

Alta Community Library Board Minutes August 13, 2026 Meeting

Call to Order by Board President, Bruce Hinkeldey at 5:15 p.m.

Present: Director - Gigi Nelson, Board Members - Bruce Hinkeldey, Willa Casstevens, Carol Lichtenberg, Colleen Carlson-Konop, Anne Iehl - Board Members

Absent: Colleen Schwanz - Board Member

Visitors: Lorinda Peterson - Co-Chair for the Alta Friends of the Library Steering Committee, Laurie Millard and Pam Henderson, City Council, Lindsay Brown, City Clerk, Sandra Poulter (local graphic artist)

After welcoming the visitors, the agenda was unanimously approved following a motion by Colleen Carlson-Konop and seconded by Willa Cassevens.

Sandra Poulter, a local graphic artist, gave a presentation of the art that she works with, offering her expertise and services to the library and possible fundraisers. She works with platforms such as Instagram, WhatNot (online auction fundraising site), does custom work by commission, custom shoes, etc. She agreed to come to the next Friends of the Library Steering Committee meeting and present ideas there.

The Library Relocation Discussion and Steering Committee Discussion focused on the following –

Lorinda reported as follows - Alta Friends of the Library Steering Committee will meet again on Thursday, 20th at 6:30 p.m. Updates are: We have had some donations and Lindsay provided us with an updated spreadsheet showing the fund is now slightly over \$14,000.00. A subcommittee met and has pledge forms and a cover letter ready for the next meeting to hopefully then move forward with the campaign mailing. It was also felt that we should have an article in the next town newsletter. Carol Lichtenberg agreed to work on this.

The July board meeting minutes were reviewed and unanimously approved following a motion by Colleen Carlson-Konop and seconded by Carol Lichrenberg.

The July Statistical Reports and July Revenue and Expense Reports were reviewed and accepted. Gigi noted that attendance at programs was very good for the summer. The total number of patrons is 1409. The fiscal year end budget report showed an ending balance of \$2202.85. The Board unanimously approved asking the City of Alta to place this amount in a savings account for the library (as has been done in the past) following a motion by Carol Lichtenberg and seconded by Willa Casstevens.

Following a motion by Colleen Carlson-Konop and seconded by Carol Lichtenberg, the July bills were approved.

Old Business:

Bruce Hinkeldey reported that he, Carol Lichtenberg, Reagan Launderville and Linda Pickett will try to get a meeting set soon to talk about the next step needed to get the sign showing the new library placed in the park. Lindsay suggested possibly staking out a footprint of the proposed library to show that it will not “take over” the park.

Gigi reported that the Direct Aid applications are being completed to receive refunds from the State FY26 direct aid, Interlibrary Loan and open access activities.

New Business:

Gigi reviewed the Director's Report. She issued a support letter on behalf of Iowa Hometown Pride's application to the Iowa Living Roadway Visioning Program. She provided each board member with an updated contact sheet for the library personnel. The library ended the SWANKS movie licensing subscription. She is working with A-A schools in the areas of internship for their School to Work program and PIE Partners.

Gigi presented information on the House File 2490 which covers regulations on posting notices of public meetings. Thank you to Willa for sharing her presentation. The board unanimously approved (following a motion by Willa Casstevens and seconded by Anne Iehl) the following sites for posting public notice – Library Window, City Hall, Post Office, and the Library Website. This will be reviewed on a yearly basis.

At the September meeting, we will officially elect officers for the library board.

Gigi is looking into getting the Freedom 250 Mobile Museum to come to Alta. The Summit Church parking lot is the only location in town that meets the required criteria for parking and paving. The church is open to this, but wanted to know dates. We will request Sept. 30th through Oct. 3rd (Hometown Pride Days). After some discussion that possibly the museum might be lacking in diversity of the history/activities of our nation, it was approved to move forward (motion by Colleen Carlson-Konop, seconded by Anne Iehl, motion approved, Willa Casstevens abstained). It was also felt that future programs could focus on other historical happenings and diversity, etc.

Discussion at the end of the meeting - Invitation to have snacks/concessions at the Robbins Tractor Pull - we want to keep this in mind for next summer. Also discussed having a pie sale at the Hometown Pride Days, and an "Only Christmas" sale late November. The idea of the library working with the Hometown Pride Committee on their "Welcome to Alta" program was discussed. Carol Lichtenberg will get more details before a decision will be made on this.

Following a motion by Colleen Carlson-Konop and seconded by Carol Lichtenberg, the meeting was adjourned.

The next regular monthly meeting of the Alta Community Library Board will be at 5:15 p.m. on Thursday, September 10th, 2026 at the library.