

**Ames Public Library Board of Trustees
Minutes of the Regular Meeting
February 16, 2023**

The Ames Public Library (APL) Board of Trustees met in regular session on Thursday, February 16, 2023, in the Dale H. Ross Board Room with Christy, Johnson, Kluesner, Myers, Reynolds and Torres III in attendance. Marcu, Mitchell-Conway, and Thorbs-Weber were excused. Assistant City Manager Schildroth and Director Schofer were also in attendance.

Call to Order: President Myers called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Consent Agenda:

Moved by Kluesner, seconded by Christy, to approve the consent agenda as follows:

1. Resolution approving Donations
 - a) Rebecca Hoepfner \$200.00
2. Motion approving minutes of the regular meeting January 19, 2023
3. Motion approving payment of claims 1/1/23 – 1/31/23

Vote on Motion: 5-0 (Myers abstained; Marcu, Mitchell-Conway, and Thorbs-Weber excused). Approved unanimously. Resolution No. 2023-L004 adopted.

Public Forum: None

Activity Reports:

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

- The City Parks and Recreation Department have been working with a consultant, WT Group, completing an ADA audit. An overview of their findings will be presented to City Council on Tuesday, February 21, at 6:00 pm.
- In a partnership with local substance use treatment organizations, Iowa State University Student Wellness, and the Ames Community School District, the City of Ames is hosting a “Community Conversation about Substance Use Disorders” to explore the connections between substance use and its impact on mental health on March 7 at 6:30 pm in the library auditorium. Personal stories will be shared as well as presentations from representatives from Community and Family Resources, YSS, Iowa State University Student Wellness, Ames Community Schools, and Ames Police Department. A question-and-answer session will follow.

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

- Schofer and Klein-Hewett gave a budget presentation to City Council this past Tuesday evening. The presentation aligned with budget narrative pages and highlighted services and initiatives from this past year and upcoming year. The Council was very supportive calling out some areas like our DEI work, ISU and

community partnerships, volunteer program, summer meals and summer programming.

- Staff Day is next Monday, February 20. Schofer will provide a budget and strategic plan update. Schildroth and another volunteer representative from ACCESS will be sharing info about funding and support for Human Services in Ames. Smaller breakout sessions will include information on the Staff Survey results, a DEI Team update and an introduction to the All APL read, and a Novel Ideas update and scavenger hunt. In the afternoon workgroups will meet and discuss Anti-Racist Ally and then focus on department topics or project work.
- Staff are tabling at two career events on campus this upcoming week. The first is the People to People Career Fair organized by the College of Human Services at the Memorial Union on campus on Feb. 16 from 10-2pm. The other is Exploring Careers in Museums and Archives on Thursday, Feb. 16 from 5:00-6:00pm at Brunnier Art Museum. Staff will be talking up our services, career opportunities in libraries, and promoting some of our upcoming internship opportunities.

APLFF Report: Thorbs-Weber provided a written report for the Board.

- The APLFF meeting was held on Thursday, February 9, 2023.
- The Teen Advisory Group with the Teen Librarian gave a nice report of upcoming activities. One activity that they will continue with in summer is the Escape Room.
- The group will no longer offer Author Cafe. The Fundraising Committee will look for another way to engage donors. It was pointed out that other author showcases are occurring in Ames, Dog Eared Books, the Ames Writer's Collective, the library's adult department features authors, and there are virtual author events. They will continue with Pub Fiction.
- Strategic plan groups are still working on projects. The groups are Benchmarking and Outreach to other Libraries, Fundraising, and Engaging with Larger Community Group.
- The Benchmarking Group spoke with Iowa City and Cedar Rapids libraries.
- Next meeting is Thursday, March 9th.

Nominating Committee: Committee members provided a written slate; Reynolds for President, Myers for Vice-President, and Johnson for Secretary. No other nominations were made. The Slate will be brought up for action at the March meeting.

Policy Review:

Sex Offender Policy: Schofer introduced the policy. The policy was reviewed by the City Legal Department and brought last month for the initial review by the Board. No changes are recommended.

Moved by Johnson, seconded by Reynolds, to approve the review of the Sex Offender Policy without changes.

Vote on Motion: 5-0 (Myers abstained; Marcu, Mitchell-Conway, and Thorbs-Weber excused). Resolution No. 2023-L005 adopted.

Mitchell-Conway arrived at 6:57 pm

Board Education:

The Board watched a webinar sponsored by the Iowa Library Association’s Intellectual Freedom Committee titled “Trustees on the Front Lines: Intellectual Freedom in Public Libraries and Your Role”. Anne Mangano, Collection Services Coordinator at the Iowa City Public Library, presented this webinar for library boards to learn more about the basics of Intellectual Freedom and the role of trustees, staff, and communities in supporting and defending it.

Mitchell-Conway left at 8:15 pm.

Trustee Comments:

- Christy – appreciated starting the meeting earlier in order to participate in the webinar. It was very informative and useful, and as a Trustee it is nice to be reminded that there are resources available to assist the Board.
- Myers – appreciate the webinar and thought it was useful information, and good preparation for possible future events.
- Johnson – thought it was a great training and was glad everyone got here safely.
- Reynolds – excellent training. The training emphasizes how far ahead the library is with the policies that are already in place.
- Kluesner – excellent education. He thanked Reynolds, Myers, and Johnson for agreeing to serve on the Executive Committee.
- Torres III – really good presentation and a good meeting.

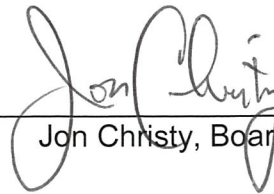
Adjournment:

Moved by Torres III, seconded by Reynolds, to adjourn at 8:29 pm.

Vote on Motion: 5-0 (Myers abstained; Marcu, Mitchell-Conway, and Thorbs-Weber excused).

The next regular meeting will be on Thursday, March 16, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. in the Dale H. Ross Board Room.


Melissa Johannes, Library Secretary


Jon Christy, Board Secretary