

**Ames Public Library Board of Trustees
Minutes of the Regular Meeting
June 20, 2024**

The Ames Public Library (APL) Board of Trustees met in regular session on Thursday, June 20, 2024, in the Dale H. Ross Board Room with Crain, Gibson, Johnson, Myers, Rearick, Reger, and Reynolds in attendance. Mitchell-Conway and Thorbs-Weber were excused. Assistant City Manager Goldbeck, Director Schofer, and Customer Account Services Manager Briseno were also in attendance.

Call to Order: President Johnson called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

Oath of Office: Rearick took the Oath of Office.

Consent Agenda:

Moved by Reynolds, seconded by Myers, to approve the consent agenda as follows:

1. Motion approving minutes of the regular meeting May 16, 2024
2. Motion approving payment of claims 5/1/24 – 5/31/24

Vote on Motion: 6-0 (Johnson abstained; Mitchell-Conway and Thorbs-Weber excused). Approved unanimously.

Public Forum: None

Activity Reports:

Assistant City Manager Report: Goldbeck introduced herself and gave a report to the Board.

- Tonight is Ames City Council Night at Bandshell Park. Goldbeck will be serving ice cream. The concerts start at 8:00 pm each Thursday evening in June and July and are free to attend.
- The City of Ames, in partnership with the Iowa State University Office of Sustainability, will hold the annual Rummage RAMPage, a community sale designed to keep reusable items out of the waste stream, from July 26 to August 3, 2024. Non-profit organizations can volunteer to work shifts during the sale and receive a portion of the proceeds for their time.
- The Ames Animal Shelter has been recognized by Best Friends Animal Society for reaching no-kill status again in 2023. Shelters must maintain a minimum of a 90% save rate in order to receive that status. Last year Ames Animal Shelter was at 98.2%.
- The City partnered with Sheep on the Go to control grass at the SunSmart Community Solar Project on Airport Road. The sheep eat the vegetation and unlike goats, don't climb on the panels.
- The Ames Human Relations Commission had a joint meeting with City Council on June 11. The Commission's purpose is to study the existence of discrimination in the

community and work to minimize or eliminate it. They are trying to be more outward focused and plan on having a presence at community events.

- DEI Coordinator, Eames has started a “Belonging in Ames” video series. These videos can be found on YouTube. The plan is to have a new one roll out each week.
- The Ames Human Relations Commission is also calling out for submissions for a t-shirt design based on the theme “Visualizing History, Progress, and Belonging in Ames”. Entries will be accepted through June 23.
- The City of Ames is in the process of hiring a Sustainability Coordinator. This person would start in July and assume the lead on the Climate Action Plan.
- On June 18, 2024 Ames City Council had a joint meeting with the Electric Utility Operations Review and Advisory Board to hear the results of an Electric Services Cost of Service Study. This study was last done in 2011. No decisions were made during this workshop. Recommendations will be brought to City Council at a later date.

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

- The Juneteenth Celebration took place on June 15. The bookmobile was on site. Diverse children’s books were given away thanks to a Rotary grant. There was a scavenger hunt with 21 posters of famous residents, spaces, and events from around Ames. The Lion King movie was shown at the City Auditorium that evening.
- Summer meals are averaging around 100 youth served daily with more on Terrific Tuesdays when special programming is provided including magician, comedy, and music programs.
- The TAG (Teen Advisory Group) has also been active with a Tie Dye event in the park and a hands-on reptile program.
- Special “I Survived” author Lauren Tarshis will be here on Monday, June 24.
- Adult programming quiets down a bit in the summer but we have a Happy Houseplanting in partnership with Back Alley House Plants this coming Tuesday, June 25. This will include an optional plant swap.
- The bookmobile is making extra summer stops, including school enrichment. Staff saw a need and got the summer reading game sheets translated to Spanish.
- APL-Y volunteers (Ames Public Library Youth Volunteers) are doing amazing. We have 40 now and like another cohort of 40 coming. Three summer interns were onboarded a little later than usual, so we couldn’t start them all at once, but interns help provide leadership and guidance and along with the youth volunteers, they basically run summer meals. The interns will be starting up a Read With Me program with younger kids. They also pull books and work on special projects.
- Bohlke had the middle schoolers from All Aboard for Kids, a camp for kids with autism, in today. They will volunteer two days a week for four weeks. They are loving it.
- Bohlke had a group from Collegiate Presbyterian Church come in with kids from 4 years -14 years of age. The youngest volunteers helped inventory our puppets. Cleaning and stamping books is super popular too.
- Schofer met with Goldbeck, Parks and Rec and others to review our service to the homeless as we’ve seen some upticks in overnight stays at the park and in front of the library. We are exploring what we might collectively be able to do.

- Schofer met with Murken, Story County Board of Supervisors, about some potential grant money for hotspots for Story County libraries.
- The new play structure is up and super popular in the youth area. If you haven't seen it you should go check it out.
- Staff are getting ready to start working with City Purchasing on our new carpet project.
- Schofer received notification that the stipends for Great Books from Great Place programming and national Book Festival travel have been awarded.

Ames Public Library Friends Foundation (APLFF) Report: Schofer gave a report to the Board. Gibson, Myers, and Schofer were all unable to attend.

- The APLFF Board has been reviewing some policies.
- They are working with a vendor on rebranding. They had a focus group meeting earlier this evening.
- There are fewer APLFF Board members available to walk in the Fourth of July parade this year. Those available will pass out Pub Fiction flyers. They do plan on designing a special t-shirt this year. There will also be a program on July 10 to help with brainstorming costume ideas with a possibility of having a "take something, leave something" box. Overflow will advertise this year.

Board education: Customer Account Services Manager Briseno provided a presentation on materials recovery.

Policy Review:

Volunteer Services Policy: This policy was brought to the Board last month for discussion. No changes were recommended by staff. The Board discussed the policy. Volunteer types and program

Moved by Myers, seconded by Rearick, to approve the review of the Volunteer Services Policy with the change of the word "Definition" to "Volunteer Types and Programs.

Vote on Motion: 6-0 (Johnson abstained; Mitchell-Conway and Thorbs-Weber excused). Approved unanimously. Resolution No. 2024-L016 adopted.

Authority Policy: Schofer introduced the policy. The Board discussed the policy. This policy was reviewed by the City Legal Department with no changes recommended. This policy will be brought back next month for action.

Trustee Comments:

- Gibson – glad Briseno is here. During the focus group it was brought up by people attending how much they appreciate the staff and how helpful everyone is.
- Reynolds – happy to be back. She really appreciates the Board Education; Briseno did a great job.
- Rearick – thank you for the presentation. He was happy to come to free lunches and check it out. It is cool to see.

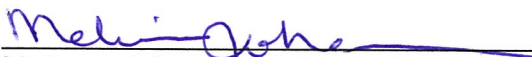
- Myers – thanked Briseno for all the information. It's great to see how being fine free is so positive for the Library and community.
- Reger – Briseno did a great job, thank you for all the information. It is very effective.
- Crain – appreciates how the Library does everything with compassion. He appreciated the reminder last night to sign up for reading program.
- Johnson – appreciates Briseno saying the phrase "we want you to use the library" multiple times because it really is the message we send. Welcome again to Rearick. Thanks everyone for being here.

Adjournment:

Moved by Reger, seconded by Reynolds, to adjourn at 8:06 p.m.

Vote on Motion: 6-0 (Johnson abstained; Mitchell-Conway and Thorbs-Weber excused). Approved unanimously

The next regular meeting will be on Thursday, July 18, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. in the Dale H. Ross Board Room.


Melissa Johannes, Library Secretary


Matt Crain, Board Secretary