

MINUTES OF THE MARY J. BARNETT MEMORIAL LIBRARY

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

October 27, 2025

****Board Meeting Minutes****

****Members Present:****

- Steve Bascom
- Becky Carico
- Lacy Hall
- Dale Menning
- Brandon Monaghan
- Library Director Jerri Hawkins
- Karen Kelly, library aide

****Call to Order:****

The regular meeting of the Board was called to order by President Bascom at 6:00 p.m.

****Approval of Minutes:****

Menning moved to approve the minutes from the meeting held on September 22, 2025. The motion was seconded by Hall and carried unanimously.

****Financial Report:****

Bascom motioned to approve the financial report as presented. Menning seconded the motion, which passed without opposition.

****Director/Staff Reports:****

Director Jerri Hawkins provided an update on library statistics and events:

The FY25 Iowa Public Library General Information Survey is complete and has been submitted. Members will be sent PDFs of the final report.

Director Jerri Hawkins provided an update on library statistics and events:

The Friends of the GC Library's next meeting is scheduled for January 5, 2026. September programs included 87 attendees for the Bridge and Cribbage groups, four participants in the afternoon book club, and 11 in the evening book club. The Card Making Club had 8 attendees; the Cookbook Club had 7 participants. The Friday Story Hour attracted 45 attendees in the month of September. Attendance for Youth STEM programs included six for LEGO Mania, none for the STEM Lab, and 13 for Creation Corner. Family and Neighbor Puzzle Day drew 16 attendees. On October 17, we read stories to two classes at the Guthrie Center Elementary Preschool at 9:30 a.m. Traveling with Dementia on Thursday, September 5, had two attendees.

For the fiscal year to date, 99 items were borrowed and 68 loaned. Libby/Bridges reported 1,522 total checkouts, including audiobooks, e-books, and magazines. FY26 YTD circulation is 3,633 with renewal and auto-renewal. We have added 18 new patrons and had five renewals to bring the total number of patrons to 1,595.

Upcoming Programs:

Saturday, November 1, at 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. -- Art on the Fly Class, Chunky Blanket Class
Friday, November 7, at 10:00 a.m. -- Overall Buddies

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Friday, November 21 at 9:30 a.m. GC Elementary Outreach Story Time

Director Notes:

Jerri attended Learning Circuits in Corning on Thursday, October 23, from 9:30-12:30. Baker and Taylor, our major book vendor, is going out of business; this will create some problems, as that is where we purchase most of our books. In addition, our State Library software is administered by Baker and Taylor as well.

The Boardroom Series Training for library boards will be on Thursday, November 20, from 6:00-7:30. Members are invited to watch it in the meeting room or watch it later over Zoom. Board members have completed the three required trainings for the year.

****Unfinished Business:****

Carico made a motion to close the library on Thursday, October 30, from noon to 5:00 p.m. to allow the staff to prepare for the Boo Bash that evening. Hall seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

The Board consensus is that we are on track for accreditation in February.

****New Business:****

Updates for the Board manuals were distributed to the board.

We have completed the necessary policy updates for the library accreditation in February.

The theme for this year's Festival of Trees will be Silver and Gold.

****Agenda Items for Next Meeting:****

Begin Budget Planning

****Adjournment:****

The meeting was adjourned at 6:27 p.m. The next board meeting is scheduled for November 24, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.

****Recording Secretaries:****

Jerri Hawkins and Karen Kelly