

## SEWARD MEMORIAL LIBRARY BOARD MEETING

Wednesday, January 3, 2024 8AM

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

Absent: Bob Dahms

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 begin the week of January 22 and most will continue through the last week of March. Toddler Time runs into April. Wednesday afternoons feature two after school programs for different age groups. Staff expects to have assistance from Concordia University students as well as from Karri Hood, an adult woman who will be paid by the state while working here afternoons this spring.

Jacquelyn Shranz is working on an application for a Nebraska Arts Council grant to fund a series of classes primarily for senior citizens. The topic is origami, if the grant is received. On February 25 Jeff Barnes will present a new Jesse James program and on March 24 the Arthur Clarke Diversity Lecture speaker is Sherri Tolliver. National Library Week in April kicks off with Pat Leach speaking on Sunday April 7 and concludes with the York University theater students. Events during the week will include another puzzle tournament as well as Book Review Bingo.

This month's book group activities include Reader's Choice discussing What Alice Forgot by Liane Moriarty on January 8, Midday Mysteries reading Sharp Objects by Gillian Flynn for January 16, and Random Reads talking about The Chaperone by Laura Moriarty on January 22. R&R continues to discuss current books read and will meet on January 11.

#### Operations:

Building: Gutter repairs remain on the list from the 2022 hail storm; the copper material makes this more difficult. The light fixture, I have learned, is one of the parking lot lights and not on the building itself as I had assumed, so I've asked the Electric Department if hail actually damaged any of these lights. The roof repair is done as is the silhouette light repair. The monitor in Meeting Room C downstairs has been installed and the last bit of shelving in the furniture storage room downstairs is also installed. Shelving for the administrative area was received but many of the shelves themselves were warped so we are working with Cornhusker State Industries to get this corrected.

Collection Rearrangement: With the reduction in the number of magazines now being received, the fireplace room location for the current year's issues is now only along the east wall. The shelves on the north framework in the fireplace room will be swapped with shelves in the Library of Things room (former Director's Office) and then puzzles will be moved to the fireplace room. This will allow for better arrangement and space (where the puzzles now are located) for adult bestsellers and non-fiction titles compared to where they are currently located. The slanted shelving with storage behind them will also work better than flat shelving for the smaller Library of Things items. The audio and video collections may also be looked at as these other areas get moved around. All of this moving is flexible, as staff won't know for sure if it will work like we imagine until we actually do it.

#### Statistics:

	Last month	Two months prior	Last year
Circulation	5,904	6,553	5,804
Overdrive (SML patrons)	n/a	1,932	1,479
Overdrive (ILL to others)	n/a	2,112	2,093
Collection	55,537	55,820	59,086
Attendance	3,654	4,298	3,535
Computer Use	131	129	74
Wireless Use	3,689	4,021	7,004
Window	214	219	395

### 3. ANNUAL REPORT – Discuss format options

After reviewing last year's annual report format, the Board members present felt it was fine to follow the same format. The insert page should include information and/or photos of the renovation and the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary events. The report will be available for review at next month's meeting and will be presented to the City Council after that.

### 6. CONSENT ITEMS

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:13 a.m.  
Respectfully submitted,  
Stephanie Croston, Secretary