

**Marshalltown Public Library
Board of Trustees
July 21, 2026**

Members Present: Sandy Bennett, Ashytn Beek, Erik Hall, Lea Husak, Ruzan Morrison

Absent: Tonya Gaffney, Ronnie Manis

Staff: Sarah Rosenblum, Joa LaVille, Katie Fink

Recording Secretary: Sandy Gowdy

Vice President Sandy Bennett called the meeting to order at 5:00pm.

Public Comment: Comments were made by John Worden and Joleen Ballard, Mike Ladehoff and Ray Mitchum.

Board Comment: Comments were made by Lea Husak and Erik Hall.

Approval of the Agenda: Moved/Seconded (Husak/Beek) to approve the agenda. Passed.

Approval of the June 16, 2026 Minutes: A clarification was made to the Director's Report about donations to "Miss Teresa's Storytime Garden." It should read, "Gifts and donations have been secured for this project—including **INDIVIDUALS** from Assistance League...." Remove "a shade structure is being considered." It was moved/seconded (Morrison/Husak) to approve the corrected minutes. Passed.

Approval of the Bills: Moved/Seconded (Hall/Beek) to approve the bills. Passed.

Old Business: There was no old business.

New Business:

A: Annual Board Election: The following were nominated and elected for a one-year term:

President: Ashtyn Beek

Vice President: Sandy Bennett

Secretary: Ruzan Morrison

B: Interior Renovation Update:

- Next month's meeting will be in the Brucklacher Conference Room
- All the new furniture has arrived except the Information Desk
- Architect "punch list" will be done July 22
- Many thanks to the city workers who did work on the project
- LFI will be moving local history shelves that were in storage during the project

C: Sale of Surplus Library Materials to the Friends of the MPL Annual Booksale:

Following Iowa Code, it is estimated that 5000 books will be/have been weeded from the collection due to poor condition, non-use or out-of-date information.

A majority of these weeded books do not sell and are either given free or sold for \$1/bag at the booksale. A large portion of youth books are given to groups as a good literacy resource. It is estimated that 90% of the books sold at the on-going booksale are donated books and not weeded library books.

It was moved/seconded (Morrison/Husak) to sell approximately 5000 weeded books to The Friends of the Library for \$500. Passed. This will be taken to City Council.

D. Staff Update: At this time, the library is fully staffed.

E. Staff Reports:



Katie:

- RAGBRAI: Fifteen campers will be staying overnight on the west lawn. The FOL is providing water in the large meeting rooms for riders.
- HF2490 is now in affect: Boards must designate a place to post meeting agendas that are visible 24/7. The board will have to designate a spot for the agenda at our next meeting.
- Upcoming programs:
 - **Sarah Pratt, the butter sculptor from the Iowa State Fair will be here.
 - **Voices of Route 66—a history and trivia program on Aug. 1.
 - **Peter Hedges will be doing a program in conjunction with RAGBRAI. (While at the library, it is not a library-sponsored program)

Joa:

- It is the middle of the summer reading challenge which will conclude the first week of August.
- Partnered with Emerson for a STEM science/space- related program.
- Petting zoo was a HUGE success.
- Thanks for the donation of seven bags of brand new Beanie Babies!..great for prizes!
- 1096 rewards (coupons, books, stuffies) have already been redeemed!

F: Director's Report:

- A new type of concrete, that will be used on the viaduct, is being tested at the library. A 12x27' pad has been poured and may be used for bike racks.
- The new garbage enclosure and storage shed are almost complete.
- Work is still being done on the on the empty lots. Re-seeding will be done in the fall. The goal is to plant trees in conversation with Park & Rec.
- Local artists are being showcased: Jon Muller donated ceramic birds that are being given away, Janet Collison has donated hand-woven bookmarks and Julie Bousum is featured illustrator of, Polly the Talking Collie.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, August 18 at 5:00pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:55pm