

SEWARD MEMORIAL LIBRARY BOARD MEETING

Wednesday, March 1, 2023 8AM

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

Absent: None

Also: Rich Wergin, City Council 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 Hill, who highlighted the availability of the Open Meetings Act.

2. LIBRARIAN'S REPORT

Programs:

Children's programs will end the week of March 27.

Marci Broyhill had a great presentation on February 19 titled Nebraska's Outlaw Train, Highway 12. Unfortunately, only 15 patrons attended the program. Hopefully we can do better when Jeff Barnes comes on March 26 at 2:00. His program title is "Marking Nebraska." The Diversity Lecture series speaker is Sharon Ishii-Jordan and she will be here on April 23. The line dancing program is going great and staff is working with the instructor about continuing this past the advertised ending date of March 30. National Library Week plans will be finalized for your review next month.

Extra movies will be shown this month to call attention to some that were nominated for an Oscar. Several of these have already been shown here.

Summer planning to date includes the kickoff party on May 20 with the reading clubs to begin that day and run through the end of July. Weekly "big" events, many featuring local businesses, are scheduled in June with some details still being finalized.

This month's book group activities include Reader's Choice discussing The Guest List by Lucy Foley on March 13, Midday Mysteries reading The Mystery of Hunting's End by Mignon Eberhart for March 21, and Random Reads talking about Daisy Jones & the Six by Taylor Jenkins Reid on March 27. R&R continues to discuss current books read and will meet on March 9.

Operations:

Storm Damage: The tower repair is now complete, as is the replacement of the silhouette lights outside. The drywall damage during window replacement has not yet been repaired, and after an inquiry earlier this week may get scheduled with another firm. One other exterior light fixture replacement and replacing 68 feet of gutter and downspout still needs to be done. The shingled roof will be replaced this spring as part of the larger city project.

Seward Library Foundation: "The Story Continues..." promotion to raise some funds for the remodeling project has brought in \$10,000 to date. The work itself will most likely begin in about a month – items (like a door to one of the new study rooms) have been ordered and work will get started when supplies arrive. Staff has started to end the non-fiction in preparation for moving some of these shelving units to the lower level to make room for patron areas for desktops and laptops once the lab goes away. Some furniture will be designated as surplus by the City.

Friends of Seward Library: Their spring meeting will be held on March 8 at 6:30; all are welcome.

CROSTON PRESENT

Staff: We have hired three new employees: Library Clerks Amanda Gauthier and Laura Gruntorad and Library Substitute Leah Bauder. February hours were for training and now they will begin their regular schedule.

July Board meeting: I am planning to be on vacation from June 26 – July 5 and Niki also plans to be gone on July 5. Little in the way of reports will be ready for the scheduled meeting date of July 5 due to this. You are welcome to still meet if you like but it may be more beneficial to put the meeting off a few days. You have plenty of time to consider alternatives.

Statistics:

	Last month	Two months prior	Last year
Circulation		6,292	6,516
Overdrive (SML patrons)		1,792	1,506
Overdrive (ILL to others)		2,502	1,698
Collection		59,138	58,957
Attendance		3,664	3,800
Computer Use		78	103
Wireless Use		6,581	6,863
Window		221	260

No current statistics were available due to this meeting being held on the first of the month.

3. CIRCULATION POLICY UPDATE – Move to adopt changes to section B: Overdue Materials for fine and fee penalties to match library software functionality

After review of three scenarios, consensus of the Board is to implement removing all letter fees for delinquent accounts and increasing fines for all 14-day items as a trial until April's meeting, at which time wording of the policy will be addressed as appropriate.

4. ANNUAL POLICY REVIEW – Program, Gift, and Emergency Policies

After review, Pfabe moved and Lamberty seconded to update the program policy to no longer require a Seward Memorial Library card for those attending children's programs, limiting registration to selected programs, and to remove the sentence referring to adult technology classes. Voting aye: Pfabe, Lamberty, Dahms, Croston and Hill. Voting nay: None. Absent and not voting: None.

Baker stated she was waiting for a response from the City Treasurer regarding a sentence in the Gift Policy. This item was tabled.

After review of the Emergency and Safety Policy, Pfabe moved and Dahms seconded to remove references to specific documents in the introductory paragraph and replace them with generic phrasing. Voting aye: Pfabe, Lamberty, Dahms, Croston and Hill. Voting nay: None. Absent and not voting: None.

5. CONSENT ITEMS

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 a.m.
Respectfully submitted,
Jerry Pfabe, Secretary Pro Tem