

**Ames Public Library Board of Trustees
Meeting Minutes
February 18, 2010**

The Ames Public Library (APL) Board of Trustees met in regular session on Thursday, February 18, 2010, in the Dale H. Ross Board Room with Bradley, Budd, Lockett, Meier, Schill, Stow, and Warnick in attendance. Campbell arrived at 7:02 p.m. Seagrave was excused. Library Director Weeks and Assistant Director Carey were also present.

Call to Order: Board Vice President Lockett called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Adoption of Agenda: Moved by Stow, seconded by Meier to approve the agenda; approved by consent.

Approval of Minutes: Moved by Bradley, seconded by Schill, to approve the minutes of the meeting of January 21, 2010, as presented.

Vote on Motion: 6-0. Motion approved unanimously.

Public Forum: None.

Trustee Campbell arrived.

Consent Agenda: Stow moved and Meier seconded adoption of a resolution approving the consent agenda.

- 1) Gifts:
 - a) From Mike Murray for School Board \$21.54
 - b) In memory of Dr. Patrick Kain from:
 - Tina and Mark Hansen \$10.00
 - Mary and George Engstrom \$20.00
 - Diane and Steven Jones \$20.00
 - Nancy and David Knight \$20.00
 - Mary and Dean Harms \$25.00
 - Rebecca and Ronald Juelfs \$25.00
 - J. O. Kopplin and Elizabeth A. Kopplin \$25.00
 - John and Pam Miller \$25.00
 - Neil and Barbara Van Slyke \$25.00
 - Carol and Theodore Bailey \$30.00
 - Almira and Etsuro Uemura \$30.00
 - Deborah and Mark Blaedel \$50.00
 - Jane Cripps and Norma Galindo \$50.00
 - Margaret and Rodger Junck \$50.00
 - Richard and Nancy Piatt \$75.00
 - Susan and James Cripps \$91.42
 - Barbara, Russell, and Elizabeth Darling \$100.00
 - Pauline and Leslie Miller \$100.00
 - Catherine and Donald Pietrzyk \$100.00
 - Cash memorials to his family \$540.00
- 2) Claims 1/1/2010 – 1/31/2010
- 3) Financial Reports
 - a) Monthly Expense Report Summary 1/1/10 – 1/31/10
 - b) Year-to-date Expense Summary through 1/31/10

- c) Year-to-date Donations Report through 1/31/10
- d) Library Bequest Interest Earnings Report through 1/31/10

Trustee Stow inquired if families were asked if they would like to designate the expenditure of donations given in memory of their loved ones. Carey said that she usually speaks with them to see if they have any preferences and sometimes they ask her for a recommendation. In the case of Dr. Kain, no designation has been made yet.

Vote on Motion: 7-0. Motion approved unanimously.

Communications: None.

Administrative Staff Report: Library Director Weeks advised the Board that his report should have stated that the new library ordinance had been “approved on first reading” by the City Council, rather than implying that the action was complete. He said the library’s budget presentation was well received by the Council, but noted that it now appears that Governor Culver may not be able to follow through with his original intention of maintaining full funding for libraries this year; at this point, it appears that the legislature may make some cuts, after all.

Weeks commented on the police report and activities that generate calls from the library. There was some discussion about the procedures followed by staff in addressing behavioral problems and Weeks mentioned that there seem to be far fewer problems, now that the library’s surveillance cameras are being employed and people know it.

Assistant Director Carey spoke about a new series of shows highlighting early literacy development, which were created by the Youth Department and are now playing on the City’s website. Nationally-known author Derek Anderson, who grew up in Ames, will be interviewed by Jerri Heid in an upcoming segment.

Carey advised that there was some trouble pinning down mechanical difficulties with the bookmobile last month and it had to be sent to Ankeny more than once; it has now been repaired. She stated that the vehicle is 9.5 years old now. The depreciation schedule was originally 10 years, so replacement will probably be considered in the next couple years.

Friends of the Ames Public Library Report: Trustee Bradley stated that the Friends are preparing for their spring book sale, which will take place April 9, 10, and 11. They also held a joint meeting with the APL Foundation and determined to continue discussions about the possibility of merging the two groups into one library support organization.

Ames Public Library Foundation Report: Trustee Stow said that Jane Acker and Susan Wallace were elected as new board members in February, as Lisa Eslinger and Annette Boehlje had both completed their terms. The new officers elected were: Roger Kluesner, President; Monica Porter, Vice President; and Dan Divine, Treasurer. Stow also noted that Susan Craig, Director of Iowa City Public Library, spoke at the joint meeting about that library’s Friends/ Foundation merger in the 1980s. Meier stated that she found it interesting to learn that Iowa City’s endowment fund (\$1.3 million) is invested at local Iowa City banks.

Policy Review:

ALA Guidance Documents: Moved by Campbell, seconded by Warnick, to adopt a resolution adopting the current versions of the following ALA Guidance Documents: *Library Bill of Rights*; *Code of Ethics*; *Libraries: An American Value*; *The Freedom to Read Statement*; *The Freedom to View Statement*; and *The Universal Right to Free Expression*, as presented.

Meier asked if these documents were regularly reviewed by the American Library Association. Weeks stated that the ALA committees send recommendations to the ALA Council when they see a need to make amendments, but the statements define fundamental philosophies that don't change very frequently.

Stow said that he realized that the Freedom to View Statement was drafted before the Internet was present in the library, but he worried a little bit about the references to film. Weeks said that the document evolved from an original one that addressed film only, so the language remains. Weeks added that supporting "freedom to view" does not imply "freedom to view *anything*" – that which is prohibited by law is also illegal in the library. In practice, the library does not restrict what persons choose to view unless it affects people around them. If it does, staff can intervene and ask customers to use a recessed screen or move to a more private place.

Vote on Motion: 8-0. Motion passed unanimously.

Unfinished Business: None

New Business:

Review of Contract with Story County: Moved by Stow, seconded by Bradley, to adopt a resolution approving the Contract for Library Service for Story County for Fiscal Year 2010/11, as presented/amended.

Weeks said that the contract requires all the contracting parties to review the contract on an annual basis, but the document does not need to be signed again. Staff will simply send a letter advising the County Attorney that the review took place.

Vote on Motion as presented: 8-0. Motion passed unanimously.

Consideration of Library Building Site: Moved by Stow, seconded by Campbell, to rescind the resolution adopted at the meeting on September 24, 2009, that the proposed library expansion take place on the site located on the southwest corner of Sixth Street and Clark Avenue, opposite City Hall.

Vote on Motion: 7-0. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Budd, seconded by Schill, to adopt the resolution identifying 515 Douglas Avenue as the site for library expansion as presented/amended.

Warnick stated that she is happy with the decision to stay on the current site, but comments she has seen on the Ames Tribune website indicate that the Board still has a challenge ahead in convincing citizens of the need to demolish the 1984/85 section. Lockett agreed and added that cost will be another large factor.

There was discussion about the wording of certain paragraphs in the resolution. Lockett offered a friendly amendment to delete the penultimate paragraph; he felt the wording in the final paragraph properly indicated the Board's expectation of the architect with respect to the 1985 addition. The friendly amendment was accepted.

Vote on resolution with the elimination of the second-to-last paragraph: 7-0. Motion carried unanimously.

Proclamation for Geek the Library Week: Moved by Bradley, seconded by Meier, to adopt a resolution to proclaim Geek the Library Week March 15 – 21, 2010,

Weeks said “Geek Week” was originally going to be March 1-7, but was changed by OCLC so that there would be enough time to distribute promotional materials. While the new dates fall over spring break in Ames, it may be that the families that stay in town will receive even more exposure. There are a lot of library programs scheduled and there will be a lot of opportunities to hand out posters and start addressing the building issues. Stow suggested that advertising could also be done the week before break in the schools.

Vote on Motion as presented: 7-0. Motion passed unanimously.

Trustee Comments:

Campbell expressed satisfaction with the meeting held with the City Council the previous Tuesday. He felt it was very well done, Mayor Campbell was a gracious host, and having Seagrave and Scherer available by phone and the Hodge Group representatives in attendance was very helpful. Campbell added that Mr. Goodman’s comment to the effect that Ames just spent \$8 million on a facility that can be used three months of the year, so maybe \$32 million for one that is open year-round is not unreasonable should be remembered.

Warnick said she, too, was impressed; the Council members were thoughtful, engaged, and respectful. She announced that her family would be moving to Austin, Texas, next summer. She will continue to serve on the Board through June, but will be out of town in March and April.

Schill said he was excited about moving forward again on the expansion project. He feels that education of the general public will be very important, especially as the discussion continues about space needs and the possible demolition of all or part of the newest addition.

Stow said that he looks forward to working with The Hodge Group – he is excited about what the team will do for the library and the town.

Meier added that hearing The Hodge Group representatives this week reaffirmed her conviction that the Board made the correct decision in hiring them.

Budd commended Weeks for his opening comments at the Council meeting; he felt they set the stage for a good, useful discussion.

Bradley added that she was pleased with the professionalism shown at the meeting.

Luckett encouraged all the trustees to advertise and emphasize the variety of things that go on in the library in their personal communications with people they know. While most people think of the library as a place to go for books, he noted that a recent program had 20 tables of people engaged in one-on-one conversation groups, story times are offered in five languages, and the library is really a community asset.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

The next regular meeting will be Thursday, March 18, 2010, at 7:00 p.m.

Approved on March 18, 2010 _____
Sherry Meier, Secretary