

SEWARD MEMORIAL LIBRARY BOARD MEETING

Wednesday, November 2, 2022 8AM

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

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 Hill, who highlighted the availability of the Open Meetings Act.

2. LIBRARIAN'S REPORT

Programs:

Vickie Schaepler, an Arthur Clarke Diversity Lecture Series speaker, addressed about 25 attendees on October 16. Her talk was titled *Saving a Legacy: Japanese and Japanese Americans in Nebraska* and was very good. The library has arranged for Sharon Ishii-Jordan to be the speaker for the spring 2023 talk. A holiday walk around the square kicks off on November 26 as part of the Chamber's Christmas Festival. It will continue through mid-December so that more local participation is possible. Friends of Seward Library will host a December 3 event, inviting children to write a letter to Santa and they will receive a letter back with a postmark of North Pole, Alaska. Jerry Pfabe will present "Christmas in Seward's Past: From 1900 to Recent Years" on December 11. Children's programs finish the fall season this week.

This month's book group activities include Reader's Choice discussing *Bones of Paradise* by Jonis Agee on November 14, Midday Mysteries reading *Under the Harrow* by Flynn Berry for November 15, and Random Reads talking about *North River* by Pete Hamill on November 28. R&R continues to discuss current books read and will meet on November 10.

Operations:

Storm Damage: The tower room seating has been returned and it looks good. The Pella window replacement may begin later this month. All city facilities needing to be re-shingled will be done as one project, but it is looking like a spring project. The remaining damage from the hail storm is still being addressed by staff.

Seward Library Foundation: This support group has kicked off a "soft" fundraiser, "The Story Continues" is the tagline, in support of the remodeling for adjusted room use in the library. The goal is \$100,000 which includes any necessary furniture as well as the construction work.

Statistics:

	This month	Last month	Last year
Circulation	6,469	6,192	6,298
Overdrive (SML patrons)	N/A	1,596	1,380
Overdrive (ILL to others)	N/A	1,467	1,668
Collection	58,323	57,965	58,518
Attendance	4,216	4,254	3,891
Computer Use	95	108	93
Wireless Use	7,471	6,890	8,019
Window	273	198	266

3. PHYSICAL FACILITY POLICY REVIEW AND ANY NEEDED ACTION – To consider update of room reservations allowed per month

Baker discussed current meeting room use, comparing it to existing Library Board policy. It appears that increasing the number of allowed uses per month per patron/group would not be an issue as room uses, since COVID, have leveled off or slightly declined. She felt the Board could change the policy now or initiate a trial run for a few months in order to better judge the effect of increasing the number of allowed uses per month. After discussion, the consensus of the Board was to have staff judge the impact of increasing the meeting room limit until the April Library Board meeting, when this policy will be reviewed again.

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 8:10 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephanie Croston, Secretary