

Chariton Free Public Library

June 11, 2026

The Chariton Free Public Library Board held its regular monthly meeting in the boardroom on June 11, 2026 pursuant to notice given under the Iowa Open Meetings law. The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

Trustees Bisgard, Blake, Meyer, Muehlenthaler, Pillsbury-Allen and Sharp were present. Director Murphy was also present.

The Agenda was unanimously adopted on a motion from Meyer, seconded by Blake.

Public Forum: None

Pillsbury-Allen moved and Sharp seconded for unanimous approval of the **Consent Agenda**.

May 14, 2026 Minutes

Correspondence - none

Grants – Vredenburg Grant Report – Roof repair \$10,000

The **April 2026 Financial Statements** were reviewed. Meyer moved the statements be accepted and placed on file, Pillsbury-Allen seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

The **June 2026 Claims** were unanimously approved on a motion from Blake, seconded by Bisgard.

Unfinished Business

Meyer moved to approve the Mainstay Systems Tech Support contract renewal. Blake seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

New Business

Discussion of the tree removal options resulted in the choice of the \$1,440 quote from C.R. Environmental, due to an insurance issue which prevents Paige Tree Service from working for the City. Blake moved to approve the C.R. Environmental quote, Pillsbury-Allen seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Blake will schedule the removal.

Pillsbury-Allen moved for the approval of the Fiscal Year 2027 Calendar. Meyer seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Due to Bisgard's departure, a vice-president had to be elected for the upcoming year. Meyer moved to elect Hunkele vice-president for the second year of Bisgard's term. Sharp seconded and the motion passed unanimously. President Muehlenthaler and Secretary Fredericks will continue their offices.

Reports

Building & Grounds: Strategic Plan update attached. Blake also reported he would meet with Revamp Fencing Company on 6/12/26. A third fencing company was suggested as well. Blake and Murphy reported that no response as to quotes or schedules had been received from Hirschy or Wood Roofing. The next step for the basement renovation is contacting Jim Tometich and Mark Devilbiss for input on removal/replacement of the crumbling wall. Murphy will try to coordinate an inspection with Tometich, Devilbiss and Bintner.

Young Reading Garden: Pillsbury-Allen has selected a bench type for the Garden. Murphy reported that other donors have also given funds for more benches. Pillsbury-Allen reported that a donor had contacted her about a potential donation of up to \$20,000 towards the Garden, with stipulations to be determined.

Finance & Policy: Reviewed the Financial Report. Approved tree removal quote.

Director's Report: (attached)

Board Comments & Continuing Education:

Agenda Items for next meeting: Reida Oath of Office

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 6:24 p.m. on a motion from Pillsbury-Allen, seconded by Meyer.

Kris Murphy, Library Director

GOAL 3: IMPROVE LIBRARY FACILITIES AND ACCESSIBILITY.

Objective: Create a more inviting, functional, and accessible space for the community.

STRATEGY	ACTION STEP	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	TASKS & STATUS
<p>Strategy 3.1: Develop plan to improve overall physical flow of building.</p>	<p>A. Develop plan to reorganize lower level, including options for current undeveloped space on south end and relocation/restructuring of genealogy society space.</p>	<p>Building & Grounds Committee</p>	<p>Murphy met with Bryce Bintner (5/28/26) about the HS Building & Trades Class possibly working on the SE Basement rooms. Bryce will contact Mark Devilbiss to take a look at the crumbling masonry wall as well.</p>
	<p>B. Review main level for welcoming atmosphere and need for physical improvements, including replacement or removal of worn furniture.</p>	<p>Building & Grounds Committee</p>	<p>Staff are maintaining clear Circulation Desk. Displays will still be located in circulation area, but are not permanent.</p>
	<p>C. Review and develop interior signage to assist visitors to locate specific areas.</p>	<p>Building & Grounds Committee</p>	<p>Murphy and Ghorrmley working on this. Corrugated plastic acquired.</p>
	<p>D. Review requests for capital expenditures or unbudgeted expenses proposed to support strategy.</p>	<p>Finance Committee</p>	
<p>Strategy 3.2: Maintain clean and organized interior spaces, reducing clutter.</p>	<p>A. Investigate reasons for excessive accumulation of materials inconsistent with space constraints.</p>	<p>Building & Grounds Committee</p>	<p>Programming Materials relocated to SW basement room. Organization still in progress.</p>
	<p>B. Identify appropriate places in building for storage of materials and places where materials should not be stored.</p>	<p>Building & Grounds Committee</p>	<p>Murphy relocated stockpile of shelving and ceiling tiles.</p>
	<p>C. Develop plan for removal of materials to reduce accumulation and to retain only most important materials in light of space constraints.</p>	<p>Building & Grounds Committee</p>	<p>Clean-up Day May 6, 2026 - another load gone</p>
	<p>D. Review requests for capital expenditures or unbudgeted expenses proposed to support strategy.</p>	<p>Finance Committee</p>	
<p>Strategy 3.3: Enhance the outdoor space for reading and community use, including landscaping.</p>	<p>A. Recruit volunteers with specific skills to assist with strategy, including outreach to relevant high school classes.</p>	<p>Building & Grounds Committee</p>	<p>Blake has met with Isaac Hirschy to obtain bids for work. Flagpole will not be reinstalled. City Hall would like to see flagpole worked into garden plan.</p>
	<p>B. Develop options for design of outdoor space, including seating, wi-fi access, landscaping, functional structures, and accessibility.</p>	<p>Building & Grounds Committee</p>	<p>pillsbury-Allen is sourcing benches.</p>
	<p>C. Review improvement needs for sidewalks, parking lot, and book drop, focusing on accessibility.</p>	<p>Building & Grounds Committee</p>	
	<p>D. Review requests for capital expenditures or unbudgeted expenses proposed to support strategy.</p>	<p>Finance Committee</p>	<p>Committee reviewed bids for tree removal and approved bid \$1,440 from CR Environmental.</p>