MINUTES OF THE SCHEDULED MEETING OF THE GARNER LIBRARY BOARD
Tuesday, October 6, 2026
5:30 p.m.

Present: Jaci Hayes, Lori Griesert, Dave Stromer, Holly Friederich, and Director Ellen Petty

Call to Order by President Pro-Tem Dave Stromer at 5:30 p.m.

Approval of the Agenda
Motion made by Jaci to approve the agenda. Second: Holly. All in favor; motion carried.

Approval of the Minutes
Motion made by Holly to approve the minutes with one correction (name in signature line). Second: Jaci. All in favor; motion carried.

Henschen Fund/First Citizens Bank
Mike Castle from First Citizens Bank was present to review the Henschen Fund.

- The portfolio remains invested in about two-thirds stocks and one-third bonds and is classified as Growth with Income.
- The stock market has done well the past couple of years but will likely go down in the coming years, which is normal.
- The annual target of expectation is 6 to 6.5 percent per year and holds a 6.37 percent increase since inception.
- The distribution rate is 5 percent of year-end market value split quarterly on the 10th of the first month of each quarter via check. Ellen asked about moving to direct deposit, which all agreed is a good idea; that change will be made.
- The total amount that has been disbursed over the life of the investment is more than the original investment amount.
- First Citizens Wealth Management staff have no concerns.
- The holdings are reviewed quarterly by people and looked at daily by software, which is trained to flag people if it spots something out of the ordinary.
- Because of the library's non-profit status, FCB charges half the preset fee to manage the account.

Director's Report
Carpets Have Been Cleaned in one day; Cleaning Solutions did a great job.
8th Grade Tours

- Students toured the library Friday, Oct. 2.
- The scavenger hunt was a big hit.

Mystery Dinner Recap

- Those in attendance (all tickets sold) at the Oct. 5 event really enjoyed it.
- Costs were covered with a small profit, and the hope is to do another one at some point.
- The kitchen and bathrooms had no hot water; that will have to be addressed/checked out.

Pumpkin Coloring Contest – entries due Oct. 7
Perry Schaeffer Donation
Perry's family donated $500 in his name; his name will be added to the Donation Board.

Bills Allowed
Motion made by Jaci to approve the bills. Second: Holly. All in favor; motion carried.

Citizens' Opportunity to Address the Board – None

Unfinished Business
Office Remodel – waiting for designs
Carnegie Foundation Donation – ongoing
WCAG Compliance – ongoing
Open Records Request Policy – moved to city

New Business
Landscaping Update
- Aaron, our County Landscapes contact for years, recommended cutting the bushes back to 6 feet in the spring.
- Trees will need shaping.

HVAC Issue
- A squirrel's encounter with a transformer left the library with partial power. That has been resolved.
- The air running even though it was off led to the discovery that the board on one of the units is bad.

Office Refrigerator: Ice Maker Has Broken
- The plan is to purchase a countertop ice machine rather than try to fix the office refrigerator one.
- Ellen will check with Clear Lake Bank & Trust to see what kind they donated to the GHV Schools.
- The broken ice maker resulted in leaking water that left some carpet squares moldy and in need of being replaced.

T-8 Light Bulbs Replacement Plan
- These bulbs can't be sold in Minnesota anymore because of the metals they contain, so Albert Lea Electric is transitioning to LED's.
- Nick will provide pricing options.
- Ellen will check with Alliant to see if they over any price breaks or incentives.

Report of Trustees – None
Report of Committees – None
Discussion – None

Adjournment
Motion made by Holly to adjourn the meeting. Second: Jaci. All in favor; motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:28 p.m.

David Stromer — Dave Stromer, President Pro-Tem

Lori Griesert — Lori Griesert, Recording Secretary