



BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES

October 24, 2025

1:00 PM CDT

The Rummells Center and via MS Teams (virtual)

The meeting was called to order at 1:04pm, roll called, and quorum established.

Attending: Brett Barker, Bruce Barnhart, Charlie Becker, John Berge, Ken Brown, Zach Bohannon, Willis Bywater, Betsy Corridan, Tyler DeHaan, Ken Fawcett, Diana Gradert, Ruth Haus, Allan Hoover III, James Hoover, Steve Howes, Karen Suchomel, Jeremiah Terhark, Peter Voorhees, Steve Wolken

Attending Via Teams (virtual): Mary Bywater Cross, Dave Dierks, Ann Barber Doyle, Charlie Funk, Wally Geiger, Margaret Hoover

Also Attending: CEO Mundi McCarty, Executive Director of Development & Planned Giving Shelly Mott, Finance Manager Ryan Johnson, Director of Events and Digital Outreach Jackie Lynch, Director of Grants and Donor Information Systems Greta Bierman, Director of Engagement and Programs Michelle Elizondo, Office and Operations Manager Rhonda Berry, Plaid Swan Principals Vicki Dirksen and Betsy McCloskey.

Board Chair Corridan welcomed all to the meeting.

Consent Agenda

Funk moved to approve the consent agenda en block. A. Hoover seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Marketing & Communications Update

McCarty introduced the Foundation's contract marketing partner Plaid Swan principals Dirksen and McCloskey who provided details on work already completed since their onboarding this summer and ongoing plans for a rebrand, marketing strategic plan and overall communications elements. Social media and tourism elements were also addressed.

Strategic Planning

A. Hoover provided an update to committee planning work recently started with Roots and Legacies Consulting. A productive session was completed earlier in the day with the committee including an evaluation and suggested direction for an updated mission and vision statements along with discussion on Foundation priorities after the Timeless Values | Modern Experience campaign concludes.

Budget Approval

Howes shared a ground up budgeting process has resulted in a projected deficit budget for FY26 and noted the use of surplus unrestricted gifts from prior years to resolve any actual deficit at fiscal year end. Howes, on behalf of the finance committee, moved approval of the FY2026 budget as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Milbank Blue & Whites Sale

Howes updated the status of Chinese porcelain from the estate gift of Jeremiah Milbank to the Foundation in the 1970's as in process to be sold at auction in March 2026 by Southeby's. There will be some shipping costs to the Foundation. On behalf of the executive committee, Howes moved approval of the sale of the Milbank blue & whites collection to benefit the capital campaign. Motion carried unanimously.

Travel Grants Funding

Biermann reported that after research and review the Travel Grant committee has increased the maximum per diem award to approved researchers to \$200/day (up from \$150/day) and an increase to the maximum overall award from \$2,000 to \$2,500.

Development Committee

Mott provided an update on progress to a path to the \$20.3 million goal for the Timeless Values | Modern Experience campaign fundraising along with an update on grants and annual fund. Of note, McCarty mentioned the Uncommon Public Service Award recipients will be featured in the Uncommon Iowan's Gallery in the renovated museum as approved by NARA legal and ethics. A donor-inspired AI concept in the museum was discussed by Mott as a potential option for future inclusion, post opening, receiving questions and positive discussion. Spaces and galleries in the renovated museum remain for recognition opportunities to share with prospective donors.

Library-Museum Renovation Project

McCarty shared the museum renovation project remains on schedule. Reflecting on the progress since the museum's closure in late January 2025 to date McCarty noted continued strong collaboration with NARA, NPS and construction partners. A summer 2026 reopening date is still on track. Change orders now exceed the original \$20.3M budget and continue a review and approval process through Campus Leadership Committee Chair, Butler. Unanticipated costs are most likely due to the blending of multiple generations of the museum building — from its 1957 origins through the 1976 and 1992 expansions, to the present day; working across overlapping timelines — with building plans completed a year ago and BRC's final Tranche 3 design presentation delivered this summer. Partners are all working to identify a work around to lessen potential impact from the federal shutdown.

Unfinished Business

Corridan reminded Trustees that their annual support of the Foundation is an element of board service and includes two items, both benefit the unrestricted fund: \$1,000 Benefactor level membership and \$1,000 to the Uncommon Opportunity Fund. Contact Foundation staff with any questions or to help facilitate your gift.

New Business

Elizondo provided a timely reminder for trustees to join the Uncommon Student Award Presentation Day and historic Millionth Dollar Gala event on November 15 at the Courtyard Iowa City University Heights adjacent to Kinnick Stadium. Attendees can also register for Kinnick stadium tours during the day on the 15th. Additionally, you are invited to the alumni and friends gathering at the University of Iowa Hall of Fame on the UI campus at 5:30pm on Friday the 14th.



Corridan celebrated Berge for his 28 years of service to the Foundation and contributions to the mission as he finishes his final year of service by presenting him with a certificate of appreciation and a standing ovation from Trustees in attendance and online.

Adjourn to Annual Meeting

Brown moved to adjourn the meeting; DeHaan seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 2:48pm CDT.

Respectfully Submitted,
Mundi McCarty
President & CEO