

Lewiston Public Library
Board of Library Trustees
Jan 6, 2022 Meeting - Zoom

In attendance: Darby Ray, Mariah Pfeiffer, Anne Kemper, Ed Barrett, Marissa Deku, Barbara McManus, Elizabeth Clifford, Dan Jenkins (5:45), Mayor Sheline (6:10)

Also in attendance: Marcela Peres

Meeting called to order by Mariah at 5:31 pm via Zoom

Approval of December 2, 2021 minutes

- Ed moved to approve, Anne seconded, Unanimously approved

Marcela's Director Report:

- Benjamin Heels has been hired as a new f/t library assistant. He has already been at the library for several years as a p/t staff member who has lots of experience.
- Tech Services librarian Karen Jones, who has been with the library since 1988, has announced her retirement. This will be a big loss. Recently updated her job description. Hope to post the job soon.
 - Karen will stay on as a part-time worker for a time.
- COVID update: Hope to re-open the library on Tuesday, January 18th. Lots of COVID accommodations are being made. Staff have been using some of the COVID down-time to make good progress on the RFID tagging project. 27% of the collection is now fully tagged!
- Are developing two new policies—Program Policy and Meeting Room Policy—as recommended by the American Library Association. Both will require a Board vote, so Trustees are asked to review both policies in advance of a discussion at the February Board meeting and a vote at the March meeting.
- Lots of great programs are coming up in January, all of them virtual. One is completely in French!
- Marissa asked if there was an update on the website. Yes! It's been ongoing, and the developer is working through things. The changes have been subtle - but much has been made easier to navigate for visually impaired who use screen readers. Marcela has asked for a change-log from the developer.
- Ed: Any update on IT? Some - a new excel sheet created to highlight the

changes requested from MIS. Some are shockingly old - one from 2018.

Dan takes over Minutes!

Appointment of Nominating Committee (5:58)

- Two offices: currently Chair Sarah and Secretary Dan.
- Each year the board appoints a nominating committee to try to find a person to fill in each position, nominations are made during the February meeting.
- Darby has nominated herself to join the nomination committee.
- Dan nominated himself to join the nominating committee.

Old Business: Investment Principles Statement Committee update (6:04)

- Ed, Dan, and Darby were members
- Ed read much of the broad statements of principle as well as some asks of the investment company including: what does the risk factor listed in Sustainalytics risk really mean? Ask for an annual report on the higher risk investments specifying what risk factors resulted in their increased scores. Data supporting the return benefits from higher risk scores - is it actually more of a return? Are there other reputable and accepted risk systems beyond Sustainalytics that should be considered?
- Are there redline investments?
 - Primarily engaged in fossil fuel extraction
 - Tobacco
 - Companies in documented child/forced labor and/or excessive efforts aimed at union busting
 - Corporations heavily invested in or supportive of anti-democratic media or other movements.
- Anne: it would be valuable to send these ideas to the investment firm to get a few details for the next presentation.
- Barbara: can we engage with the investment firm to engage in the conversation to not blindside them
- Marcela: The next presentation to our board is in March.
- Darby proposes that the conversation be longer and get their feedback before finalizing.
- Ed: I don't see this is a criticism, but simply providing guidance as an ongoing part of our relationship.
- Conversation around how much Maine based investments may be feasible.

6:26: APL report!

- Marcela spoke with Auburn, they were unable to make the date work. The Auburn meeting for February may or may not have a person scheduled.

Other Biz:

- Marcela mentioned the new appointments: Mariah and Barbara were reappointed for 3 year terms, and Karen Choate has been appointed to fill Anne Kemper's term-limited seat. Ms. Choate serves as current Treasurer on the Friends of the Library organization.
- Mayor Sheline has joined. A quick round of introductions.

Anne motions to adjourn, Darby seconds. Unanimous.