

SEWARD MEMORIAL LIBRARY BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, August 8, 2017 4:30 PM

Board Members Present: Bruce Creed, Stephanie Croston, Juanita Hill, and Nancy Lamberty.
Absent: Bob Dahms
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, County Courthouse, 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 4:35 p.m. by Chairman Juanita Hill, who highlighted the availability of the Open Meetings Act.

2. LIBRARIAN'S REPORT

A. Programs: Summer reading programs have ended and the summer reading club will end this Thursday at noon. Awards for the reading club will be handed out Friday at the county fair. The reading club store will be open on August 19 and 20 for all children who choose to participate. Numbers for all the summer programs will be available at the next Board meeting. The adults in Seward pulled through in the end to read more than York, so the trophy remains here for another year.

Upcoming book group titles are:

Midday Mysteries: *Dry Bones in the Valley* by Tom Bouman
Best of NYT: *Black Elk Speaks* by John C. Neihardt (a community discussion time)
Random Reads: *The Professor's Daughter* by Emily Raboteau

The Library sent out 221 *Leading to Reading* cards last month.

B. Operations: Connect Seward County: This group continues to work to raise funds; meeting the goal of the challenge gift is a high priority. There was no benefit to doing a group order, so the equipment will just be ordered when the money is available. To date the group has raised \$500 of the \$1,000 matching grant, so \$500 more is needed to get the most from the match.

Used Book Sale: The boxes of books that were left out drew a lot of interest at first but lately that has died down. Instead of taking the books to be recycled Goodwill will take them; the truck will come Friday between 11:00 and 11:30 to pick them up.

Eclipse: The library has been inundated with phone calls and visitors asking about the free glasses that all libraries supposedly have to give away. The free glasses received here came with the stipulation that they be given to program attendees, which staff only discovered after the order for 2,000 additional glasses was submitted. After follow-up conversations with the organization who received the grant which paid for the glasses being distributed to libraries, outreach programs count as well as in-house programs so staff has been doing many of these. Partnering with community agencies was also strongly encouraged so glasses have been shared with those organizations who were part of the library's committee meetings. Well over 100 have registered for the program here on August 21st. Staff would like to close the library from at least 12:45 to 1:15 so that all may view the total eclipse. Creed made a motion to close the library from 12:30 to 1:15 during the eclipse on August 21, 2017. Lamberty seconded the motion. Voting aye: Croston, Creed, Hill and Lamberty. Voting nay: none. Absent and not voting: Dahms. Motion carried. Baker mentioned that if it is cloudy the library will not close.

Sesquicentennial: This committee will meet August 9 at 7:00 p.m. here at the library if any of you would like to participate. The library did not have a specific August event connected to this celebration.

Facilities: The exterior doors of the drive up window quit working (wouldn't shut) so the repairman was called once again. He had to order a part so the window has been out of commission for over a week. It should be repaired soon but will probably be another expensive bill. Staff has ordered a new phone system as the digital answering machine feature of the current phone system is failing and many messages that are left cannot be understood. This will be put into place as soon as enough staff members are available to get it done, possibly next Monday.

C. Statistics: Circulation for last month is down 2,876 from the previous month and down 847 from last year. Circulation for the previous 12 months now totals 104,321, not including OverDrive use. The collection now stands at 54,276 items not counting OverDrive resources.

Attendance for last month is down 2,019 from the previous month and up 544 from last year.

Computer use was up 41 from last month and down 47 from last year.

3. CIRCULATION POLICY-Clarification regarding children's accounts

Lamberty moved to adopt clarification as presented by adding a sentence stating that children under 17 will be linked to a parent's account, if one exists. Creed seconded the motion. Voting aye: Croston, Creed, Hill and Lamberty. Voting nay: none. Absent and not voting: Dahms. Motion carried.

4. 2017-18 BUDGET-Review current status

The current draft was reviewed. A City Council work session is scheduled for Aug 22 at 7:00 pm.

5. ANNUAL POLICY REVIEW-Personnel, Facilities, Intellectual Freedom

No changes made.

6. CONSENT ITEMS

Creed moved and Lamberty seconded that consent items a, b, & c be approved. Voting aye: Croston, Creed, Hill and Lamberty. Voting nay: none. Absent and not voting: Dahms. Motion carried.

Creed announced he will be leaving the state in a few months so a replacement for him will need to be found. He was thanked for his years of service.

Meeting adjourned at 5:08 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Stephanie Croston, Secretary