

SEWARD MEMORIAL LIBRARY BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, October 8, 2019 8 AM

Board Members Present: Bob Dahms, Juanita Hill, and Jerry Pfabe.
Absent: Stephanie Croston and Nancy Lamberty.
Also: Jessica Kolterman, Councilman, Officer Johnson, and Becky Baker, Library Director.

Notice of the meeting was given in advance by posting the notice of such meeting, with the agenda thereon, in the following places: City Hall, County Courthouse, and the Seward Memorial Library. Notice of this meeting was simultaneously given to all members of the Library Board. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

1. CALL TO ORDER & RECOGNITION OF OPEN MEETINGS ACT AVAILABILITY

The meeting was called to order at 8:15 a.m. by Chairman Juanita Hill, who highlighted the availability of the Open Meetings Act.

2. LIBRARIAN'S REPORT

Officer Johnson was present to review options for the Board when dealing with possible patron issues. The Board may look into increasing the 2-hour parking limit to 24/7 or changing to no overnight parking if problems develop.

A. Programs: Fall programs are about half way through the fall session and a few registrations continue to come in for the after school programs.

So far the technology classes have not had enough registrations to take place. This month's craft class had 18 in attendance.

On September 22 author Tosca Lee spoke to only about 15 attendees – she was excellent and it was a shame more did not hear her. On October 13 antique appraiser Tom Bassett will present a two hour program, chatting about items brought in by attendees. This is in loose coordination with the All Seward Reads Together program, which featured a historical novel this year. On October 27 a program on housing in Seward will be held, featuring a panel of local real estate professionals. On November 3 the library is partnering with the League of Women Voters to host a program on Money in Politics. Jerry Pfabe will present a program on the history of Concordia University on November 17. This is in coordination with their 125th anniversary.

Staff is working on ideas for the holiday craft program on November 30.

This month's book group choices:

Midday Mysteries: *Olive Kitteridge* by Elizabeth Strout
Best of NYT: *Olive Kitteridge* by Elizabeth Strout
Random Reads: *Olive Kitteridge* by Elizabeth Strout

All three of these book groups met jointly last night as they do each October.

The Library sent out 181 *Leading to Reading* cards last month.

B. Operations: Staff Updates: Joni Ringdahl will be leaving us mid-December so the library will be advertising for that position for the next two weeks.

Banned Patrons: Two patrons, an adult and a high school student, have been banned for the remainder of the calendar year for inappropriate behavior at the library. A police officer delivered written notice of this, which also included an option to appeal the banning. Concern about another patron has led to the local police department to be invited to this meeting.

Seward Library Foundation: Two requests were made to the Seward Foundation in support of projects being worked on by this group; however they do not meet until November 13. The Library Foundation meets this week and will decide if they want to proceed before knowing if funding from the Seward Foundation will be coming.

Friends of Seward Library: They hosted a table at the recent library conference in La Vista and did a reasonable amount of business in the day and half vendors were present.

Schedule: Just another reminder that the library will be closed November 1 for the RAN workshop.

C. Statistics: Circulation from Seward's in-house collection for last month is down 377 from the previous month and down 765 from last year. Circulation for this collection for the previous 12 months now totals 86,690.

OverDrive checkouts total 1,104 by Seward patrons (from all collections) and 1,390 by patrons of other libraries (from Seward's collection) last month.

Seward's in-house collection now stands at 54,881 items.

Attendance for last month is down 1,659 from the previous month and down 1,568 from last year.

Computer use was down 128 from last month and down 57 from last year. Wireless count for September is again not available but staff is working with Bizco to fix this problem.

3. PLAN UPDATE – Review current plan update approved by the Nebraska Library Commission

Becky presented the Nebraska Library Commission approved plan to the Board. The library is once again accredited at the Gold level.

4. CONSENT ITEMS

Dahms moved and Pfabe seconded that consent items a, b, & c be approved. Voting aye: Dahms Hill, and Pfabe. Voting nay: None. Absent and not voting: Croston and Lamberty. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:43 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jerry Pfabe, acting Secretary