

**Ames Public Library Board of Trustees  
Minutes of the Regular Meeting  
March 18, 2021**

The Ames Public Library (APL) Board of Trustees met in regular session on Thursday, March 18, 2021, via Zoom, with Barchman, Butler, Glatz, Kluesner, Myers, Raman, and Thorbs-Weber in attendance. Marcu was excused; Marshall has resigned. Director Schofer and Assistant City Manager Schildroth were also in attendance.

**Call to Order:** President Kluesner called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**Consent Agenda:**

**Moved by Raman, seconded by Glatz, to approve the consent agenda as follows:**

1. Resolution approving donation:
  - A. In memory of Carl Allen from Nora Nelson .....\$10.00
  - B. For children's books from Marti Steelman.....\$410.00
  - C. Anonymous (given in appreciation of great service) .....\$20.00
2. Motion approving minutes of the regular meeting February 18, 2021 correcting the word "Petition" to "Director's General Job Duties" under policy review".
3. Motion approving payment of claims 2/1/21 – 2/28/21

**Vote on Motion: 6-0 (Kluesner abstaining). Approved unanimously. Resolution No. 2021-L006 adopted.**

**Public Forum:** None

**Activity Reports:**

Assistant City Manager Schildroth: Schildroth gave a report to the Board.

- Schildroth needs numbers from Schofer for a situation report to show the number of patrons prior to opening Monday until now. Schofer will met with Schildroth to provide the information requested.
- 6 City staff individuals are currently out from COVID related illnesses or quarantining. The City is expecting an increase after spring break.
- Police and fire department personnel are mostly vaccinated.
- Human Resources continues to provide information about vaccination availability and tools to use to schedule appointments.
- City Council & ISU student government had a joint meeting last night. One of the representatives talked about Library 160 at ISU. It is typically tailored around the Parks Library but starting in the spring or fall semester they are going to add info about the Ames Public Library as a community resource.
- The Emergency Broadband Benefit is available through the FCC. Persons can apply for funds to offset the cost of monthly WiFi services or one-time funding of

Schofer stated that the public library has intellectual freedom in the library and will not be restricted but if there is a gap in the community, we may work to fill that gap in a public space.

APLFF Report: Butler gave a report to the Board.

- The majority of the meeting was spent as a discussion session addressing the mission, why it exists, and considering if the purposes and bylaws continue to define why they do exist. They then went through the vision discussing what the APLFF will look like in 5 years. LeGates will continue the conversation at the next meeting.

**Board Education:** Schofer introduced the board assessment tool. Johannes put both the Board assessment and individual trustee assessment in Survey Monkey to make it easier to complete and analyze. The results from the survey will be used to help with future board education pieces. Trustees are asked to complete both surveys for discussion at a future meeting.

**Policy Review:**

Sex offender policy: Schofer sent the policy to legal for review after the last meeting. Two suggestions were received including changing the word "chapter" to "section" and they clarified that "real property" does not include the book mobile.

Board members discussed the proposed changes.

**Moved by Raman, seconded by Thorbs-Weber, to approve the amendments to the Sex Offender Policy as outlined.**

**Vote on Motion: 6-0 (Kluesner abstaining). Approved unanimously. Resolution No. 2021-L007 adopted.**

Collections Policy: Schofer introduced the policy for the initial review. It is used to explain why we buy what we buy. One thing that stood out was the stance on world languages. We are purchasing world language collections and will be recommending amending that section.

The Board discussed the policy. The policy will be brought back for approval at the April meeting.

**Unfinished Business:**

Service Offerings: Schofer reviewed the current service model with the Board. They discussed the next steps including the book mobile, hours, meeting room use, and programming.

Board meeting format: The Board discussed returning to in-person meetings. At this time the meetings will continue via Zoom.

**Trustee Comments:**

- Glatz – thanks to Johannes for jumping in for various roles. Schofer would have enjoyed herself if she had been able to hear the comments made in the closed session; well-done Schofer.
- Thorbs-Weber – thank you to the evaluation committee for the detailed report; it helps us to understand and make good decisions. To Butler, Thorbs-Weber will miss her. Butler made her feel comfortable joining the Board. We will miss you both Butler and Raman.
- Myers - will miss working with Butler and Raman and has appreciated them both very much and hopes to see them around town. Thanks to the evaluation committee for doing an amazing job.
- Barchman – thanks to all.
- Raman – well done Schofer. He admires her courage and willingness to stand up for staff and the people of Ames. He really hopes to see everyone around, and thank you for letting me work with you all.
- Butler - thank you so much. We all did a good job hiring Schofer. She will miss everyone.
- Kluesner – Thorbs-Weber never received a proper orientation, joining us in the middle of a whirl wind pandemic. She will be receiving one soon. He acknowledged both the evaluation and nominating committee for doing exceptional jobs noting that the trustees not staying in the same office for the duration of their terms. The Board has a great diverse set of talents, and applauds the work of everyone. He has appreciated serving with both Butler and Raman and hopes to see them around town.

**Adjournment:**

**Moved by Raman, seconded by Butler, to adjourn at 9:19 pm.**

**Vote on Motion: 6-0 (Kluesner abstaining). Motion approved unanimously.**

The next regular meeting will be on Thursday, April 15, 2021, at 7:00 p.m., via Zoom.

  
Melissa Johannes, Library Secretary

  
Charles Glatz, Board Secretary