Marshalltown Public Library
Board of Trustees
Brucklacher Conference Room
September 15, 2026

Members Present: Ashtyn Beek, Sandy Bennett, Tonya Gaffney, Lea Husak, Ronnie Manis
Absent: Ruzan Morrison, Erik Hall
Staff: Sarah Rosenblum, Joa LaVille, Katie Fink
Recording Secretary: Sandy Gowdy

President Ashtyn Beek called the meeting to order at 5:00pm.

Public Comment: Comments were made by John Worden, Ray Mitchum, Joleen Ballard and Kristy Hibbs Burr

Board Comment: There were no comments.

Approval of the Agenda: Moved/seconded (Gaffney/Manis) to approve the agenda. Passed.

Approval of the August 18, 2026 Minutes: Moved/seconded (Gaffney/Bennett) to approve the minutes. Passed.

Approval of the Bills: Moved/seconded (Bennett/Husak) to approve the bills. Passed.

Old Business: There was no old business.

New Business:

A: Interior Renovation Update:

- Signage, including the donor plaque, will be coming.
- The new reference desk has arrived.
- The ribbon cutting and open house for the renovation will be Sunday, October 25 from 2-3:00pm.

B: Collection Development Policy:

- Changes in the policy are clarified in red.
- The "Statement of Concern" form attached to the collection development policy has been modified to clarify its use—to express a concern about items in the library's collection, either physical or digital.

It was moved/seconded (Gaffney/Husak) to accept the changes and updates in the Collection Development Policy. Passed.

C. Statement of Concern—submitted 8/18/26

No action was taken by the Board.

D. Live Streaming and Posting Information:

- A request has been made by a city councilor and the City Manager to explore live streaming the Library Board meetings on the city's YouTube page. It was agreed to add this new service, which will be posted on the meeting agenda.
- There was a request to post the entire board packet on-line. (Note: Only the agenda is required to be posted on the door.) Notice will be listed on the Board of Trustees page and also on the city's agenda.

E: Staff Reports:

Joa: --this list highlights a few examples of what keeps this department busy!

- Getting ready for 6th grade EMERGE visits
- Pre-school outreach calendar
- Educator status renewal
- Monthly scavenger hunts
- BOB (Battle of the Books) starting
- High school book club
- Volunteens
- October author visit—Pedro Martin
- School Family Nights
- Staff retraining

Katie: -- busy here, too!!

- Working on the Open Access Report—funds from the State ($15,000) split between Open Access (books sent to other libraries) and Direct State Aid.
- Annual Book Sale September 18-21
- The Quiet Librarian book discussion (All Iowa Reads title)
- Film Series
- Book folding event—October 2
- ACLU program: "Know Your Government" -- October 6
- Plant Swap-- October 17
- Author visit: Allen Eskens, author of The Quiet Librarian--October 19

F: Director's Report:

- Sarah's retirement date is November 4. A reception at the library will be November 1.
- Working on the City's CIP budget: Will include replacing a RTU, tuckpointing, sidewalk repair and the book budget
- Budget reductions due to state funding reductions
- Friends of the Library: Reminder that the mission of the Friends of the Library is to ENHANCE library services—not pay for salaries or operating expenses.
- Thanks to the staff

The next meeting will be Tuesday, October 20 at 5:00pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:06 pm.

Sandy Gowdy, Recording Secretary

Sandy Bennett
Vice President
8/20/2026