



Board of Trustees Meeting
September 12, 2023

Mission Statement

*Pella Public Library enriches our community by welcoming, creating,
and nurturing curious minds and lifelong learners*

I. Call to Order

President Darath Fisher called the meeting to order at 4:32 p.m. Board members present were: Chris Allen, Suzy Card, Darath Fisher, Dayrel Gates, Brenda Huisman, Kristi Leonard, and Matt Van Gelder. Library Director Mara Strickler was present. There were no board members absent.

II. Recognition of Visitors and Visitor Comments

There were three visitors present. There were no visitor comments.

III. Approval of Agenda

- The meeting agenda was distributed to all board members prior to the meeting. The agenda item to review the "Library access for registered sex offenders" policy was removed from the agenda. Chris moved to approve the amended agenda. Matt seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. Disposition of Minutes

- The minutes of the regular meeting of August 8, 2023, were distributed to all board members prior to the meeting. Suzy moved to approve the minutes. Brenda seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

V. Approval of Bills

- The August list of bills was distributed to all board members prior to the meeting. Noted that the new elevator maintenance vendor (Schindler) will bill us quarterly. Brenda moved to approve the bills. Kristi seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

VI. Unfinished Business

- Holiday Schedule: Changing the staff workday from Friday, December 20 to Friday, December 13, to allow the library to remain open as school is finishing up ahead of the holidays. Kristy moved to approve the 2024 holiday schedule. Suzy seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

VII. New Business

- Space Needs Review: This review consists of planning for the space we have, and planning and budgeting for any changes to make to the building and facilities. In the past this review has been done in conjunction with long-range planning. Now we will be completing an assessment every other year. This will be added to the board's annual list of tasks for this year. A ten-year timespan will be more useful than trying to predict needs across 30 years in the future. Calculations indicate that the library presently exceeds a desired density of 15 volumes/ft². There was discussion around potential ways to increase library space. The community center's renovation was discussed as it might affect the library's space.

VIII. President's Report and Announcements

- City council meeting schedule: 09/19 Matt, 10/03 Suzy.
- We had full board attendance at the Marion County Library Board training.
- Holiday closure and Juneteenth holiday observance: The board as whole must make a request to the city to add a holiday observance. It was suggest that an ad hoc committee be formed to research and prepare a recommendation to board in November. A committee was appointed consisting of Chris, Suzy, and Matt.

IX. Staff Reports

- Director's Report
 - The alley between the library and community center will be closed Thursday, September 14, 2023, for city engineering work.
 - With the hiring of Jordan Scull as a shelver, the library is now fully staffed.
 - The Nintendo Switch videogame collection continues to be developed. Since being introduced in May 2023 the collection seems to be popular with both youth and adults.
 - Friends of the Library continue to support the library in a number of ways.
- Youth Services Director's Report
 - Youth numbers are returning gradually to 2019 participation levels.
 - Beanstack is gaining acceptance and usability.
 - Good attendance at programs.
 - Katie will restart the sack lunch & movie events.
 - Good exposure at Thursday nights.
 - Katie is increasing the book giveaway funding request to the Rolscreen Foundation from \$2000 this year to \$3000 for next year, due to steadily increasing demand.

X. Trustee Training Reports

- Takeaways from Marion County Annual Board Training: Board members mentioned gratitude for having staff depth which would help in a succession situation.
- "Intersections: Where City and Library Meet" webinar will be provided by the State Library on September 21, October 26, and November 30. Access IA Learns to register to receive the recording. Education credit will be given only for attending the live webinar.

- The State Library’s Public Library Standards – Section 6: Library Access – Physical Spaces was reviewed.

XI. Committee Reports

- Personnel Review: None
- Policy Review
 - 2.1 Bylaws: No recommended changes from the Policy Committee. Brenda moved to retain the policy. Chris seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
 - 4.3 Behavior in the Library: No recommended changes from the Policy Committee. Note was made that with respect to item “h”, the presence of “offensive images or language” found within the library collection does not violate this policy. The policy addresses an individual’s behavior, e.g., a person displaying images to a patron in the library. Chris moved to retain the policy. Matt seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

XII. Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 5:43 p.m. The next regular meeting is scheduled on October 10, 2023, at 4:30 p.m. to be held in the Library meeting room.