

RANDALL LIBRARY TRUSTEES MEETING

Randall Library and Zoom

March 7, 2023

Attendees: Maureen Busch, Marcy Eckel, Maura Sieller, Barbie Wolfenden, Rachel Flaherty

Also in attendance:

Library Director: Tina McAndrew

Others: Tim Reed, Kathleen Pavelchek, Lisa Lavina, Marilyn Zavorski, Abby Morgan, Tim Reed, Lisa Hubbard, Denise Dembkoski

Call to Order 6:36 PM

1. Public Comments –

Conversation with Town Manager – her response to questions we submitted earlier:

- Building Project Update – There is a website page with the latest information.
- Trustee's request to bring budget in line with library's needs – The town has provided maintenance of the library for \$30K over 10 years; library has received "twice doubled" in contributions and currently, 75% of library income will come into the "Materials" line in the budget. By Fiscal '24 we should be on the threshold of fully funding materials which will reduce the need to take funds from the trust. Our Town Manager supports "the gem" that our library is, and she recognizes the fine work being done by our director and staff.
- Our funding schedule – We will use CPC funds before the town borrows but we all can expect the cost to go higher because of inflation.
- Should we do anything differently (Trustees?) – No, the library is doing everything it can. [We are] excellent compared to some bigger libraries in the realm of programs and our small staff. "Fantastic" job.
- Town Manager's role in the Building Committee? – The same as that of other members, while being she is primarily involved in the financials.

The Chair asked Denise to return after town meeting in May to spend more time in person with the board.

2. Public Comment

Representative of NASJA (a social justice arts group) reported on their 3rd art show. She has gotten a one-time liquor license and has an agreement with a beer company, Clover Road, which will charge for alcohol served at the event. She is in the process of getting approval. The board waived the current policy on the use of alcohol on the premises with the idea that Tina would write a new one. With one abstention, Maureen, the rest of the board approved the plan.

3. Board Member Comments – none

4. Director's Report (Tina)

- Tina led a discussion on how to dispose of a few hundred old books probably leftover from the founder's collection. Brattle books will buy them for \$1,000. Her intern will itemize the titles.

- Extensive monthly report was also sent to members, for which there were no questions.

5. **Chair's Report (Maureen)**

- Maureen followed up on our contribution to the town re the Building project and is continuing to manage the handover in the most frugal way possible.

6. **Treasurer's Report (Maureen)**

- The current market value of the holdings is \$634,615.34 as of March 6.

7. **Old Business**

- Randall portrait restoration. Barbie presented the decision of the Friends not to contribute to the funding at this time; Lisa Lavina, Chair of the Friends, however, is committed to getting it done and taking another look after the building project is completed.
- There may be someone interested in our recommendation to hold a position with the Second Century fund group.
- The WECO catering fund-raising project is going well.

8. **New Business**

- Friends update was provided by Lisa Lavina:
 - The two main contributions to the library are for programming and \$5K for passes to cultural institutions and events.
 - They hope to receive \$6K from the Stow Community Chest.
 - They will send out a town-wide annual request for funds in April.
 - They will ask DCU again for kids' grant.
 - There is a \$2/book sale upstairs of books culled from the collection.
 - They ask for storage space in the temporary library when it moves during the reconstruction.
 - They asked the Trustees to co-sponsor "There's More to the Story" theme during library week, April 23-29.
- Building Committee Update
 - Tina will bring pictures/slides of an updated interior design of the proposed building to the next meeting.
- NASJA request to serve alcohol at art show.
 - Motion made by Barbie, seconded by Morgan, passed to approve with one abstention.
- Mission Statement
 - Tina asks the trustees to review samples sent out with suggestions, ideas.
 - Discussion was held about named spaces; Tina to send out samples.
- Community Outreach 2.0
 - Discussion was held regarding businesses that would hold a display session in the library with the goal of getting people into the library who ordinarily do not come.
- Items for April agenda – Mission/Vision statement; Revised alcohol policy; recognition policy.

9. **Accept Minutes – unanimously accepted with corrections.**

10. Meeting adjourned 9:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbie Wolfenden, Secretary