

Minutes for Randall Library Trustees Meeting
6-24-2015
Randall Library

Present: Kathy O'Brien, Marianne Sharin, Bob Katz, Rick Lent, and Barbie Wolfenden.

Absent: Tim Reed and Ed Grund

Marianne called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

Secretary's Report: June 10 minutes were accepted as amended by a unanimous vote.

Chairman's Report:

- Marianne reviewed a letter from Mr. Flynn acknowledging that he had not received all materials he had requested. Marianne wants all future information to be shared as she requested total transparency for the Board. (copy of the letter attached).

Old Business:

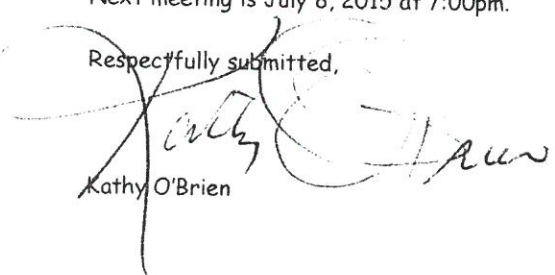
- Survey was discussed and questions reviewed to determine what information was necessary for the future of the library. Following the discussion, Marianne established two action items: one that Bob would provide an introductory paragraph for a proposed survey and second that Barbie would contact Bob's wife (Helene Katz) to create a new version of the survey. All other trustees are asked to provide additional input as needed/wanted.
- Melissa's Bulleting Board Policy was read and approved unanimously. (see attached)

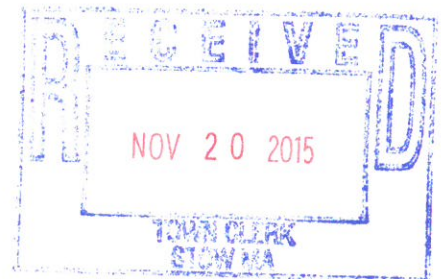
Kathy moved to adjourn. Barbie seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Next meeting is July 8, 2015 at 7:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,


Kathy O'Brien



Two attachments: Letter and Bulleting Board Policy

June 20 2015

Dear Ms Wolfenden,

Thank you for your time but to summarize, you didn't supply me many of the public records I requested and your reasons are confusing and at times misleading.

Regarding "visits" statistics

Your previous response in April you stated "visits" statistics were "derived from the Minuteman Library Network." Your May 29 response directed me to page 7 of the Minuteman Library Network ARIS report which contains statistics that the Randall Library **reported to** the Minuteman Library Network, *not the other way around*.

What I have stated all along is still true; the Minuteman Library Network does not provide "visits" statistics. The Randall Library provided the visits statistics to the Minuteman Library Network.

Your May 29 response claimed I got the visits statistics from the Town Report. I never stated such a thing and have been very clear, the visits statistics was presented by Randall representatives at a forum seeking support for **public funding** and reported in the Stow Independent on April 16, 2014. At the forum the claim was made, "Visits to the Randall Library went from 37,000 in 2012 to over 44,000 in 2013."

At that same meeting, the public was never told that the visits statistics from 2012 to 2013 were an estimate as you admitted in your May 29 response.

Also at the same forum Randall representatives claimed "its user numbers are growing faster than in any nearby towns with similar population numbers including those with new facilities."

Your May 29 response claimed a member of the Friends gathered this information from the MBLC. If your claim is true, it means that this Friends member accessed the false statistics that the Randall Library reported to the MBLC. As we know the MBLC data has been corrected in December 2014 by the Randall Library.

In my opinion these responses are purposely misleading.

Trustee Minutes regarding false statistics

Your May 29 response stated there were no Trustee Minutes regarding the reporting of the false statistics. Looking through Trustee Minutes, every meeting consistently contains monthly statistics for public viewing. Oddly when it came to the false statistics, this information was left out of the Minutes and kept from the public.

Calling it a "simple mistake" seems self gratuitous since the report to MBLC was signed by representatives of the Randall Library. When caught doing something wrong, the wrong doer always claims a mistake.

Regarding "people checked out nearly 140,000 items in the past year."

Your May 29 response claimed the source was the Minuteman Library Network. This makes no sense. If 140,000 items were checked out, it will still be in the MBLC database. The "140,000" appears to be the false statistic reported to the MBLC. Before the false statistics were detected, a Total Circulation claim of 141,935 was reported by the Randall Library. In December 2014, the Total Circulation in the MBLC database was corrected to 81,522.

More Odd Statistics

I viewed the Randall Library Indoor Air Quality Assessment report. In this report, it cites 50 to 100 people per day use the building. Using the 100 people figure this would come out to about 31,000 "visits" per year, this doesn't match up with the 44,000 figure mentioned at the April 2014 forum while seeking support for public funding.

In conclusion there is one constant here, the Randall Library can not provide a single document for any of these statistic claims presented to the public for funding or for seeking support for funding.

Sincerely,
Robert Flynn
315 West Acton Rd
Stow, MA

CC: Town Administrator/Selectmen

Bulletin Board Policy

The Randall Library has bulletin boards in the library's lobby area for the posting of local events and activities. There are two posting areas, one for either Town of Stow or State of Massachusetts based information and events and one for the general public and library-based events.

There are a few rules for postings on the library bulletin boards for general public use:

- Posters should be 8X10 inches in size or smaller.
- Postings should be by not-for-profit organizations.
- Preference is given to Stow-based activities.
- Posting should be taken down by representatives from the posting organizations after the event has passed. If representatives from the posting organizations do not take the posting down library staff will remove the posters to make more space as needed.
- Space is allocated on a first-come-first-served basis.
- Library based activities will have priority over other meeting with the space allocated to the needs of the library first.
- Posting should be limited to a 30 day time period to the date of the posted event.

Adopted on