

SEWARD MEMORIAL LIBRARY BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, September 10, 2019 4:30 PM

Board Members Present: Stephanie Croston, Bob Dahms, Nancy Lamberty and Jerry Pfabe.
Absent: Juanita Hill.
Also: 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 4:35 p.m. by Vice Chairman Nancy Lamberty, who highlighted the availability of the Open Meetings Act.

2. LIBRARIAN'S REPORT

A. Programs: Fall programs began last week and will run until mid-November, making a 12 week session. Five story time sessions are meeting though one (Thursday afternoon) may be discontinued if a few more children don't sign up. Monday's LEGO Club seems to be the most popular after school session, followed by Friday's Pokémon Club.

So far the technology classes have not had enough registrations to take place. Hopefully future topics will pull in a few folks. The one Tuesday night craft class did take place with a few attendees. Staff anticipates this will grow as word gets out about it.

The TIF 101 program had 10 attendees this past Sunday. Covering this complex topic in an hour was well done by the presenter from the League of Nebraska Municipalities. On September 22 author Tosca Lee will talk about her newly released title. 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 November 3 the library is partnering with the League of Women Voters to host a program on Money in Politics.

This month's book group choices:

Midday Mysteries: *The Book of Lies* by Brad Meltzer
Best of NYT: *Caroline: Little House Revisited* by Sarah Miller
Random Reads: *Once Upon a River* by Diane Setterfield

The Library sent out 192 *Leading to Reading* cards last month.

B. Staffing: Staff Updates: Charlotte Baldinger is back to working a few hours a week and hopefully will return to full schedule after September 23. Staff will evaluate the need for a part-time Library Clerk/Substitute once she is back.

Dehumidification Unit: This has been repaired.

End of fiscal year: Staff has been busy prioritizing needs compared to the remaining dollars in the library budget for the year, then purchasing or scheduling work as required and getting invoices delivered. The final day to turn in invoices for the year is September 23 so two Library Board members need to be available to initial these bills. Funds were remaining to allow for window cleaning on the main level as well as to have a professional cleaning company come in to do some deep cleaning for the library – this was badly needed. Revamping the children's area with new items is in mid-process as staff awaits assistance from City employees to assemble items.

Computers: The new server that was in this year's budget is in place now and only a few issues need to be ironed out with the four lab computer replacements. Bizco staff will take the two new laptops that were purchased to set up before staff uses them.

Seward Library Foundation: This group is working on several projects: installing a digital sign in place of the monument sign that is along Highway 15 and fundraising for silhouette lights for the library will kick off shortly. They will also work towards upgrading the screen in the main level conference room and installing a projector.

Friends of Seward Library: Décor Days will run September 23 – September 30. This is an annual fund-raiser for the group. The group recently voted to donate towards two Seward Library Foundation projects: the silhouette lights and the main level conference room screen upgrade/projector installation.

Schedule: The library will be closed November 1 for the Read Aloud Nebraska workshop that will take place here. Because this is not a typical holiday closing, advance notice of this schedule change will begin shortly.

C. Statistics: Circulation from Seward's in-house collection for last month is down 2,039 from the previous month and down 1,248 from last year. Circulation for this collection for the previous 12 months now totals 87,455.

OverDrive checkouts total 1,161 by Seward patrons (from all collections) and 1,444 by patrons of other libraries (from Seward's collection) last month.

Seward's in-house collection now stands at 54,613 items.

Attendance for last month is down 675 from the previous month and down 904 from last year.

Computer use was up 48 from last month and down 61 from last year. Wireless count for August is for a partial month. Again, estimates will be used for state reporting but beginning next month actual counts should once again be available.

3. CONSENT ITEMS

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

Meeting adjourned at 4:38 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Stephanie Croston, Secretary