

Feoffee of the Grammar School in the Town of Ipswich Trust
Meeting Minutes of April 27, 2023
Ipswich Town Hall, 25 Green Street

Pursuant to the Open Meeting Law, M.G.L. Chapter 30 A, §§ 18-25, written notice posted by the Town Clerk delivered to all members, a meeting of the Feoffees of the Grammar School in the Town of Ipswich Trust was held on April 27, 2023 at 7:00 pm, in the Town Administrator's Conference Room.

Feoffee members attending: Life Feoffee appointment: Patti Beckwith (2023) (via Zoom)
Finance Committee Appointments: Mark Evans (2022) (via Zoom); Nathaniel Pulsifer (2024)
Select Board Appointments: Mitchell Feldman (2024); Larry Seidler (2025)
School Committee Appointments: Walter Zagrobski (2023); Richard Fates (2024)

Other Attendees: Present for Aureus Management: David Scudder, Co-Founder of Aureus; Michael Kellogg, Chief Operating Officer, and Carlos Shigueta, Partner, Director of External Managers. Also in attendance was George Markos and Recording Secretary James Goudie

Call to Order – *With a quorum present, Richard Fates called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.*

Citizens Queries -

Approval of January 26, 2023 Minutes - *Vote: The meeting minutes of January 26, 2023 were unanimously approved by roll call vote.*

Aureus Report -

Present for Aureus Management: David Scudder, Co-Founder of Aureus; Michael Kellogg, Chief Operating Officer, Carlos Shigueta, Partner, Director of External Managers.

David Scudder shared his perspective on the recent market turmoil. The markets have been reacting to the Federal Reserve Bank increasing the Fed Funds rate, to combat inflation, that began in March 2022. The Federal Reserve may stop raising rates soon, however, Mr. Scudder does not see rates dropping to previous lows. As the consumer is still strong, he predicts that the economy will experience a mild recession.

Michael Kellogg gave an overview of the portfolio and its asset allocation. He explained that assets are invested: 18% fixed income, 60% equities, and 22% in non- traditional assets. In terms of the overall portfolio, 65% is actively managed and 35% is positioned in passive investment vehicles.

Richard Fates expressed to Aureus the need to keep assets liquid as the Feoffees will be distributing approximately \$1,000,000 in June 2023 and expect to be asked for an additional \$300,000 shortly thereafter. Mr. Kellogg acknowledged the request and committed to planning accordingly.

Aureus left the room.

Treasurer's Report -

Larry Seidler reported that the current value of the trust is \$37,000,000 down \$4,000,000 from the year prior. The current trust value is 66% higher than it was in 2012. The Feoffees have distributed \$7,300,000 over the past nine years.

Mr. Seidler expressed concern that, in 2020, the Feoffees were within 10% of the value of the corpus. He stated that the responsibility of the Feoffees is to maintain the purchasing power of the trust. Mr. Seidler suggested the Feoffees consider an alternate calculation in conjunction with the current formula when the trust value drops below the inflation adjusted value of the corpus.

At 8:52pm, Mr. Fates moved that the Feoffees allocate \$996,560 for the distribution for the year ending June 30, 2023.

Mr. Markos pointed out that the increase in the reserve made by Mr. Seidler decreased the amount distributed to the school in the motion made by Mr. Fates.

Mr. Seidler moved to amend the original motion to allocate 1,001,922 to the schools for the year ending June 30, 2023. *Motion unanimously approved.*

Adjourn- *The Feoffees unanimously adjourned by roll call at 9:11 pm.*

Respectfully Submitted By

James Goudie

4.29.23