

**Moore Memorial Public Library Board of Trustees
Minutes**

April 25, 2011

Present: Hallie Ketchum, Clay West, Nelle Leach, Gerry Steed, Shirley Mapps, Elaine Schmitz, Mary Ann Reed and Beth Ryker Steiner

Absent: Stephanie Doyle, Sara Moreno

The meeting was called to order at 4:08 p.m. Minutes from Feb. 28th meeting of the Library Board were approved as written.

Librarian Beth Ryker Steiner gave the following short report:

1. Vivi Hoang, replacing Amelia Chau as Library System Administrator/Webmaster has been hired and will start on May 2, 2011. Children's assistant Betty Burns will be retiring on May 31, 2011.
2. Some budget information has been received from the Texas State Library & Archives Commission. The deep cuts in state funding for public library services will cause major changes beginning September 1st. Lone Star funding has been eliminated. Funding for inter-library loan services, currently funded primarily from the Federal pass-through funding to the State Library System, will be deeply decreased and may be eliminated. State-licensed databases have been cut down, but will be maintained at a minimal level with the mandatory fees increased significantly. Other grants and assistance will be drastically decreased or cut out entirely. Addition of MMPL to the OCLC world-wide catalog, which was scheduled to be financially underwritten by the Texas State Library, has been cancelled.
3. The ten systems of the State Library (including HALS) may be eliminated due to the anticipated loss of all or most Federal funds.
4. No information has been received about funding for the Galveston County Library System from Galveston County. The GALCO system Board is expecting to submit a straight-line budget for the 2012 budget process, unless further information is received.
5. The net effect of the proposed funding cuts will eliminate or curtail services in inter-library loans, online databases, and other areas. These cuts, coupled with rising costs for materials, changes in vendor/publisher practices, increased fees, and a decrease in other funding sources, mean an anticipated decrease in purchasing power for library materials for Moore Memorial Public Library of approximately 25%. Extensive cuts in staff, materials and programs are already taking place in neighboring systems. Expectations for services and access starting in October remain uncertain, although the Library is developing possible strategies to mitigate some of the effects of the cuts. Enforcement and maintenance of minimum accreditation standards by the Texas State Library will be continued.

6. Scheduled replacement of some computer workstations and upgrade of laptops has been completed. Some small ranges of additional shelving have been ordered and should be delivered soon. Countertops and some fixtures in the public bathrooms should be completed within the next 2 months. Expansion/remodeling of the library facility is on indefinite hold.
7. The library is planning an additional program in May, taking advantage of an offer by UTMB to provide medical outreach on living with diabetes.
8. Summer reading programs will be available in May, and include a number of programs for all ages. The Teen program focusing on the required summer reading selections of Texas City and LaMarque school districts will not be continued this summer. The adult summer program has been expanded to include a contest on Texas City history, and a special sweetener to entice patrons to read more broadly.
9. Major Pettigrew's Last Stand by Helen Simondson has been selected as the 2011 Texas City Reads book. Discussions will be held in September. This year, for the first time, one of the discussions will include an online discussion with the author, through Skype. The Friends of the Library have graciously agreed to fund this visit, and provide refreshments.

The issue of the surcharge for reserves not picked up or cancelled has been shelved at the suggestion of City Hall. With additional changes anticipated for the fall, all changes will be addressed at the same time.

Amnesty week was held the week of April 11th through 16th. 223 patron cards were cleared of fines during this time. \$2,288.17 in fines were forgiven. Four long-term overdue items were also returned.

The FY2012 budget was briefly discussed. Beth indicated her priority next budget year would be to preserve as much buying power for library materials as possible, since the library would be looking to increase access to e-books and e-audiobooks. Retention of some ability to borrow materials from other libraries is also a high priority.

Beth encouraged all Library Board members to participate in the summer reading programs. Board members graciously offered to provide whatever help was needed.

The next meeting is scheduled for June 27, 2011. The meeting adjourned about 5:25 pm.