

Approved: February 23, 2024



**Trustees of Trust Funds
Meeting Minutes
Friday, January 19, 2024
Matthew Thornton Room, Merrimack Town Hall**



The meeting was called to order at 9:04 a.m. Trustees present were Petrides and Christensen. Wilkes attended by phone.

On a motion by Petrides, second by Wilkes, the minutes of November 17, 2023 were approved 3-0-0 on a roll call vote.

Christensen reported that Greenleaf, Gibson and two Watson Scholarships had been paid leaving three Watson Scholarships yet to be claimed. There are also two scholarships pending that were extended at the request of the recipients. These will be resolved at a future meeting.

There have been communications with the school and, through them, the Watson Foundation and the Greenleaf family to see if the scholarship amounts can be increased. Funds are adequate to do this. It was noted that the Greenleaf scholarship is a permanent fund and the Watson Scholarship is funded annually with an annual letter of instruction.

The LEGO fund is also funded annually and about \$3000 has accumulated in that fund since the program was not run during the pandemic. Word from the school district is that they are trying to find someone to run this program again.

Similarly, the Watkins Prize Speaking and Spelling contests were not run during the pandemic. Word from the school district is that they did not hire a literacy coordinator this year and that person would normally run these programs. Harry Watkins first funded these contests in 1945 and they are permanently funded. We received \$5000 for five \$1000 scholarships and \$1000 for LEGO this year from the Watson Foundation.

Future meetings are scheduled for February 23 and March 22.

By consensus, Christensen will contact the Town Manager to ask for assistance in recruiting somebody to apply for an open alternate member seat. Nick Lavalley did a good PSA on this awhile back and this could be run again.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 9:20 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Christensen
Trustee Chair