



Letter to the Editor: Bill Boland - Candidate for re-election to the Board of Commissioners of Trust Funds.

I am honored to have served the residents of Southborough for several terms as one of three members of the Board of Commissioners of Trust Funds. Basically we administer a series of Trust Funds bequest by former residents. The purpose of many of the funds is to assist current residents who may have unexpected financial needs that they need assistance with. We work closely with The Senior Center, Youth and Family Services, the Southborough Food Pantry and Local Parishes to identify residents with needs. Identities of those who receive assistance are kept strictly confidential so you don't hear a lot about our work. We also oversee other Trusts such those for the Cemetery which have specific purposes that they are allowed to be used for. In other words, we can't use Cemetery Funds to assist a needy resident who can't pay their utilities bills. The Choate Fund is another example which is for Recreation and has a Group which specifically decides how those funds are allocated.

Examples of our funding might be, helping to pay for an oil delivery in the winter, assisting with electric bills to keep service from being disconnected, helping to replace a water heater for someone without the funds to do it, or help a resident with medical bills or helping a resident pay for auto repair bills so they can get to their job. These are all examples of our work.

The hardest part of our job is not a lack of money but convincing people to ask for assistance. That's why we work closely with other Town agencies to attract needy applicants. We have targets for Annual Funding that we aren't always able to allocate due to a lack of applicants. We still have many residents that, although in need, don't want to ask for help. Helping residents feel more comfortable in asking for assistance and helping them is our primary focus these days, not trying to raise money and set up new funds. Stating that we have \$4 Million dollars available and only allocate \$15,000 annually is extremely misleading. It appears to me my opponent has found another Board that he would like to take over and have it work the way he wants it to. Our Commission works very well together though and I ask for your vote to re-elect me as a Commissioner of Trust Funds on May 9.

Thank you

Bill Boland