

SEWARD MEMORIAL LIBRARY BOARD MEETING

Wednesday, November 3, 2021 8AM

Board Members Present: Juanita Hill, Jerrald Pfabe, Bob Dahms, Nancy Lamberty and Stephanie Croston

Absent: None

Also: Jessica Kolterman, Council Member, 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, Seward Municipal Building, 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 8:00 a.m. by Chairman Juanita Hill, who highlighted the availability of the Open Meetings Act.

2. LIBRARIAN'S REPORT

Programs:

Fall programs ended last week. Staff will begin evaluation and discussion of any changes at staff meeting tomorrow. More will be shared with the Board closer to the start time in January.

Jerry Pfabe has a program scheduled on Sunday, November 21, covering lesser known crimes in Seward County, 1919-1948.

The Saturday after Thanksgiving the library is hosting crafts for kids from 9:00-11:30 a.m. The library is also the site for the LEGO show, though no staff is involved in this. Both of these events are a part of the Christmas Festival.

Upcoming book group titles include: The Hound of the Baskervilles by Arthur Conan Doyle (Midday Mysteries), The Story of Beautiful Girl by Rachel Simon (Random Reads), and A Week in Winter by Debbie Macomber (NYT Best Seller Group).

Operations:

Personnel: Claire Kerkman only worked for two hours one day and the next day emailed me that she had been offered another job, in her field of study, on the UN-L campus where she attends classes. So we have hired Katelyn Pagel for Library Clerk; she has only worked a few hours to date. After several interviews, Cindy Voehl has been offered the Library Assistant I position, taking the place of Charlotte Baldinger who plans to retire in January 2022. Cindy can start work here soon, giving her ample time to have in-person training from Charlotte. This will be invaluable, especially for the home delivery program. Joan Reiser has been hired as the library custodian. Staff is excited to have her join the crew.

Building: With the last 24 hour rain that Seward received, several roof leaks appeared. After investigation, it appears that the caulk around the edges of the lower roof sections was disintegrating or was already gone. This will be repaired tomorrow, then ceiling tiles will be replaced. Some drywall repair and painting will also need to be done. The Seward Library Foundation plans to fund an update to the entire children's area, providing more shelving for the junior Fiction collection and more. It is hoped this can be accomplished when programs are not taking place, mostly like next May.

Budget: The end of budget year claims that were submitted after the September board meeting are available for your review. The library spent \$13,000 less than the estimated budget numbers that were listed.

November Schedule: As a reminder, the library is closed this Friday for the Read Aloud Nebraska workshop previously discussed. The library will also be closed on November 11 for Veteran's Day and on November 25 and 26 for the Thanksgiving holiday.

Statistics:

Circulation for October was up 253 from last year and was down 476 from last month. Overdrive numbers for October were not yet available, but we did receive notice that the September numbers received higher than normal reimbursements from the Nebraska Library Commission, who used one-time ARPA funds for this.

Total collection now numbers 58,518.

Attendance for October was up 1,379 from last year and up from last month by 475.

Computer use was up 13 from last year and up 12 from last month. Wireless use was up 1,279 from last year and up 1,014 from last month.

Window use was down 266 from last year and down 181 from last month.

3. CONSENT ITEMS

Pfabe moved to approve the consent items. Dahms seconded the motion. Voting aye: Pfabe, Croston, Dahms, Lamberty and Hill. Voting nay: None. Absent and not voting: None.

Meeting adjourned at 8:23 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephanie Croston, Secretary