

## URBANDALE PUBLIC LIBRARY ART GALLERY COMMITTEE MINUTES

April 9, 2025

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Ivan Martin, Tammy Martin, Charlotte Saliers, Grace Saliers, Ted Saliers, Jeff Suchomel, Emma Thomas-McGinnis

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Larry Kusmaul, Sandy Kusmaul, and Cindy Willson

**STAFF PRESENT:** Nicholas Janning, Brianna Ryan, Staci Stanton

**CITIZENS PRESENT:** None

**CALL TO ORDER:** Nicholas called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m.

**APPROVE AGENDA:** The committee reviewed and approved the April agenda.

**APPROVE MINUTES:** The committee reviewed and approved the January minutes.

**CITIZENS FORUM:** None

**APPROVE TREASURER'S REPORT:** The committee reviewed and approved the report.

### 1. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Art Day 2025: April 26, 2025
  - i. Charlotte reminded the committee that Art Day would be coming up later in the month. She shared examples of the crafts that would be at the different art stations and how they are made.
- b. New Hanging System Funding and Installation
  - i. The committee had approached the Urbandale Public Library Foundation for additional funding for the new hanging system. The Foundation granted the committee \$1000 to be used for that purpose.
  - ii. Charlotte received an initial quote from STAS, the company selling the new hanging system. An example railing and rod were ordered to test the system. Since STAS does not offer spiders for this hanging system, the committee visited the gallery during the meeting to determine if the existing spiders and hooks would be compatible with the thinner rod from STAS. It was discovered that the spiders and hooks could be tightened to fit the new system.
  - iii. The committee discussed whether or not to have the new railing running above the doors to give it a more streamlined look, or to save money and only buy rails for spaces where art can be hung. The committee opted to just purchase enough rails to be installed where art can be hung to save money, with the idea that more can be ordered later to fill the gaps if they decide they don't like it.
  - iv. The rods from STAS are shorter than the old system. Since the gallery has such tall ceilings, it was decided that the new railings would be installed 2½ feet from the ceiling so the art could still be hung at a reasonable height for people to view. This would also mean that the old rails wouldn't have to be taken down, saving money.
  - v. The City of Urbandale's Parks and Recreation Department will be able to install the new system, and estimate they can do it in 3 days. This cuts down on labor costs.

## 2. STAFF REPORT

- a. 2025 – 2026 budget update and continued discussion of options to save money
  - i. The committee continued the discussion from the meeting in January about transitioning the art gallery website and newsletter over to systems that the library has to save money.
  - ii. Tam wanted to make the point that not only would it save the committee money, but she believed it would give it more credibility if the art gallery content were part of the library website and not a separate site. It makes it feel safer to the public since the library website is a secure HTTPS site.
  - iii. It was decided that transitioning to the library's newsletter service would be easy and could be done before the art gallery's paid newsletter subscription had to be renewed at the end of April. Emma will coordinate this transfer with Staci and Brianna.
  - iv. The committee discussed that the website transition can be more gradual since the library's new website is still being made, and the art gallery domain renewal isn't until later in the year. One of the concerns for getting rid of the art gallery website is how difficult it might be to export archives of blog posts from the art gallery website. The committee will have to determine what information needs to be transferred to the library's website and what isn't necessary. It was decided that this process wasn't urgent, and the topic could be discussed later once more is known.

Next meeting is Wednesday, July 9, 2025, at 5:30 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 6:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Charlotte Saliers

President

Attest: Brianna Ryan