

September 2023

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees for the Burlington Public Library was called to order by President Becky Godfrey, Wednesday, September 27, 2023, at 4:30 p.m. in Meeting Room A. Board members Becky Godfrey, Don Schmidgall, Brandon Orth, Mary Weinand, Roger Hatteberg, Jennifer McMillan and Library Director Brittany Jacobs were present. Friends' Liaison Anita Wagner, West Burlington Liaison Rebecca Teater, City Manager Chad Bird, and library staff Sara Garland and Kathy Gerling were also in attendance. Board member Tenyshia Chalupa was absent. Notification for this meeting was sent to KBUR/KGRS, KCPS, KKMI, and WIUM radio stations and The Hawk Eye, on September 22, 2023.

Roger Hatteberg moved the Board to approve the agenda for this meeting and the minutes from the last meeting. Second by Brandon Orth; motion approved unanimously.

Becky Godfrey welcomed Jennifer McMillan to her first official Board of Trustees meeting. Jennifer's board application was approved by the Burlington City Council. She will be fulfilling the remainder of former board member Megan Fuqua's board term.

Board Training

- a. Quality of Library = Quality of Life by Maureen DeLong
- b. ALA Preliminary Data on 2023 Book Challenges
- c. HF718 Iowa League of Cities Slide Deck

Board discussion of all the above articles. These articles were included in the board packet. There was also discussion of recent bomb threats at other libraries. Brittany explained how the library tightened up their emergency action plan.

Expenditures

Brittany talked about the Budget Control Status Report for accounting period 13/23. The final balance left for FY23 that was not spent ended up being around \$18,000; we spent 98.82% of our FY23 budget.

The library's last two electric bills have been around \$10,000 and \$12,000. Brittany scheduled an energy audit and will report back to the board after the audit.

Roger Hatteberg moved the Board to approve expenditures. Second by Don Schmidgall; motion approved unanimously.

West Burlington Liaison Report

Rebecca Teater reported that Brittany offered to attend the next West Burlington City Council meeting and will start attending their council meetings on a quarterly basis.

Friends Liaison Report

Anita Wagner provided an update. The September friends' book sale was very successful – they sold out of books and raised \$3800. The Friends Bylaws will be discussed tomorrow at the Friends Board meeting.

Presidents Report

Everyone in attendance introduced themselves to the new board members Jennifer and Brandon.

Advocacy Committee

The committee will stay after this meeting and come up with some questions to give to the Southeast Iowa League of Women Voters for presentation to their upcoming city council candidate forum.

Building Committee

Brittany reported that the geothermal leak, caused by bad welding at one of the joints, was fixed today. The system was drained and filled back up by 9:30 a.m. The leak was discovered this summer and looks to have been a slow leak lasting for about 10 years.

Old Business

a. Strategic Planning: Connect, Learn, Imagine

Brittany would like the Board to connect with the library staff to come up with value statements, then connect with the community and community partners. More information forthcoming.

New Business

a. Policy Update: Statement of Concern

The Statement of Concern is currently housed in the Collection Development Policy, but Brittany would like to pull it out as its own stand-alone policy and revise it to include more than just books. Brittany will send the revised policy to the board next week for review and input. Next month, we will look at the bed bug policy.

There being no further voting business to come before the Board, Roger Hatteberg moved the meeting to be adjourned at 5:45 p.m. Second by Mary Weinand; motion approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Brittany Jacobs,
Library Director