

SEWARD MEMORIAL LIBRARY BOARD MEETING

Wednesday, Sept 4, 2024 8AM

Board Members Present: Juanita Hill, Stephanie Croston, and Bob Dahms

Absent: Nancy Lamberty, Jerrald Pfabe

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:

Summer summary:

Event	Date	# sessions	# attend
Story Time	All	8	57
Toddler Time	All	8	86
Kickoff Party	18-May	1	235
Park Scavenger Hunt	May	1	82
String Beans	June	1	97
July Scavenger Hunt	July	1	67
Afternoon Programs	All	23	1,129
Escape Rooms	All	55	245
Finale Party	30-July	1	95
Total inc ST/TT		99	2,093
Summer Reading Club		Registered	Books Read
	Kids	200	3,085
	Teens	50	1,470
	Adults	190	3,260

Fall programs began yesterday and many families visited the library. Adult programs for the fall session are set, including a London travelogue the first Sunday in October. A new adult program will kick off this week: Just for Fun Fridays from 1:30-3:00 weekly. The first Friday will feature 10 Point Pitch, BINGO will take place the second Friday, the third Friday staff will present a craft activity and the fourth puzzles. Staff is hoping for a great crowd for these events! They will run through December and then staff will evaluate for the spring.

This month's book group activities include Reader's Choice discussing *Dancing With the Octopus* by Debora Harding on September 9 (open to all who want to discuss this One Book, One Nebraska title), Midday Mysteries reading *The Guest List* by Lucy Foley for September 17, and Random Reads talking about *Remarkable Creatures* by Tracy Chevalier on September 30 (a week late). R&R continues to discuss current books read and will meet September 12. Staff will resurrect the Young at Heart group due to patron interest and it begins this November.

Operations:

Building: The lights in the main level meeting room will be swapped to LED today, and the dimmer reinstalled.

Budget: Numbers have been presented to Council with no changes in the last month. A copy is included in your packet for review. Thanks to the Seward Library Foundation the library is receiving four new computers: two for the public and two for staff. The final date to submit invoices for this fiscal year is September 23. Staff is working to make sure the most needed items are funded (supplies, e-books, maintenance issues).

Staffing: Emily Parker from Lincoln has been hired as our new Library Clerk and Kali Hast and Tristin Cutshall-Cherry have been hired as substitute workers. The library is back to being fully staffed.

Statistics:

	Last month	Two months prior	Last year
Circulation	6,967	9,306	7,464
Overdrive (SML patrons)	2,079	2,062	1,886
Overdrive (ILL to others)	1,698	1,975	1,579
Collection	55,768	55,513	54,785
Attendance	4,267	5,274	4,534
Computer Use	159	189	125
Wireless Use	4,351	4,261	5,479
Window	237	220	211

3. ANNUAL REVIEW OF PERSONNEL AND INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM POLICIES

After review of the Personnel Policy, Baker suggested changing the words "performance management target system" to a more generic reference to the City's current practice. This does not change any intent. The Board members present agreed. The Intellectual Freedom Policy was moved to be part of the Collection Development Policy last December. After reviewing that section, the board members present agreed to leave it where it was moved and to make no changes at this time.

4. CONSENT ITEMS

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:17 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephanie Croston, Secretary