

**FRIENDS OF THE SPIRIT LAKE LIBRARY**  
**February 24, 2026**

Meeting called to order by our new library Director, Rachel Maly! We are thrilled to have her on board!

**Present:** Krista Elmquist, Judy Weipert, Jan Purdy, Julie Gibson, Leah Streeter, Sandy Ladegaard, Steve Sievert, Karen Eichner, and new members Jennifer Larson, Rachel Steward, and Amanda Lippon (welcome!) Krista announced that she will be retiring from the library effective May 1. We are definitely sorry to see her go! The library is waiting to hear from the city about funding for a new position.

**Minutes** read by Judy Weipert. Approved.

**Election of Officers:**

Nomination and unanimous vote for Amanda Lippon as our new president and Rachel Steward as our new secretary. Thanks to them both for allowing us to railroad them!

**Programming Report:**

**A. Summer Reading Program**

The Summer Reading Program will start in May with a movie at the Pioneer Movie Theater in Milford. There are numerous events scheduled including a National Geographic Photographer, now author, two shows (Giant Bubble and Cockatoo Rescue), IPTV Steam Station at Central Park in Arnolds Park, Toby Kidd on dinosaurs, Yellow Shoes Juggler at PLAC, Paint in the Park, and the finale will be a Foam Blaster, Ice Cream Machine, and Petting Zoo, all at Central Park in Arnold Park. The theme for the local Spirit Lake library this summer is Plant a Seed, Read; Storytimes include one with ISU Extension and another with Farm Bureau's Hannah Dibble hatching eggs. Plans are tentatively in place for another Outdoor Endeavor series in June and iCreate series in July as well as other activities.

**B. Wish list**

The Spirit Lake Public Library (among other libraries) has been awarded a \$10,000 grant from the Carnegie Foundation in recognition of the 250 year celebration this summer. This money will go into our Friends account.

1. **Hoopla – Carnegie - Motion** to add an additional \$100.00 per month has been added to our account.
2. **Summer Reading Prizes - Motion** to spend \$1000.00. **Approved** Lippon/Gibson
3. **Evening Edition Book club - Motion** to continue to spend \$200.00 to Revelry for snacks per month through September. **Approved** Purdy/Lippon
4. **Encyclopedias – Motion** to authorize payment for a new set of Encyclopedias now and another set in 2027. **Approved** Sievert/Steward

**Reports and Discussion:**

**A. Wish list – New library furniture.** Discussed several suggested designs and possible combinations for furniture in front of the new mural wall. **Motion** to spend \$5000.00. **Approved** Larson/Ladegaard

Adjournment. Next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 28, 2026, at noon.

Respectfully submitted, Judy Weipert, Secretary