



LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MINUTES
OCTOBER 21, 2025

Roll call and introduction of attendees

Tom Engelmann called to order the monthly meeting of the Davenport Public Library Board of Trustees at 12:05 p.m. on Tuesday, October 21, 2025. The meeting was held in Meeting Room C at the Main Library. Board members present: Honey Bedell, Joanna Drake, Joe Heinrichs, Michael Hustedde, Shelley Klaas, Amanda Motto, Malavika Shrikhande, and Tom Engelmann. Absent: Jerry Skalak. Others present: Jeff Collins, Library Director; Lexie Reiling, Assistant Director; Jennifer Williams, Library HR Operations Manager; Tracy Moore, Development Officer; Kasey Shipley, Library Office & Facilities Manager & Recorder; and Marion Meginnis, City Council Liaison.

Consent Agenda

Heinrichs motioned to approve the consent agenda with a second by Bedell. Bedell, Drake, Heinrichs, Hustedde, Klaas, Motto, Shrikhande, and Engelmann all approved.

Public with Comment

No one was present.

Reports and Communications

FRIENDS Report

Collins shared that the FRIENDS raised nearly \$15,000 in net profit at the Fatal Fiction fundraiser. It was well attended and was a great public relations event with many coming to the Main Library that may not have been before or it has been awhile. If you have any feedback, please share with Collins or Hilary Tanner. Tanner had asked Moore to share her thanks to the Trustees for their support in either coming to the event, publicizing it to friends or family, or participating in the silent auction or wine pull. The support is greatly appreciated. The Trustees that attended all shared positive stories of the evening.

Finance Committee

Heinrichs reported that expenses seem to be on track for the year.

Personnel Committee

Motto said the committee has been working on the staff survey to evaluate Collins' performance and Williams will be sending it out this week. The Board surveys will be sent the first week of November so the evaluation can be done at the November meeting.



Advocacy Committee

Shrikhande shared that this week is National Friends of Libraries week and wanted to give her thanks to the FRIENDS for all they do in advocating, fundraising, and networking to support Davenport Public Library.

Director's Report

Collins called out some of the items from his written report. The vinyl graphics on the Children's area glass were installed in September. The letter identification for early learning and bridges that represent the area, with a fifth bridge to be added at a prominent entry later this year, are part of the graphics. The fish depicted are species from this part of the Mississippi River. Fairmount is getting a new roof and the contractors are trying to minimize disruptions to service as the work takes place over the next month. The final Little Free Library was installed near The Last Picture House at Bechtel Park. Collins thanked Sara and Ashley in Customer Services for their work and diligence in getting it in place; it was a long process. Library Card Sign-up Month saw over 430 new cards issued. The TechKnow collection is being converted to the expanded Library of Things. Main's collection is up and running, Eastern will be ready next week and Fairmount in November. There have been some patron concerns relayed about the removal of the Books on CD collection. Due to lack of titles published in that format and the cost of those that are, the funds have been redirected to the cost for joining Bridges Consortium. Collins thanked the Trustees that attended the Summer Reading trophy presentation at the City Council meeting last week. The winner of the OWL visit from the Summer Reading Challenge chose to have it at his school, and photos were shared in the report. Upcoming programs include Body Problems book talk and book signing on October 30, Dinovember drop off is the first week of November, and Warm Up Wednesday resumes at Main November through February. Some other programs of interest are Sage Sisters of Solidarity program on November 6 at Fairmount, Walk Like a Dinosaur on November 7 at Fairmount, and 3-D printed lithophanes at Main on November 10. The puzzle and game swap will be on November 15 at Eastern and tickets can be earned to select from those November 1-13 for bringing in games or puzzles to donate to the program. Thursday, October 23 is the showing of *The Librarians* at the Putnam. There is a Board webinar on November 20. Klaas asked about the two comment cards from the senior living communities and if there was a change in service. Collins said it may have been miscommunication as there are no changes to the service. Collins noted the statistical dashboard was included in the packet to report the first quarter of the fiscal year. Circulation has increased year over year every month this quarter. Shrikhande shared she placed some items in the Little Free Library at Duck Creek, more items to the FRIENDS Bookstore, and will plan to donate hot cocoa packets for Warm Up Wednesday program as she has done in the past.

Council Liaison

Meginnis shared that Third Street is on track to open for two-way traffic from Marquette to River Drive around the first week of November, barring any unforeseen circumstances. Resurfacing work has begun at the west end of Fourth Street and will work east to Harrison. She explained the change to the Extreme Dream program she expects Council will approve. It will be up to \$100,000 and available to



developers, the City, or individuals to rehabilitate vacant and abandoned properties in the defined area. The interim City Administrator begins around November 1. Tim Gleason is no relation to Nicole Gleason, Public Works Director, and he has expressed interest in applying for the permanent position. City elections are November 4. There is no City Council meeting next week since it is the fifth Wednesday of the month.

Old Business

The only item of old business was to approve the Filming & Photography Policy. Klaas motioned to approve with a second by Hustedde. Collins shared that language was added under bullet #9, and he now recommends changing from "in compliance with" to "in accordance with". With no further discussion on that change Engelmann called for the vote. Motto, Drake, Bedell, Heinrichs, Klaas, Shrikhande, Hustedde, and Engelmann all approved.

President's Comments

Engelmann said he had mentioned at last month's meeting about having meetings at the branches more often than once per year. After discussing with Collins, there is a logical reason to having most meetings at Main since the public expects the meetings to be in that building. Drake shared she liked the idea to having them spread around but understands the public may be confused if moved around often. The plan is to continue with one visit to each branch for next year.

Adjourn

With no further business, Bedell motioned to adjourn at 12:35 p.m. with a second by Heinrichs and all approved.