

MONROE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY
Minutes of the Library Advisory Board
Marathon Library
June 26, 2018

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Monroe County Library Advisory Board was called to order at 10:35 a.m. by Chair Michael Shields. Present were Board members Carol Borland, Sally Cherry, and George McHugh.

Participants included (alphabetically), Senior Library Assistant Walt Johnson, Library Director Norma Kula, and Library Administrator Anne Layton Rice.

INTRODUCTIONS: Participants briefly introduced themselves and new board member Sally Cherry was welcomed to the board.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes for the April 2018 meeting were unanimously approved.

COMMUNICATIONS:

- Board Member Kathryn Norris sent her regrets. Marathon Library Manager Cristy Danford was excused from the meeting as she was attending ALA conference in New Orleans. Library Administrator Anne Layton Rice announced the Library's partnership with the Digital Public Library of America and mentioned the ever-growing eBook circulation. Senior Library Assistant Walt Johnson discussed the popularity of Marathon library's programming for adults and children.

New & CONTINUING BUSINESS:

- Upcoming budget meetings and public hearings were discussed. Library Director Norma Kula discussed recent purchasing and hiring freezes due to Hurricane Irma.
- The Board discussed the role of library staff and facilities in disaster recovery and to serve as Community Communications Centers. Chairman Shields has made inquiries with Monroe County Emergency Management and will report on possibilities, including storm hardening libraries and creating cellular hotspots.
- Library Director Norma Kula reported on Hurricane Irma-related mitigation and repairs ongoing at all libraries and reported on the progress of the Key West Library's HVAC installation. The delay of ground-breaking for the Marathon Library was briefly discussed. Board member Carol Borland provided photographs of the Big Pine Key Library mold mitigation and discussed the need for inspections to move forward with repairs. Library Director Norma Kula discussed the need for a contractor for Key Largo and Islamorada roof repair.

- Library Director Norma Kula discussed staffing challenges at the libraries. She reported a 14% vacancy rate currently.
- The Board discussed possibly changing date or location of next meeting due to voting on the scheduled day.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 12:20p.m. The next meeting will be August 29th at the Islamorada Library.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Anne Layton Rice
Library Administrator