

SEWARD MEMORIAL LIBRARY BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, January 12, 2016 4:30 PM

Board Members Present: Stephanie Croston, Bruce Creed, Juanita Hill, and Nancy Lamberty.

Absent: Bob Dahms.

Also: Barbara Pike, Councilman, 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: Spring programs are scheduled to begin the week of January 25. The same schedule as from the fall will be used and advertising for open spots is being done at this time.

Upcoming book group titles are:

Midday Mysteries: The cat who went into the closet by Lilian Jackson Braun

Best of NYT: The invention of wings by Sue Monk Kidd

Random Reads: Lord Foul's Bane by Stephen R. Donaldson

The special programs over the last month were very popular. The Noon Year's Eve party brought in 103 attendees and everything went great. Most of the groups were very young children and their caregiver. The Harry Potter party had 30 attendees, mainly middle school students and a few elementary aged students and a few parents. This also went very well.

A staff person is visiting Seward Elementary each day this week, reading aloud to two different classrooms over their lunch period. This week's Literary Lunch is an experiment before staff tries to expand it to other schools and grades.

The Library sent out 252 *Leading to Reading* cards last month.

B. Operations: Youth Services Grant: The Seward Foundation did approve additional money for this so the AWE project was fully funded. The desktop version is in the children's area on the new table with chairs, but the security cable for the tablet version is not here yet, so staff is keeping that one back. Staff has not discussed any policy suggestions; we thought we would just see how the use goes before asking the Board to consider a specific policy.

Building: The highway sign is back in place and looks great. Several more leaks have appeared; later this week representatives from the roofing company and the insurance company are meeting here to look at the membrane roof to determine if hail damage from the last storm has caused this trouble. We certainly want to get this taken care of as soon as possible; we have had to pay for a lot of repairs and replace a lot of ceiling tiles! A pipe going to the heat pump that serves the lower level conference center had a hairline crack and water was dripping from it to the floor. Because we needed to use that room and the replacement pipe was not available for 2-3 weeks, the same piece was "borrowed" from the heat pump that handles the east small meeting/study rooms. Staff is leaving the doors open to the small rooms during the day and overnight so they don't get too chilly, though we are closing them during the after school time period. Hopefully this will be resolved soon. A release from Great Plains Communication was received, absolving them from any further payments for heat pump repairs. I've been asked to hold on to it for now, though I think it is probably ok to sign off on it. The release is not for the tree that was potentially damaged – that will be looked at later this spring.

Patron Type: At a recent CASTL meeting the attendees discussed how "problem" patrons were handled locally. One library said they've created a user type that is probationary – this is used for a patron who was restricted and before they can return to a standard patron type they have to keep the probationary account good for a set time (like a year). Is this something you would like to consider, or have staff talk about?

Newspaper microfilm project: We are still waiting for the release form from the SCI.

Strategic Plan: A goal from our current plan calls for setting up a committee of interested parties to discuss a community-wide event "calendar" of some sort. Suggestions for who should be involved are now being gathered, if you would like some input on that.

C. Statistics: Circulation for the previous month is up 134 from last month and down 193 from last year. Circulation for the previous 12 months now totals 111,991, not including OverDrive use. The collection now stands at 57,602 items not counting OverDrive resources.

Attendance is up 621 from last month and down 241 from last year.

Computer use was up 118 from last month and up 68 from last year.

3. Annual Report-review draft

Board reviewed the annual report and made a few suggestions.

4. CONSENT ITEMS

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

Meeting adjourned at 4:58PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Stephanie Croston, Secretary