

Chariton Free Public Library

August 14, 2025

The Chariton Free Public Library Board held its regular monthly meeting in the boardroom on August 14, 2025 pursuant to notice given under the Iowa Open Meetings law. The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

Trustees Bisgard, Blake, Fenton, Meyer, Muehlenthaler, Pillsbury-Allen and Sharp were present. McGee joined the meeting online at 5:48. Director Murphy was also present.

The Agenda was unanimously adopted on a motion from Fenton, seconded by Pillsbury-Allen.

Public Forum: None

Consent Agenda: Meyer moved and Bisgard seconded for unanimous approval of the Consent Agenda.

July 10, 2025 Minutes

Correspondence – none

Grants – none

The **June 2025 Financial Statements** were reviewed. Pillsbury-Allen moved their acceptance, Bisgard seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

The **August 2025 Claims** were unanimously approved on a motion from Bisgard, seconded by Fenton.

Unfinished Business

Murphy will create a spreadsheet to track strategic planning responsibilities and progress. This will be available at each board meeting. There was a brief discussion of the Young Reading Garden bench options. Pillsbury-Allen is sourcing them.

The Community Relations Committee will send letters in September to potential partners in the community, including the School District, KIWANIS, Rotary, Senior Center, etc. in an effort to introduce our Community-Led Programming initiative and get feedback and generate potential participation.

New Business

A draft revision of the Meeting Room Policy was submitted by Murphy. The Finance and Policy Committee will review it at their September meeting and come back to the Board with a recommendation for the September board meeting.

Reports

Building & Grounds: Bisgard and Blake met with Wood Roofing's Matt Welker to check in on the gutter replacement and associated trim repairs. The unique nature of the trim means we are awaiting fabrication, but the guttering work will continue and the trim be addressed at a later date. Bisgard will contact Mediacom to ask them to remove the old Internet line which is damaging a piece of the trim.

Blake and Bisgard met in the southwest basement rooms with Andy Peterson to assess and discuss insulation and drywall options. Peterson will provide a ballpark estimate for the project.

Murphy reported a drainage issue with one of the HVAC vents in the first floor southwest room. She will contact Riley to look into it.

Blake replaced the missing drain cover in the southwest lawn.

Community Relations: The committee will map out a calendar for potential programming.

Finance & Policy: The committee will draft a resolution for the September board meeting to transfer the FY25 Operating Fund remainder to the Endowment Fund

Director's Report: (attached)

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 6:20 p.m. on a motion from Pillsbury-Allen, seconded by Meyer.

Kris Murphy, Library Director

**Chariton Free Public Library
Director Report
August 14, 2025**

The Auditor has graced us with his presence again this year and doubled his price. I dropped our files at City Hall, but he had no questions for me – usually a good sign.

One of our front basement windows lost the glass pane that protects it. I placed all the glass in a box to dispose of, but the frame is still good. It looks like the little tabs that hold them in place are to blame as several have deteriorated. Perhaps we should address those windows soon, even if it's just to get something other than glass over them and held on by something that isn't a little piece of plastic screwed to the surround frame.

Steve Blake visited Lockridge to purchase a new drain cover for the southwest lawn area, returned immediately and popped it into place.

Work on the roof continues. There are still certain materials we're waiting on. The trim adjacent to the new copper guttering has a curved profile and is still being sourced.

The Summer Program is OVER! 98 children were registered for the program and brought in their log sheets each week to redeem their reading and other activities for a small prize. Since this year's theme was *Level Up @ Your Library*, many of the prizes were games or playthings. We always have trouble getting people to sign up via the website so that they are actually registered for our annual report numbers. But, we had grand prizes that were up for grabs at the end. Any name that got drawn for a prize had to be registered or register prior to picking up their prize. That worked well. I'll issue thanks and report on numbers later this fall when I complete our annual survey and create the annual report we make available on the website. Since we only had two professional performers, we had funds to purchase many of the little prizes, but we also had a small hoard of donated items that went into either the little prizes or the grand prize options, including books. Friends of the Library donated gift certificates for Piper's & Double-Dip and those were very popular.

The Farmers Market runs through the first week in October, and although health issues have caused me to miss a few, we'll continue to offer programs as we can through to the end.

Kris Murphy
August 14, 2025