

FY24 Library Board of Trustees Annual Report

General Responsibilities

The Iowa City Public Library Board of Trustees is a semi-autonomous body of nine people empowered by state law and city ordinance to be the governing body of the library.

The Board's specific list of legal responsibilities includes:

- Determine the goals and objectives of the library to plan and carry out library services.
- Determine and adopt written policies to govern all aspects of the operation of the library.
- Prepare an annual budget and have exclusive control of monies appropriated by City Council, earned income; monies secured through service contracts with Johnson County, University Heights, Hills, and Lone Tree; monies given to the library through gifts, bequests, grants, or awards.
- Employing a competent staff to administer its policies and carry out its programs.

The Board is an arm of City Government with members appointed by, and its principal operating funds approved by, Iowa City Council. The Board seeks, at all times, to work in harmony with City policies that are not in conflict with its statutory powers.

Accomplishments for Fiscal Year 2024

1. Endorsed the UNESCO City of Literature statement condemning Senate File 496 which proposed prohibiting books with written and visual depictions of sex acts from school libraries.
2. Crafted and distributed a statement on HSB678 which proposed eliminating public vote on referenda and transferred all library decisions and properties to city councils.
3. Formed an Advocacy Committee to keep abreast of quickly changing laws regarding libraries.
4. Formed a committee to evaluate the Library Director and held a closed session evaluation.
5. Formed a Finance Committee to help monitor and provide insight on the library's budget.
6. Welcomed and oriented two new Board members.
7. Set the FY25 Building Calendar.
8. Met with the Johnson County Board of Supervisors for annual reporting.
9. Supported the Iowa City UNESCO City of Literature; The Iowa City Book Festival and One Book Two Book.
10. Adopted an FY24 ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) Worker Retention Incentive for permanent library employees.
11. Approved library expenditures from the operating budget.
12. Approved NOBU budget requests which supported initiatives such as purchasing library materials, two library staff, and library programming.
13. Supported the library's Strategic Plan which represents the Iowa City Community and its needs.
14. Supported and attended numerous trainings and programs, including the ICPL Inservice Day, children's events, and intellectual freedom programming.
15. Appointed two trustees to serve on the Friends Foundation board.
16. Reviewed and updated the following policies:
 - 601 Collection Development
 - 700 Community Relations
 - 701 Public Relations

- 702 Library Programs
- 704 Use of Library's Cardholder Database
- 706 Outreach and Bookmobile
- 803 Event Board
- 804 Free Materials Distribution
- 805 Displays
- 808 Art Advisory Committee
- 810 Discussion Rooms
- 811 Theft, Defacement, Alteration
- 812 Hours of Service
- 816 Library Access for Sex Offenders Convicted of Sex Offenses Against Minors

GOALS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025

- Examine and revise Library Board policies on a three-year review cycle.
- Welcome new Trustees and support them in learning about ICPL and the work of the Board.
- Continue advocating for library access and intellectual freedom.
- Implement and support the ICPL strategic plan.
- Present at the Iowa Library Association conference.
- Review and approve a plan for improving building space.

Board Members:

Tom Rocklin, President

Derek Johnk, Vice President

Hannah Shultz, Secretary

Bonnie Boothroy (Beginning 4/16/24)

Joseph Massa

Claire Matthews

Robin Paetzold

John Raeburn

Lucy Santos Green (7/27/23-1/25/24)

Dan Stevenson