

SEWARD MEMORIAL LIBRARY BOARD MEETING

Wednesday, March 2, 2022 8AM

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

Absent: None 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, 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:

Children's programs run through the last week of March. To date the preschool "no registration" approach seems to be working, though attendance has not come close to what it was pre-COVID. After-school programs, still with registration since materials need prepared in advance, are also down in attendance but have satisfactory numbers to continue offering them.

A Scrabble tournament is scheduled for March 12, from 9:30-2:30. The top three cumulative scores will receive prizes.

Movies shown in March consist of Oscar-nominated titles for adults and children. Two extra adult movies will be shown and four children's titles are advertised.

Colette Yellow Robe is the spring speaker for the Arthur Clarke Diversity Lecture Series. She is planning to speak on Sunday, March 27 at 2:00 p.m. about her family's experience with boarding schools and the long-term effects of this program on indigenous people.

Staff continues to plan for National Library Week; April 3–9. Book Review Bingo will be held on April 7 at 6:30 p.m. and the York drama students will present April 9 at 10:00 a.m. Other activity planning is ongoing.

This month's book group activities include Reader's Choice discussing The Henna Artist by Alka Joshi on March 14, Midday Mysteries reading The Bat by Jo Nesbo for March 15, and Random Reads discussing Birdbaths and Paper Cranes by Sharon Randall on March 28. R&R continues to discuss current books read and will meet on March 10.

Summer planning is going well, with the kickoff celebration scheduled for Saturday, May 21. Reading clubs for all ages will begin the following Monday. One "major" program is scheduled each week in June, and in July the escape rooms will run.

Operations:

Staffing: It's been some time in coming, but I'm pleased to say that the library is finally at full staff.

S(h)elf Improvement Project: The new shelving will arrive in May. Staff feels that with all the book moving and shelf construction, the library should close to the public May 9–14, with the drive-up window open. Pfabe moved to close to the public May 9-14 for the shelf installation. Lamberty seconded the motion. Voting aye: Pfabe, Lamberty, Dahms, Croston and Hill. Voting nay: None. Absent and not voting: None.

Collections: Staff has been brainstorming many ideas about space and collections here, and one change that will happen this summer is that the cake pans will be shelved in the Cooking section. New shelving is being purchased with ARPA funds to make this possible. They will be more visible and hopefully used more once this occurs. Storage space for game tubs will open up once this happens.

Building: The drywall repair hasn't happened yet but a firm has been given the go-ahead. A smoke detector in the lower level is going bad, and this analog model is no longer available. A quote to replace all or part of them has been requested but not yet received. In the meantime, staff has asked the alarm monitoring company to disregard this particular alarm, and we've all become better at resetting the east fire alarm panel.

COVID: The library is distributing home test kits from Four Corners Health Dep't. We have received 500 to hand out at our drive-up window and can request more if needed; the limit is six per person.

Statistics:

	This month	Last month	Last year
Circulation	6,516	6,435	5,025
Overdrive (SML patrons)	1,506	1,762	1,387
Overdrive (ILL to others)	1,698	1,849	1,720
Collection	58,957	59,269	57,152
Attendance	3,800	3,958	1,607
Computer Use	103	83	47
Wireless Use	6,863	7,788	8,317
Window	316	286	572

3. ANNUAL POLICY REVIEW AND ANY NEEDED UPDATES – Program, Gift and Emergency Policies

After review, consensus of the Board was to clarify that delivery locations include independent and assisted living facilities and to better explain sheltering in place in case of tornado. No intent was changed by either clarification.

4. CONSENT ITEMS

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephanie Croston, Secretary