

## SEWARD MEMORIAL LIBRARY BOARD MEETING

Wednesday, March 6, 2024 8AM

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

Absent: Juanita Hill

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 8:05 a.m. by Vice-Chairman Lamberty, who highlighted the availability of the Open Meetings Act.

### **2. LIBRARIAN'S REPORT**

#### Programs:

Most children's programs end this month. Toddler Time will continue into April. Summer's eight program weeks each feature a different subject, under the umbrella theme of Adventure Begins at Your Library. The reading clubs for all ages will run May 20 – July 26. A finale pizza party (one for all ages) will wrap up the summer festivities.

On February 25 Jeff Barnes presented "A Bad Man in a Better Place: Jesse James in Nebraska" to 27 attendees. The Arthur Clarke Diversity Lecture for March 24 features Haroon Al Hayder, a Yazidi originally from Iraq. The origami class begins next Monday and runs for six weeks, concluding with an open house event for all ages.

National Library Week in April includes: Sunday/Pat Leach, Monday/eclipse program, Tuesday/puzzle tourney, Wednesday/family craft night, Thursday/Book Review Bingo, and Saturday/York University presentation. Staff is planning eclipse activities from 1:00-1:30 on April 8 and would like to close from 1:30-2:15 or 2:30 to allow all present to go to parking lot to view the eclipse. Pfabe moved to close from 1:30-2:30 on April 8 for eclipse viewing. Dahms seconded the motion. Voting aye: Pfabe, Dahms, Croston and Lamberty. Voting nay: none. Absent and not voting: Hill.

This month's book group activities include Reader's Choice discussing I am Malala by Malala Yousafzai on March 11, Middy Mysteries reading Golden Hour by Beatriz Williams for March 19, and Random Reads talking about The Dutch House by Ann Patchett on March 25. R&R continues to discuss current books read and will meet March 14.

#### Operations:

Building: The color for the gutter and downspout replacement has been chosen and the silhouette lights have been removed in preparation for gutter replacement. Once the new fixtures are in place the lights will be reinstalled. Quotes for repairs/upgrades to the lower level conference center technology have been received as part of our Seward County Gives campaign work. The roof overhang that was hit will be looked at when Sampson Construction has time. Work on the water main replacement west of the library has impacted access to the parking lot on occasion. Hopefully this part of the project is done soon. A potential issue with the library's fire suppression system may exist but options are being investigated.

Meeting Room Use: For the most part the library has been able to accommodate the extra meeting room requests received due to the Civic Center being closed. There have been some scheduling conflicts and only one case to date that needed far more than allowed by policy, plus they also had a few conflicts. Otherwise it has been going remarkably well. On April 19 the NFWC state convention is here and they need into the lower level of the library early. Staff members have been identified who can come in early, so the group will pay the extra fee for this. I believe this may be the first time this aspect of the room policy has been put into use.

Grants: As reported last month a Nebraska Arts Council grant was received and an origami class will begin next week. This year's Seward County Gives request by the Seward Library Foundation will be for support for improvements to our lower level's a/v technology. The Friends of Seward Library and the Seward Foundation will also be asked for funding for this project. Applications for the Nebraska State Historical Society Foundation grants are due at the end of March and besides digitizing and posting of missing newspaper years, other preservation projects are being considered and your ideas are welcome.

Staff: Nichole Koprince has added another part-time job to her life, so she will most likely be changing from a Library Clerk to a Library Sub as she won't be able to work the evening shift here, which she was hired to do. Details are still being worked out.

#### Statistics:

	Last month	Two months prior	Last year
Circulation	6,369	6,747	6,516
Overdrive (SML patrons)	2,023	2,220	1,506
Overdrive (ILL to others)	2,278	2,672	1,698
Collection	55,565	55,294	58,957
Attendance	4,459	4,001	3,800
Computer Use	130	119	103
Wireless Use	4,235	3,838	6,863
Window	240	234	260

### **3. ANNUAL POLICY REVIEW** – Program, Gift, and Emergency

After review of the Program Policy, Pfabe moved to add "or fees" in the first paragraph. Dahms seconded the motion. Voting aye: Pfabe, Dahms, Croston and Lamberty. Voting nay: None. Absent and not voting: Hill. After review of the Gift Policy, Pfabe moved to add a sentence explaining that items not added to the library collection may be sold by the Friends and to add Seward Memorial Library as a possible issuer of donor receipt letters. Dahms seconded the motion. Voting aye: Pfabe, Dahms, Croston and Lamberty. Voting nay: None. Absent and not voting: Hill. After review, no changes were made to the Emergency Policy.

### **4. CONSENT ITEMS**

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:22 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephanie Croston, Secretary