

**Marshalltown Public Library
Board of Trustees
December 20, 2016**

PRESENT: Allan Thoreson, Megan Bell, Judy Lindholm, Leah Mattox, Maureen Lyons, Sarah Rosenblum, Sandy Gowdy, Joa LaVille **Absent:** Ronnie Manis, Robert Untiedt

President Leah Mattox called the meeting to order at 4:30pm.

NOVEMBER 15, 2016 MINUTES: The minutes of the November 15 meeting were unanimously approved as written.

OPERATING BILLS: It was moved and seconded (Thoreson/Lyons) to approve the bills. The motion was unanimously approved.

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS:

--*Joa LaVille, Youth Services Librarian, presented the STEM education kits, "Little Bits."* Described as "low floor, but high ceiling," three of the kits have already been purchased and one more will be ordered with a donation from the Kiwanis Club. An after-school program in January is planned to introduce the kits.

--*Budget Update:* The city is working with new financial software and department heads will be able to access it and run reports. We currently have funds earmarked for a new website, but the city and the Chamber of Commerce have been working on some joint ventures that may include a new website, so we will wait. Funds could be freed up for additional technology. The new city budget looks to be status quo, but the levy money will help the library.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

--The county librarians recently met with the County Supervisors. Supervisors were reminded again that funds from the county have not been increased for more than five years.

--A number of homes within the city limits have asked to be de-annexed. This would take those homes from the tax base, thus lowering city income. This issue will be on the next city council agenda.

--Sarah will not be at the January meeting.

--Thursday, December 22, is the library's 8th anniversary! Allan suggested getting a 10th Anniversary committee together to begin plans for a celebration.

--Sarah is working with Bob Untiedt on a "Community Read" project with activities to be planned for September 2017.

--The library was closed Sunday, December 18 because of bad weather.

--Over 500 hardcover fiction books were recently donated. Nearly 100 of them have already been used to replace lost, missing, damaged or dirty copies.

--A "Little Free Library" has been set up in the library's youth department. Donated or deleted children's books are set out for anyone to take for free—a great opportunity to supply kids with books at home.

--Thanks to all board members for another successful year at the library!

The next meeting will be Tuesday, January 24, 2017.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:15pm.

