Moore Memorial Public Library Board of Trustees
Minutes
April 23, 2007

Present:  Sarah Ettredge, Elaine Schmitz, Nelle Leach, Sara Moreno, Shirley Mapps, Mary Ann Reed and Beth Ryker Steiner

Absent:  Stephanie Doyle and Ann Dube

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m.  Minutes from the Feb. 26th meeting were approved as written.

Beth Ryker Steiner gave the Librarian’s report:

1. The Library is finishing up the set of about 125 early Texas City photographs that were digitized as part of the Portal to Texas History project. The Texas City Land Ledger is being digitized now by Portal staff, and will be available online after it is transcribed and described by Library staff. Moore Memorial Library staff has also begun digitization of some historical documents from early Texas City History.

2. Library staff have completed and mounted our first online web exhibit. It is on the 1947 Texas City Disaster and was made available for view from the Library’s homepage in early April.

3. The Library has implemented wireless access capability in the building. That wireless overlay covers the entire building, which is much broader coverage than was initially anticipated. The Library has begun using the new wireless laptop computers for public Internet access. More laptop computers are expected later this year.

4. The Library has purchased a new online reader’s advisor database that is available to help readers find new books and new authors to read. It is also available through the library home page by remote access.

5. The Library hosted a visit from author Reshonda Tate-Billingsley on Friday, April 20th during National Library Week. The visit was highly successful with 35 to 40 attendees.

6. The exterior of the library building has been treated for mold and mildew. The bathrooms off the meeting room are scheduled for renovation in May.

7. Rebecca Snow is the new Local History/Reference librarian. She started in late March.
8. Preliminary review of budget issues for FY2007/08 show that increasing Internet capacity must be addressed. Space issues continue to be studied.

9. Programs were distributed for Summer 2007. Beth asked Board members to keep those programs under wraps until early May when the information is put on the website and programs are available for the public.

The issue on commercial usage fees for historical photographs was tabled indefinitely. The Mayor has decided not to charge license fees for these photographs at this time.

Nelle Leach moved and Gerry Steed seconded the proposed amended Interlibrary Loan (ILL) policy for Moore Memorial Public Library. The only change made was to remove the ability to request an ILL by phone due to problems with pickups and incorrect requests. Patrons wishing to borrow materials from another library must visit the Library or send a written or email request for the specific material.

The next meeting was set for June 25th at 4:00 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned about 4:45 p.m.