

## **RANDALL LIBRARY TRUSTEES MEETING - September 21, 2021**

**Attendees:** Maureen Busch, Marcy Eckel, Morgan Hillman, Andy Riecker, Marianne Sharin, Maura Sieller

**Absent:** Barbie Wolfendon

*Also in attendance:*

**Library Director:** Tina McAndrew

**Friends Representatives:** Lisa Lavina, Kathleen Pavelchek

**Bartholomew Company Representatives:** Alex Bartholomew, Michelle Newcomb

### **Call to Order 6:31 PM**

- **No public remarks**
- **Review and Approval of Previous Minutes:**
  - Andy motioned to approve the minutes as they stood. Maura seconded the motion.
  - Marianne abstained as she was not in attendance at the previous meeting. 4 Trustees voted to approve the minutes. The motion passed.
- **Financial Report - Bartholomew Representatives:**

Because the representatives were available, they presented their portfolio review first

  - There were unforeseen account issues, so Bartholomew is working with Brad Brightman to rectify them
  - Alex reported gains of \$222k since the account's initial June 2020 inception. The account had been previously self invested
  - All cash is now fully invested
  - The ESG (Environmental, Social and Governance) investing portfolio was very beneficial, and also carries low interest rates. Due to various fiscal uncertainties however, they suggested volatility was on the horizon
  - Bartholomew was able to facilitate a speedy portfolio transition, and the inherited funds performed very well
  - There are no Exchange Traded Funds, as these were primarily for short term traders
- **Director's Report - Tina:**
  - Boards erected at the town buildings and local businesses Emmas, Nans, Stow Fitness, Dunkin Donuts, Stow Senior Center, etc providing info pertaining to the Building Committee. The boards also ask for input.
  - The meeting presenting preliminary designs from Design Lab was June 22nd, 2021

- Janet Ellis recently retired, and we welcomed new aides Kyle Coston and Elizabeth Paulsen
- Financial reports had recently been submitted
- Tina is working on the compliance report due the following Friday
- Due to rainy weather, there is evidence of many leaks, especially in the children's area
- Tina invited Kathy and Maureen to speak to support changing all bathrooms in the library to gender neutral
  - After a brief discussion Marianne motioned to vote on the change. Many trustees seconded the motion.
  - 6 trustees present voted in favor. The motion passed unanimously.
- **Treasurer's Report - Maureen:**
  - Maureen requested a vote to move \$10k to the Director's bank account
    - Marianne made the motion, Morgan seconded
    - 6 trustees present voted in favor. The motion passed unanimously.
  - There was a technical issue amending signatory power with the Fidelity account which was rectified and completed on schedule.
- **Old Business:**
  - **Building Committee:**
    - The erected signs will accept suggestions until October 9th, 2021 at which point they will all be collected.
    - Morgan spoke on Tina's behalf and asked to discuss a collective Board direction for all new building matters.
    - In effort to get the word out, suggestions discussed included the local PTO, students' digital backpacks, the Stow Independent, Action Unlimited, NextDoor.
  - **Stakeholders Update:**

A poll will be sent to included members to pick a date for the collective meeting
- **Chair's Report:**

The chair acknowledged the Director's and Trustees' great efforts in the Building Committee, and the Library in general.
- **New Business:**
  - **Fines:**
    - Approximately \$2000 is collected in fines each year, which goes to the town, not the Library
    - Tina was concerned that enforcing high value fines could prohibit patrons from returning, and requested they be eliminated
    - Discussion on the matter included scaling back fines, accepting donations in lieu of cash, and a trial period instead of permanent fine removal

- Marianne motioned to vote to eliminate collection of all fines, Marcy seconded. 5 votes in favor, 1 opposed. Motion passed.

- **Fundraising:**

- Andy suggested a book sale and trivia night in effort to raise spending capital for the Director's funds.
- Ultimately these events were postponed in lieu of the impending Building Committee meeting and potential involvement from the Randall Library Friends.

- **Adjournment:**

- Marcy motioned to adjourn the meeting, many Trustees seconded.
- A unanimous vote adjourned the meeting at 8:16 PM