

SEWARD MEMORIAL LIBRARY BOARD MEETING

Wednesday, October 2, 2024 8AM

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

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:

Fall programs for children are going very well. Both preschool programs are very well attended so far. The new STEM after school program is also going well, as are the other two. Programs will run into November this year.

Adult programs were not quite as well attended. The two September special programs were very well done, but less than 20 attended each one. This coming Sunday is a London travelogue and October 13 is our ASRT book discussion so hopefully these will bring in more folks. Similarly, the Just for Fun Fridays have been sparsely attended. Staff will continue these programs at least through October; hopefully numbers will improve! Line Dancing is also smaller, having around 10 in attendance each month. Staff will discuss programs at this afternoon's staff meeting.

This month's book group's will meet together in honor of National Reading Group month. On October 15 at noon reader's will discuss *Those Who Save Us* by Jenna Blum. R&R continues to discuss current books read and will meet on an alternate date due to the Nebraska Library Association conference on the normal date.

Operations:

End of Year: Invoices were turned in by the deadline to finish this budget year slightly under the estimated expenditures, once donation income and expenses are removed. Those amounts were higher than estimated but they have no impact on tax dollars. Some reorganization of statistics was done to start the new year as well. Many thanks are owed to Niki Wortman for handling a lot of this as conflicts interfered with the usual workload division.

Library Plan: Emily Parker, the new Library Clerk, is currently taking a class on library planning, so staff has entrusted her with updating what currently exists. In 2025 the library is due to be reaccredited, so more serious attention will be paid to the plan at that time. Hopefully Emily will be available for that as well!

Christmas Festival Weekend: Both the main and lower-level large rooms will be used for Chamber events that weekend with the Civic Center being closed. The library's involvement will be the holiday story walk around the square.

Grant for Board Games: Staff members are asking for grant money from various sources to purchase more board games for children, along with the plastic containers they circulate in. Funds are being requested from the Seward Foundation, the Seward Library Foundation, Friends of Seward Library, and the Nebraska Library Commission.

Statistics:

	Last month	Two months prior	Last year
Circulation	6,281	6,967	6,473
Overdrive (SML patrons)	n/a	2,079	1,802
Overdrive (ILL to others)	n/a	1,698	1,578
Collection	56,110	55,768	55,222
Attendance	4,513	4,267	4,149
Computer Use	123	159	106
Wireless Use	4,185	4,351	4,185
Window	214	237	202

3. COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT POLICY – Clarification in Reconsideration of Materials procedures

To further clarify the intent of the recently adopted policy, the following sentence will be added to paragraph E.1.c.: Further objections to the item will not be considered during this time period. This does not change the intent of the policy only clarifies it. Pfabe moved to approve this addition. Dahms seconded the motion. Voting aye: Pfabe, Dahms, Croston, Lamberty, and Hill. Voting nay: None. Absent and not voting: None. Motion carried.

4. 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. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:13 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephanie Croston, Secretary