

**Ames Public Library Board of Trustees  
Minutes of the Regular Meeting  
August 17, 2023**

The Ames Public Library (APL) Board of Trustees met in regular session on Thursday, August 17, 2023, in the Dale H. Ross Board Room with Crain, Gibson, Johnson, Mitchell-Conway, Myers, and Thorbs-Weber in attendance. Reger, Reynolds, and Torres III were excused. Director Schofer, Youth Services Librarian Ziegler, and Adult Services Librarian Olson were also in attendance.

**Call to Order:** Vice President Myers called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm

**Consent Agenda:**

**Moved by Thorbs-Weber, seconded by Gibson, to approve the consent agenda as follows:**

1. Motion approving minutes of the regular meeting July 20, 2023
2. Motion approving payment of claims 7/1/23 – 7/31/23

**Vote on Motion: 5-0 (Mitchell-Conway, Reger, Reynolds, and Torres III were excused). Approved unanimously.**

**Public Forum:** None

**Activity Reports:**

Administrative Staff Report: Schofer gave a report to the Board.

- The bookmobile is taking a break this week after a successful summer with additional outreach to parks, summer school day camps like All Aboard for Kids - serving youth with autism, senior living housing, farmer's markets, and special events like National Night Out and Juneteenth. They kick up their ISU campus visits for the month of September to promote awareness and get college students signed up for library cards. Gent, our staff member who we share with Parks Library, does a big push promoting on campus and our Adult Services staff join the bookmobile staff to do a big library card sign up and offer popcorn and stickers woo students over.
- Speaking of ISU -Welcome Weekend August 18-20 is a big push. The University is planning lots of events to keep students positively engaged. It is primarily focused on campus but we will be doing library card sign ups, a fun prize wheel in the lobby and \$1 off coupons for literary grounds.
- There were several special teen programs this month including a Wings of Fire Escape room planned and run completely by the TAG- we got a nice compliment via email the other day on how impressed a parent was with the event.
- Terrific Tuesday last week was bubble themed and had 270 in attendance! Evidently 5th graders like bubble science just as much as toddlers.

- Summer Meals ends tomorrow- our interns and youth volunteers did a fabulous job running that program. It's supported by Chevron/REG via our Ames Public Library Friends Foundation.
- The screening of Wakanda Forever- rescheduling from Juneteenth now in the city auditorium on Friday August 25 at 7:00 and a Seed Saving Workshop with Little Mustard Seed Community Farm and Repair Café on Saturday August 26th
- We are gearing up for back to school. We sent out flyers and information highlighting resources like Brain Fuse, our free online tutoring resource, to teachers and parents as part of student's digital backpack.
- We are partnering with Ames Pride for PrideFest at the end of September. They will close down part of Douglas and 5th streets for entertainment and vendors, and we will host more informational programming inside; we'll also have an afterhours teen movie in the evening from 6:30-8:00 pm.
- We are also trying some new programs including a BookTok book talk, monthly meet up for international families, a new partnership for special clinics with Legal Aid of Story County, and a year-round reading challenge
- Fall is report and budget planning. We have about a 100-page State Report due at the end of October and we also put in our preliminary budget numbers at that time. This year we'll need to plan to reduce costs since the recent tax legislation restricts city budgets.

APLFF Report: Gibson gave a report to the Board.

- The new Development Director, Cassie Luze, will be working full-time soon.
- Fundraising software may need to change; Salsa was sold to another company.
- The Alluvial Brewing Company will make a library specific beer with a percent of the sales going to APLFF.

#### **Board Education:**

Adult Services Librarian Olson and Youth Services Librarian Ziegler introduced themselves to the Board. They gave a presentation about materials selection.

#### **Policy Review:**

Conduct in the Library: This policy was brought to the Board last month for discussion. Recommended changes included the addition of the Appeal section and link to the Appeal Form under References. The board discussed the policy.

**Moved by Thorbs-Weber, seconded by Johnson, to approve the revisions to the Conduct in the Library Policy as presented.**

**Vote on Motion: 5-0 (Myers abstained. Reger, Reynolds, and Torres III were excused). Approved unanimously. Resolution No. 2023-L020 adopted.**

Library Security Cameras: This policy was brought to the Board last month for discussion. Recommended changes included the removal of the first sentence in the last paragraph under Library Practices, and the link to the Conduct in the Library Policy. The board discussed the policy.

**Moved by Crain, seconded by Gibson, to approve the revisions to the Library Security Cameras Policy as presented.**

**Vote on Motion: 5-0 (Myers abstained. Reger, Reynolds, and Torres III were excused). Approved unanimously. Resolution No. 2023-L021 adopted.**

Meeting Rooms and Study Rooms: Schofer introduced the policy. The Board discussed the policy. This policy will be brought back next month for action after being reviewed by the managers.

**Trustee Comments:**

- Johnson – loved the presentation on the collection policy and its use.
- Thorbs-Weber – The training was great. Olson and Ziegler were very passionate.
- Gibson – This was my favorite presentation. They are so helpful.
- Crain – Suggest a book is great. It was great to learn the process.
- Mitchell-Conway – great interest in the archival process.
- Myers – Thanks for your patience.

**Adjournment:**

**Moved by Mitchell-Conway, seconded by Thorbs-Weber, to adjourn at 8:28 pm.**

**Vote on Motion: 5-0 (Myers abstained. Reger, Reynolds, and Torres III were excused). Approved unanimously.**

The next regular meeting will be on Thursday, September 21, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. in the Dale H. Ross Board Room.

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Melissa Johannes, Library Secretary



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Richard Johnson, Board Secretary