

February 2025

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees for the Burlington Public Library was called to order by Vice President Don Schmidgall, Wednesday, February 19, 2025, at 4:38 p.m. in Meeting Room A. Board members Don Schmidgall, Mary Weinand, Jennifer McMillan, and Roger Hatteberg were present. City Manager Chad Bird, Friends Liaison Anita Wagner, library staff Sara Garland, Kathy Gerling, Lois Blythe and Sam Watson were also in attendance. Board members Brandon Orth, Becky Godfrey, Amanda Mansheim, West Burlington Liaison Rebecca Teater, and Library Director Brittany Jacobs were absent. Notification for this meeting was sent to KBUR/KGRS, KCPS, KKMI, and WIUM radio stations and The Hawk Eye, on February 14, 2025.

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

**Board Training – My Parting Prescription for America by Dr. Vivek Murthy**

Board discussion of the article included in the board packet.

**Expenditures**

Sara Garland went over the latest Budget Control Status Report.

Roger Hatteberg moved the Board to approve expenditures. Second by Jennifer McMillan; motion approved unanimously.

**Friends Liaison**

Anita Wagner briefed the board. The Friends' recent January book sale was the largest successful sale they have ever had. The Friends are gearing up for their annual dinner coming up in April. Anita will bring Friends' membership renewal forms to the board soon.

**Board Committees**

**Advocacy Committee**

Jennifer briefed the board on all that the advocacy committee is doing. 100 "vote yes" signs for the franchise fee have been put up in the community (these were purchased by Catherine Hansen). Jennifer is putting together infographics to share on social media at least weekly. Mary is also sending out emails with information on the franchise fee.

Jennifer also gave a legislation update on HF274 (removal of obscenity exemptions for public libraries). This bill passed the subcommittee on Monday and moved to the full committee Tuesday and then moved to the House. Brittany is having discussions with lawyers about the path forward if the bill passes.

The Iowa League of Women Voters is holding a forum next week at the library regarding the proposed franchise fee information.

**Building Committee**

Brittany is gathering two other quotes for heat installation in the garage and water service closet.

**Finance Committee**

The library might be looking at a \$75,000 budget cut if the proposed franchise fee doesn't pass.

**Use Statistics**


Jennifer applauded library staff for the high programming numbers.

**Old Business**

- a. March training update – Sam provided an update of the upcoming staff day that will be held on March 3<sup>rd</sup>.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Jennifer McMillan moved the meeting to be adjourned at 5:20 p.m. Second by Mary Weinand; motion approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Brittany Jacobs,  
Library Director