

RUTLAND FREE LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

4/17/24

Meeting at Rutland Free Library Fox Room

Attending: Joe Bertelloni ___A___; Candice Britt ___X___; Matt Britt ___X___; Barry Cohen ___A___; Kevin Coleman ___X___; Clare Coppock ___X___; Allyn Kahle ___X___; Sarah Marcus ___X___; Carolyn Meub ___A___; Matt Olewnik ___X___; Joanne Pencak ___X___; Jonathan Reynolds ___A___; John Skinner ___X___; Ken Watson ___A___; Randal Smathers ___X___; Amy Williams ___X___ (X is present, A is absent)

Presiding: Matt Olewnik Secretary: Clare Coppock

Guests: Jude Endrizial

Acceptance of Meeting Minutes: Matt B moved/Kevin seconded and minutes from 3/20/24 meeting were approved unanimously.

Financials (report and committee): Kevin reported RFL financials continue to be strong with both revenue and expenses at 75% of budget with 75% of the fiscal year passed. \$20,000 Fiber grant has been received from the state who will no longer be providing broadband support. \$5-7000 of that will be spent setting up our own broadband, with the rest being put into the budget to cover monthly internet fees. Investments are being watched as the market fluctuates. The Investment policy will be brought to the next board meeting for approval. Kevin moved/Matt B seconded and financials were unanimously approved.

Director & Assistant Director Updates: Read the Director's Report for full details

Randal: Concerns expressed with S220 lowering the age of consent from 16 to 12, feeling it may have unintended consequences for independent libraries like RFL. (may not be as big a concern with municipal libraries). A new issue was brought up from the union regarding the agency fee for union dues. Randal has inquired for opinion with our lawyer. Randal, with the help of Elisabeth Kulas has applied for another \$1 million grant from Peter Welch's office.

Amy: also expressed concerns with S220. Initially excited the state was addressing library issues, but disappointed the state is not addressing providing money to help libraries maintain their aging infrastructure. Is working with a couple of volunteers to start a "film club" which could start as soon as June.

Committee Reports and Actions: A discussion ensued regarding the need of the full board to discuss committees, responsibilities, and assignments. This is tabled until the next board meeting in May.

Executive: Matt O reported discussion revolved around the grants that have been applied for. RRPC will be paying the \$10,000 expense of a Hazmat review of the building, including the oil tank buried in the ground (30yr tank has been in use for 34yrs, Randal has been communicating this issue with the city for the past 4 years). This review will also include other Hazmat issues like asbestos and lead paint.

Personnel: Matt O reported did not meet. Plan to have the Admin staff policy ready by the next Executive Committee meeting. There has been no further action on the Sick Bank Policy.

Development: Matt B requested help and acknowledged there will not be a special event fundraiser prior to the end of this fiscal year. Request made to have a brainstorming session with the full board for ideas and how to develop them. It would be helpful to identify someone who enjoys fundraising.

Building: Randal reported the Renovation/Expansion team is continuing its work. The Community Engagement Survey is being evaluated with ideas on how the information gathered can be used to pursue future grants. There was an equal amount of interest in the library expanding its senior, teen, and children's programs. John Berryhill will be modifying the 3D structure of the library to include the proposed addition for future public relation work.

Policy & Planning: Did not meet.

New Business: None

Adjournment: 6:09PM

Next Board Meeting: Wednesday May 15, 2024 @ 5:15 pm