor Davis reported that the next deadline for submission to the newsletter is April 6, 2010, at 8 AM. For the following newsletter,

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Editor Davis will be out of town, but the deadline will be June 8, 2010, at 8 AM. It is his intention to mail that edition in July.

**Agenda Builder:** The next Board of Directors meeting of the Morro Bay Friends of the Library is **Friday, May 21, 2010 at 11:30 a.m.** in the Morro Bay Library Program Room.

Agenda items for this meeting are due by: **Friday, May 14, 2010 at noon.**

**Announcements:** Review agenda for announcements. It was suggested that we might want to review the website of the Friends of the Corona Library prior to our discussion at the May 21, 2010 Board of Directors meeting.

**Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 1:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Susan McElhinney, Secretary