

## Capitola Library Friends Minutes 8/26/23 – Not yet approved

Toni called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. There were 22 people present.

Mary Pukenis introduced herself as the manager of the library campus. Diane Cowen introduced herself as the adult services librarian. She asked that if there are programs we want, we should contact Diane.

Keith talked about the AI and Society series at the Capitola Library on September 12 at 6:30 PM. The first session will be "AI & Education."

Karen gave a treasurer's report.

Toni brought up the solar panel discussion. She distributed a handout that provided detailed information on our financial situation and on the step-by-step plan for the solar project. She then took the group through the information. She noted that in April 2018 the Cap Friends voted to spend \$50,000 to install solar panels and that \$50,958 is being held by the City of Capitola from the library capital campaign for the project.

Gerry Jensen spoke about his background in public and private construction and his meetings with Jaime Goldstein, Capitola City Manager. He has double checked the numbers from Steve Jesberg, retired City Public Works Director. He spoke about the bidding process pointing out that the job would likely go to the lowest bidder. He estimated that the project would take 18-24 months to complete. With all contingencies, the total comes to \$397,400.00 for a 60 kW system.

Keith discussed other options, pointing out that the current numbers include a \$40,000 penalty paid to PG&E and that he felt that the current proposal does not make economic sense.

Toni said and Gayle confirmed that Jaime has approved the solar panel project, but does prefer grid scale. Gayle said she thought grid scale was not available.

Participants asked questions about grid scale and future options to add storage.

Steve said maybe Gerry should include the cost of insurance to cover his work. Gerry responded that he is a licensed contractor and carries insurance appropriate for the Cap. Friends' solar project.

Karen moved not to allow proxy votes. Keith seconded. In favor, not to use proxies 2; opposed 12. Motion failed.

Gayle moved that the Capitola Friends agree to put solar on the library property and allow Gerry Jensen to pursue several ways to proceed, which could include storage. We agree to add the additional funds needed for the project per Gerry's quote dated 8/26/23 over and above the

already committed funds. Already committed funds include \$50,958 plus the previously approved \$50,000, total additional funds not to exceed \$297,400. Carol seconded.

In favor: 14 present. Gayle had 2 proxies and Toni had 7 proxies. Total 23:

Opposed: 2.

Abstentions: 1.

Motion passed.

Immediately after the vote, Keith announced that there was “zero chance” that the FSCPL would approve releasing Cap Friends funds for the solar project.

Toni asked Bruce under what conditions would FSCPL not approve the project. Bruce’s stated that it is the chapter’s money. Janis said that each board member will read the packet and listen to the arguments then make their own judgments.

Janis mentioned that FSCPL is preparing an application to Santa Cruz Gives. The proposal would include library services to all of the jail facilities. Another is the DEI shirt project. The money raised will go to collections for diverse materials. Toni suggested that FSCPL make a poster for the bookstore. Carol suggested supplying response envelopes.

Bruce said that in November FSCPL will be getting a percentage of all sales at the Eric’s Deli location on Soquel.

Meeting adjourned 8/26/23