

MONTHLY LIBRARY TRUSTEE MEETING MINUTES WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30, 2022

IN ATTENDANCE: Jani Fillion (chair); Judy JonesGirouard (vice-chair); Leslie Walker (Treasurer); Kim De Lutis (Secretary); Sarah Cloutier; Dawn Hatch; Bryan Koplou; Sara Maclver; Meagan Carr (director)

EXCUSED: Thurita Grammo

CALL TO ORDER: Fillion (chair) at 6:58pm

MSV – Motion to approve the minutes from 2.23.22 —Maclver/Cloutier (8-0)

Donations

\$100 Susan Randall

\$100 Kim De Lutis

\$1,214.59 Ammonoosuc Valley Retired Educators Association

Old Business:

Jody Hodgdon from Samaha Russell Hodgdon PA attended to explain the Heald Fund. He brought a copy of the trust to discuss the language. It indicated that the distribution made to the library would be kept in a restricted fund and the income from said fund would be used at the discretion of the trustees for the maintenance of the historical collection and the extension of historical resources.

Fillion explained that the library needs a new roof. We have a warrant article, but the expense is greater, and we cannot preserve the artwork without a good roof. She mentioned that the board would like to withdraw from the income fund for the preservation of the historical collection kept in the NH Room. The valuable art throughout the building would also be protected. Fillion asked if we would be going against the intent if we were to take from the funds for this purpose. Hodgdon said there was nothing written in the trust to restrict that. The income from the endowment could be used for our purposes. He did not commit to yes or no, but indicated the board could prove the maintenance and protection of the historical collection.

He referenced the NH attorney general's office document. The duty of obedience stipulates that the organization must comply with donor restrictions. There was some language that mentioned deviating from the restrictions and income. JonesGirouard asked for clarification on the verbiage on what funds could be used towards the roof. Hodgdon said some could argue that preserving the roof may not constitute preserving the art, but it depends on who would challenge it. He said we could argue in good faith that we are not completely off point. It may not have been Ms. Heald's original intent since she was focused on the historical items themselves, but if they are destroyed then that would be good reason. Fillion summarized Hodgdon's recommendation as such: As long as the board can show intent, then we shouldn't have any issues. Hodgdon asked whether we would have to forego other forms of historical preservation if we used the funds for the roof. Director Carr and Maclver both agreed no because we net \$20k/year.

The board discussed Fran Heald, and how much she loved Littleton. Fillion and Maclver knew her personally. Maclver said she was such a lovely person and she didn't believe she would want the money to just sit there. The universal comment was that she would not want the roof to fall in — especially over the Children's Room!

Hodgdon mentioned that we could petition the probate in Haverhill to modify the terms of the trust if what is in here is no longer relevant. He said Fillion's point was a good one, that if we can prove that we are fixing the roof that is over the majority of the historical collection, and the artwork is extremely valuable and throughout the building. If anyone thought it was an inappropriate use of the funds and we were to be audited, we would have to replace the money. JonesGirouard agreed that if we keep it documented, we are proving that it was the right decision. Fillion said we would not withdraw principal; it is income.

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Hodgdon handed the Guidebook for NH Charitable Organizations to Koplow and left the meeting.

91k + 32K = \$123k is available from the Heald Fund.

Non-touchable principal is 765k

Koplow urged the board to make a decision on the roof. Carr asked the building committee to help. Building committee will meet next week.

Fillion asked if anyone would like to Chair the Building Committee. Hatch accepted.

Fillion suggested asking Tom Palmer for a quote. Koplow said the roofing co. should be bonded or include in the cost of the estimate getting a bond to do this roof.

ACTION: Director Carr to email copy of proposal from Rod's Roofing to the building committee.

ACTION: Fillion to provide Tom Palmer's contact info to Director Carr.

MSV – Motion to maintain the same structure of officers as 2021—Koplow/Maclver (8-0)

New Business:

Discussion about the budget.

Art Appraisal: Director Carr said Jay Williamson is vacationing here and we could save on a travel fee, he lives in Amesbury MA.

ACTION: Director Carr to send master schedule so that we can meet the new hires.

Director's Report

Discussion.

Meeting adjourned at 8:01PM

Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 4, 2022 from 7:00 –8:00PM.

Respectfully submitted, Kim

De Lutis,

Secretary, 3.30.22