Moore Memorial Public Library Board of Trustees Minutes

October 25, 2010

Present: Hallie Ketchum, Nelle Leach, Mary Ann Reed, Clay West, Elaine Schmitz, Shirley Mapps, Stephanie Doyle, Beth Ryker Steiner

Absent: Gerry Steed, Sara Moreno

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. Minutes from the August 2010 meeting of the Library Board were approved as written.

Librarian Beth Ryker Steiner gave the following short report:

- 1. Budgets for FY 2010/2011 at Federal, State and Regional levels (HALS) for public libraries remain tight. The Library has been awarded a Loan Star grant award for FY2010-2011, at an amount reduced about 20% from last year, due to cuts by the State Legislature. Almost no funding, other than some allocated for continuing education, is expected from the Houston Area Library System this year.
- 2. The Library expects to actually receive the Loan Star funds (\$14,410) in the second week in August. The funds will be used for DVDs and audio books for patrons of all ages. Beth expects to commit most of the funds under this grant by January 1st, 2011.
- 3. Beth thanked the Friends of the Library for their recent donation of funds to buy audio cases for new audio books. Demand keeps increasing in this medium, and the patrons are highly appreciative of the extra funding allocated to purchase new materials. Beth also thanked the Friends group for the lovely refreshments provided during the two sessions for Texas City Reads.
- 4. The permanent online exhibit on the History of Texas City launched in late September. The exhibit was created and developed by Library staff, and includes over 150 images in addition to many historical articles, a timeline of events, a chronology of historical high points by decade and an extensive bibliography. The library expects to continually add to and update the exhibit, as new photographs, materials or events occur. Publicity has been distributed through the newspapers, the school district, the Centennial Committee, inhouse publicity and other venues. Beth encouraged board members to visit the site and share it with others who might be interested.
- 5. The Library is providing an extensive slate of adult programs again this fall. Beth encouraged board members to review the offerings and attend any that they found interesting. Computer classes are often maxed out within ten to fifteen minutes of opening in the morning.

Beth asked the Board members if they would be willing to send a thank you letter to the Galveston County Commissioners Court for the funding allocated to the 8 public libraries

in the county. Board members agreed, and Hallie will write a letter to Judge Yarbrough and the current County Commissioners.

Beth has been notified that Mayor Doyle has extended the terms of service for all Board Members whose terms of membership ended on Sept. 30, 2010.

Two new shelvers, Mike Mendoza and Randy Ramirez, have joined the library staff, filling the vacancies left from Denise Castor (who replaced Genita Holland in a fulltime position), and Heather Varigulas. At this time, all authorized library positions are full.

Nelle Leach moved, and Clay West seconded the motion, to accept the proposed Reference policy. The motion was passed unanimously.

Elections for Board officers will be held at the December Board meeting. A nominating committee of Nelle Leach and Hallie Ketchum was appointed to develop a slate of candidates.

The date for the next Board meeting was moved to Dec. 13, 2010 at 4 p.m. to avoid conflicts with holiday activities.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:52 p.m.