

MONROE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY  
Minutes of the Library Advisory Board  
Big Pine Key Library  
February 26, 2016

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting of the Monroe County Library Board was called to order at 10:37 a.m. by Chair Michael Shields. Present were Board members Stephanie Griffiths and George McHugh.

Participants included (alphabetically), Big Pine Key Library Manager Stephen Chambers, Marathon Library Manager Cristy Danford, Mayor Pro Tem George Neugent, and Library Administrator Anne Layton Rice.

**INTRODUCTIONS:** Participants briefly introduced themselves.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** The minutes for the October 20, 2015 meeting were unanimously approved.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

- Director of Libraries Norma Kula and Board member Mimi Young both sent their regrets due to recent injuries. Chair Michael Shields distributed a press release and an editorial about federal and local funding of public libraries.

**New & CONTINUING BUSINESS:**

- Chair Michael Shields reported on concerns expressed by the Key West Friends of the Library regarding the library budget and donations. Mayor Pro Tem Neugent assured participants that donation funds for county departments are never considered when crafting budgets. Board member George McHugh reported on the need for chair replacement at the Key Largo Library.
- Library Administrator Anne Layton Rice reported that the Islamorada Friends of the Library will be commissioning a memorial plaque for the "Jim Clupper History Room."
- Marathon Library Manager Cristy Danford updated the Board on the Marathon Library building project. The architectural firm has been in contact with the library regarding needs and has provided bubble diagrams for consideration. More meetings and public input are planned. Mayor Pro Tem Neugent expressed that the Marathon library is a priority among pending capital projects.

- Library Administrator Anne Layton Rice reported on the status of the Margo Golan fund. The fund has been used for restoration of heritage historical objects and purchase of the library's portion of the Useful public computing system. Of the original bequeath, \$75,000 has been spent.
- Library Administrator Anne Layton Rice reported that an initial budget request has been submitted to OMB. County department heads were instructed to submit flat budgets for FY2017. The Board and Mayor Pro Tem Neugent urged library staff to submit a secondary "bold" budget. Chair Michael Shields encouraged library staff to seek grant funding.
- The Board determined that their Takeaway item will be advocating for an increase in Library budget and to urge library staff to aggressively seek funding. Chair Michael Shields will discuss library funding with the Marathon Council.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was adjourned at 12:05 pm. The next meeting will be April 26, 2016 at the Key West Library.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Anne Layton Rice".

Anne Layton Rice  
Library Administrator