

RANDALL LIBRARY TRUSTEES MEETING

February 1, 2022 - Zoom Meeting

Attendees: Maureen Busch, Marcy Eckel, Andy Riecker, Morgan Hellman, Maura Sieller, Barbie Wolfenden

Absent: Marianne Sharin

Also in attendance:

Library Director: Tina McAndrew

Members of the public: Lisa Lavina, Chair of Friends; Kathleen Pavelchek, Treasurer of Friends; Linda Hathaway, Town Clerk; Katie Fisher

Call to Order 6:34 PM

1. Public Comments

Kathleen forwarded a complaint by one patron on current diminished library hours. Tina explained the town's involvement in the decision, that other libraries also have constraints, and she shares the concern but is hampered by Covid at this time.

2. Review and Approval of Previous Minutes (Barbie)

- Andy moved to approve the amended minutes; Morgan seconded; the motion was carried unanimously.

3. Chair's Report (Marcy)

- Marcy reminded Board to make sure to complete Ethics Training, as per schedule sent out by Town Clerk Linda Hathaway.
- Fund raising committee met January 14; timeline was made.
- Tina made an excellent presentation to the Select Board; all are encouraged to attend all of her presentations, if possible, to show unity and support. Note: if quorum is expected, the fact must be posted.

4. Treasurer's Report (Maureen)

- The current market value of the holdings is down by around \$40K at \$842,933.66. There is not much activity.

5. Director's Report (Tina)

- Reduced hours are in effect as library closes at 5:00 Wednesdays and Thursdays.
- Traffic is slow.
- Tina participated in a Town distribution of 11,000 Covid test kits; event took place on the former Bose site.

6. Old Business:

a. Trustee Ambassador Updates

- List of ambassador roles:
 - Morgan – Select Board
 - Maura – Cultural Council
 - Plans are in the works for an art show
 - Marcy – Schools and Conservation
 - Maureen – Recreation
 - Andy – COA

- Barbie – none
- Marianne – none
- Discussion was held on Library's connections to "Sustainable Stow", an independent group and "Green Advisory Committee", town-sanctioned group.
 - Tina arranges for speakers for "Sustainable Stow".
 - Tina also has partnership with Diversity, Equity, Inclusive group (DEI) and dedicates this month's exhibits in library to Black History month.
 No need for another ambassador to either of these groups.

b. Fund Raising Progress Report

- Andy met with Maura to discuss various fundraising plans including virtual trivia and minigolf in the library, each of which would require nominal donations to play. Advantage: to bring the friendly and fun aspect of Randall to families and children.
- Barbie suggested that local businesses could be asked to donate gift cards as prizes.
- Discussion held to clarify purpose of the fund-raising effort; agreement that it is not to raise funding for renovation but rather to engage the community in a positive way.

c. Warrant Article Update

- Tina is getting help with warrant article from Denise and town counsel.

7. New Business

a. Annual Report

- Maurine is working on the financial part, adopts suggestion to make it reader-friendly; Tina is doing the wording, trying to personalize it. It was clarified that the Stow Garden Club takes care of the small front area of the library; the rest of the grounds are maintained by a landscaping company.
- Barbie made the motion, Andy seconded, to approve the Annual Report. Carried unanimously.

b. What Is Our Work?

- Marcy led a discussion on the role Trustees should and could play as elected officials in the town. We should be spreading support for the renovation project to be voted on at May town meeting. It was re-iterated how helpful to Tina it is for Trustees to attend her information sessions with the various town groups.
- Next scheduled talk by Tina will be with the CPC.
 - Tina will notify the Board members of this and future appointments.
 - Lisa noted that town group agendas are readily available at the Town Building.
 - Andy noted we should not oversell – turn people off.
 - Linda noted that the Trustees cannot hold a raffle and that we must post if a quorum of the Board attends one of Tina's talks.
 - Morgan noted that we should encourage the community groups to support the CPC vote.

- Re Maura's letter to the Editor (Stow Independent), Kathleen noted that groups give weight to a joint letter from Trustees.
- Barbie suggested that Building Committee discuss ways the Trustees can help with the renovation project.
- Marcy noted that Trustees can also ask neighbors to support the warrant article. Morgan will address this with households that lie in Randall's neighborhood.

c. Revitalize Randall Endorsement Letter (Maura)

- All agreed that the letter was excellent and stands as is, with very few adjustments.
- Motion (Andy) seconded (Morgan) to send Maura's letter in support of Randall Library to the *Stow Independent*. Motion passed unanimously.
- Motion (Andy) seconded (Maureen) to send similar letter to the CTC ahead of time as suggested by Maura prior to their next meeting.

8. Adjournment:

- The meeting was adjourned at 8:14 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Barbie Wolfenden, Secretary