



## TML Fundraising Subcommittee meeting minutes for **November 7, 2023**

Attendees: Ann Frantz (TML Trustee), Susan Munyon, Irene Roper, Jeanne Rose (Childrens Room Windows Fund Treasurer), David Spanagel (TML Fundraising Subcommittee Chair), Aime Sund

This open public meeting was held via Zoom.

Chair David Spanagel called the meeting to order at 5:04 pm.

### 1. Approval of minutes from the 26 September 2023 subcommittee meeting

Susan Munyon moved and Ann Frantz seconded, that the most recent official meeting's minutes be approved as distributed. They were so approved, without objection.

### 2. Leadership succession and thoughts about the future of the subcommittee

Chair David Spanagel noted that his departure from town (and from the Trustees) in January will necessitate some changes for the subcommittee. Besides identifying and transferring responsibility for convening the group to a new chair, he noted that the committee's members now have a natural opportunity to reconsider how they may wish to move forward: what role(s) can or should this group play in fostering advocacy and supporting the fundraising needs of Thayer Memorial Library? He then invited all members present to share their thoughts, in a round.

Susan Munyon recalled how the pause in solicitation (that was required to update the Friends' financial reporting paperwork with the AG's office) had enabled this group to step back from its original task (a dedicated campaign to raise funds to restore the Children's Room windows) and think about the big picture. At this time, however, with an end in sight in the promised completion of the windows project, she felt that it might make sense to let this group go dormant upon the actual execution and expenditure of all funds that we raised toward that purpose. The volunteers and the experiences that this group has cultivated would then be free to migrate to perform other valuable tasks for the Library and for the Friends of TML group.

Irene Roper added that our group's members could also just take a break and be refreshed and recharged so they can answer the call when the next big fundraising/advocacy project comes along.

Ann Frantz offered to pick up the reins of subcommittee leadership from David, if only to check in much less frequently (on an s-needed basis only) than has been the practice in recent years. If this leadership role is not too taxing, Ann would also be interested in taking David's place as the Trustee liaison to the Friends group, and to help them work on a marketing campaign such as "This is your library, all year round."

Aime Sund had only just arrived at the subcommittee, so she did not yet have a strong sense of what has been or could be done under its auspices.

Jeanne Rose agreed with Susan that this group may not need to continue beyond the date when its funds are fully exhausted. If and when the Trustees should decide to reconvene a Fundraising and Advocacy Subcommittee, it would be their right and responsibility to articulate a new charge for it. Although we came together for a targeted fundraising project, we never had to organize a really big or complicated event. Instead, our steady work helped to focus other people's attention on the urgent need for the Children's Room windows to be properly restored. The library has many needs, some of which are extraordinarily expensive and will probably require that the town take out a bond to pay for them. [Incidentally, Jeanne also asked whether the Friends are allowed to earn interest on their savings balances – Irene answered that they can. This might be an option to consider, especially when the Children's Room Windows Fund no longer exists and needs to be kept as a separate account from the rest of the Friends' assets.]

[Since they were not present, neither Melissa Carlson's nor Julie Brummer's views were included here, but shortly afterward David was able to confirm that Melissa supports the idea of letting the subcommittee go dormant after its funds are fully expended on completing the Windows project.]

### 3. Next Meeting Date

The next regular meeting date will be Tuesday, **5 December 2023**. This will be the last meeting that David Spanagel convenes and chairs. He intends to hand over the reins of leadership at that meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:47 pm.