

**FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY OF MONROE TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Regularly Scheduled Meeting March 16, 2016**

A. Call to Order:

The regularly scheduled March meeting of the Free Public Library of Monroe Township Board of Trustees was called to order by President King. Those present: Ms. Samoyan, Mr. Garbowski, Mr. Pohler, Ms. Patterson, Ms. Betterly, Ms. Mead, Mr. Paredes and President King. Ms. King confirmed tonight's meeting is being held in compliance with the requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act.

B. Public Portion (Open/Close):

Ms. King opened the Public Portion of tonight's meeting. There were no members of the public present. Ms. King closed the public portion.

C. Approve Minutes of February 2016 Meeting:

Motion to approve the Minutes of the February 2016 meeting was made by Mr. Pohler, seconded by Ms. Betterly. All voted in favor.

D. Financial Reports:

Off the record to permit time for review of documents. Back on the record.

1. Approve Financial Reports for February 2016:

Motion to approve the financial reports for February 2016 was made by Mr. Pohler, seconded by Ms. Betterly. All voted in favor.

2. Approve Payment of Vouchers for February 2016:

Motion to approve payment of vouchers for February 2016 was made by Ms. Patterson, seconded by Ms. Betterly. All voted in favor.

E. Director's Report:

Removal of Trees:

Mr. Paredes met with Frank Paulson relative to taking down the damaged tree in the area of the Children's Garden. Mr. Paulson inspected other trees to assess their condition. Mr. Paulson felt there are some questionable trees. Taking Mr. Paulson's recommendations, it was decided to take down the tree in the Children's Garden area and wait until the following year for additional tree removal. Mr. Pohler agreed.

Lighting:

Danny inspected the lights around the Library.

Solar Panels:

Mr. Paredes is exploring estimates for the installation of solar panels and the various programs which promise a percentage back. He will study the differences pro and

con of renting versus owning. The Board had some questions and suggestions. Ms. Mead noted solar panels on the roof have issues relative to fire fighting. An alternative would be to install the panels in the back parking lot area.

Jerry Blavat, Author:

Mr. Paredes has scheduled Jerry Blavat, a Philly celebrity who has written a book, for a Meet the Author night at the Library on May 17, 2016. He is hopeful this will generate interest and increased attendance. Mr. Paredes discussed with Board members his constant attempts to target programs that will bring in the public. Some are very successful and some have to be cancelled due to low sign ups. Mr. Paredes spreads the word about the new Library facility and programs as he attends Chamber of Commerce and Rotary meetings.

Rotary:

Mr. Paredes said the Library will host a Rotary Meet and Greet on March 31st from 7:30 to 9:30 a.m.

Parking Lot Lighting:

Mr. Paredes said the parking lot lights will be arriving.

Cindy Leeds:

Cindy will be resigning her position. The plan will be to use existing personnel to fill in her scheduled times.

F. Committee Reports:

Fundraising Committee:

The week of April 11th is scheduled for the Book Sale, Room C. The Friends will be sorting books on Mondays. They anticipate they will need 10 tables. It is a busy month with AARP helping with tax filings and requiring tables plus National Library Week is April 10th to April 16th. Mr. Paredes said April is a busy month and the Library desperately needs tables for its own programs.

Garden Committee:

Mr. Pohler said he is trying to schedule a clean up for April 2nd with a rain date of April 9th from 10:00 to noon. Ms. Mead advised that a FlapJack benefit for the Middle School Garden is scheduled for April 2, 2016 from 8:00 to 10:30 so she won't be able to attend the clean up on that date. Ms. Mead also mentioned several programs that are available to the Library through the South Jersey Water Trust including their setting up a rain garden. Mr. Pohler said he has been working on a dry river bed and in low lying areas plantings that function as a rain garden to attract bees and Monarch butterflies. He will give Ms. Mead a garden tour.

G. New Business:

No new business was reported.

H. Old Business:

No old business was discussed.

I. Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mr. Pohler, seconded by Ms. Samoyan.
All voted in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Susanne McKee, Clerk Transcriber

Suzanne King, President
Board of Trustees