

Minutes for Randall Library Trustees Meeting, June 12, 2013



The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM.

Present: Tim Reed, Barbie Wolfenden, Kathy O'Brien, Marianne Sharin, Harry Donahue, Amante Coppes, Jane Epstein, and Melissa Fournier (director).

Absent: No one.

Public Comment: None.

Secretary's Report: The minutes from the meeting of May 8 were reviewed and accepted as corrected.

Treasurer's Report: Tim provided an overview of Randall Library financials, and reviewed the Fund Summary Statement and the Vanguard Windsor Adm. He suggested selling our stake in the Fidelity Investment Grade Bond Fund, as it does not have a preferred rating and its maturity of six years is less than ideal. The board voted to sell this investment, with Jane Epstein moving the question and Barbie Wolfenden seconding. Tim will put the funds temporarily in Fidelity cash reserves where it will earn nominal interest. At the July meeting, Tim will present a complete package of a plan for use of this money. The board expressed appreciation for Tim's management of the library's finances. The Randall Funding Sources outline was reviewed.

Director's Report: Melissa reported that, in an ongoing trend, circulation of printed materials was again down for the month of May as compared with last year (6,185 items vs. 7,305), while circulation of ebooks was up (333 vs. 149). She distributed a list of upcoming events at the library. Melissa described plans to reorganize the stacks and displays at the library, to create more seating and open space and improved organization of the collection. She plans to request funding for furniture and accessories from the Friends. She has written a grant for teens and tweens, to invest in a YA area. For 2014, Melissa plans to focus on historical presentation for the second floor, addressing flooring, painting, fireplace, etc. There followed discussion of possible changes and improvements to the library, taking into account the unknown future of the current building. Melissa provided handouts for long range plans and a related town survey. She summarized her ideas around the five-year plan, which was followed by discussion. Again, a complicating factor is the unknown future renovation or relocation of the library.

Building Committee Update: Tim reported that the Town Oversight Committee seems to be driving the overall building process in the town, with a view to keeping costs down (with hope of greater likelihood of projects passing at town meeting). Tim presented two conceptual plans for relocation of the library and Council on Aging to the Pompositticut School created by Johnson Roberts Associates, architects, with a space of 12,000 square feet for the library, an idea particularly challenging to Tim and Melissa. The question was raised of whether the trustees want to support this line of thinking, or not. The