

SEWARD MEMORIAL LIBRARY BOARD MEETING

Wednesday, May 4, 2022 8AM

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

May programs include: May the Fourth (Be With You) Star Wars party tonight, Marie Kondo webinar tomorrow night, and the Summer Reading Kickoff street party on May 21. Summer plans are set and will be publicized using specially printed bookmarks that are in the process of being distributed, among other methods. Reading Challenges for all ages and a community scavenger hunt begin May 23. June family programs include Henry Doorly Zoo on 6/1, Ethan Boggs Balloon Creations on 6/9, Wildlife Encounters on 6/14, magician Keith West on 6/23, and a String Beans concert on 6/30. Programs for young children include Toddler Tuesdays beginning 5/31 and Story Time beginning 6/1. Friday afternoon movies will also be hosted for families. July programs include escape rooms, a Percy Jackson party on 7/14, a stuffed animal sleepover on 7/21, and a Pokémon party on 7/28. If participants in the Reading Challenges meet their goals, a pool party and a pizza party may be involved to end the 2022 summer reading program.

This month's book group activities include Reader's Choice discussing The Time Traveler's Wife by Audrey Niffenegger on May 16 (rescheduled from May 9), Midday Mysteries reading Deadline by Sandra Brown for May 17, and Random Reads discussing Plain Heathen Mischief by Martin Clark on May 23. R&R continues to discuss current books read and will meet on May 19 (rescheduled from May 12).

Operations:

S(h)elf Improvement Project: The library will be closed to the public, except for the drive-up window, May 9 – May 14. Staff is doing prep work this week before the construction actually begins. The major book-moving will take place Thursday all day. In advance of this, some weeding of the collection has already been taking place and will continue through next week at least. This weeding was started earlier than in previous years, but it made sense to get it done before moving books in and out of storage. Staff was told this week that the shelf end panels won't be ready until the week of Memorial Day at the soonest. Plus, iPads that are replacing the OPACs in the children's area will not be available until the very end of May at the soonest. So the project's completion date has been extended by a few weeks, but the area will be able to be used sooner.

Building: The drywall repair is complete. Someone once again damaged a pergola pillar and this time did not leave their information with us. It was repaired Tuesday of this week. The Seward Library Foundation felt strongly enough that the faulty smoke detector should be replaced that they said to proceed with replacing all of them, and that if the library budget falls short of covering that cost they will assist in September with a donation. In other words, they will be the safety net for this cost. They also approved paying for the landscaping costs for the west area along Highway 15 as suggested by an arborist who works for the City of Seward.

Statistics:

	This month	Last month	Last year
Circulation	6,536	7,285	5,612
Overdrive (SML patrons)	1550	1,534	1,307
Overdrive (ILL to others)	1599	1,732	1,827
Collection	58,921	58,883	57,772
Attendance	4,044	4,412	2,707
Computer Use	86	96	76
Wireless Use	7,792	7,883	7,809
Window	226	262	406

3. 2022-2023 BUDGET – Update

Baker shared the budget numbers staff has gathered to date. She shared that on May 10 she will meet with the City Administrator and the City Treasurer to go through the budget line by line and they will fill in numbers for many of the accounts. Staff is waiting to hear back from four companies the library contracts with for services; many companies are hesitant to commit to specific price increases due to the current economic situation, supply issues, etc. Staff also needs to discuss the number of computer replacements needed during the next fiscal year.

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 8:15 a.m.
Respectfully submitted,
Stephanie Croston, Secretary