

Gering Public Library

1055 P Street
Gering, Nebraska 69341
www.gering.org/library

Phone: (308) 436-7433
Fax: (308) 436-6869
Email: gpl@geringlibrary.org

The Gering Public Library Board will meet on Tuesday, October 17th, at 5:00 p.m. in the Gering Library Community Room.

AGENDA

- 1) Call to order
- 2) Public Comments (Board reserves the right to limit the length of time a citizen may speak)
- 3) Approval of minutes as written
- 4) Reading and approval of statistical & financial reports
- 5) Approval of the bills
- 6) Library Director's report
- 7) City Council Liaison Report
- 8) Gering Library Foundation Liaison Report
- 9) Unfinished business
 - Consider Public Policy changes.
- 10) New business
- 11) Closed session (Board reserves the right to enter into closed session if deemed necessary)

MINUTES OF THE September 19, 2023 BOARD MEETING

Present:

Board Members: Brad Gross, Mary Robinson, Michelle Moore, Lexi Tallmon

Library Director: Christie Clarke

City Council Liaison: Rebecca Shields

Moore called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m. Next, board members reviewed the August 2023 board meeting minutes. Moore asked for a motion to approve. Robinson moved to approve the minutes and Gross seconded it. The vote was called. "Ayes": Moore, Robinson, Gross, Tallmon. "Nays": none. Abstaining: none. Absent: Kelley. The vote passed unanimously. Next, the board reviewed August stats and expenditures. Tallmon motioned to approve expenditures and statistical reports and Robinson seconded the motion. The vote was called. "Ayes": Moore, Gross, Robinson, Tallmon. "Nays": none. Abstaining: none. Absent: Kelley. The vote passed unanimously. There was no report from the city council.

Director's Report:

1. Clarke reported that Jeff Fiet was hired for the Library Assistant I position and he started on August 16th and is doing an excellent job.
2. Clarke shared that Logan Allen withdrew his application for the Youth Services Library Assistant II full-time position to concentrate on graduate school for his Master of Library and Information Science

degree. The position was awarded to Hayley Grams. She will officially start this new position on October 9th.

3. Clarke noted that the four new pieces of furniture for the adult lounge area had arrived and are in use. Staff have received much positive feedback on the new furniture.

4. Clarke reported that there are two events being planned for Nebraska Library Week. They are a Jane Austen Tea to coincide with the Friends of the Gering Library annual meeting on November 12th and Dog Man Day for November 18th. Clarke asked the board for volunteers for the Dog Man Day event.

5. Clarke shared a thank you card that was sent by a patron who had won one of the hot air balloon rides for the adult summer reading program.

6. Clarke shared that a new Mah Jong adult services program is coming soon. The sign up for this program had already surpassed limits and is proving to be highly popular.

7. Clarke described a family program coming in October called Prime Time Family Reading. This free 6-week program is sponsored by Humanities Nebraska and provides parents/caregivers and children ages 6-10 one night per week with shared children's books, a storyteller, and discussion about the books. A preschool program will run simultaneously in the next room for younger siblings and a free dinner will be provided each week as well.

8. Clarke reported that a severe water leak under the street outside of the library occurred on September 11th and flooded the community room. Efforts were under way by other city departments to find the cause and a permanent solution. A restoration company was called immediately and they began their services to clean the carpet and floors. All September events in the community room were either cancelled, rescheduled, or moved to the city council chamber next door. Clarke shared that more information will be forthcoming as to the specifics about the cause and fix.

Unfinished Business

None

New Business:

-Clarke asked the board to consider closing the library early on October 12th to accommodate short staffing due to the full-time staff going to the CALCON conference. Tallmon motioned to approve the closing and Robinson seconded it. The vote was called. "Ayes": Moore, Robinson, Gross, Tallmon. "Nays": none. Abstaining: none. Absent: Kelley. The vote passed unanimously.

-Clarke asked the board to consider making minor changes to the Public Services Policy to allow Saturday closings when there is a floating holiday and to include the Friday after Thanksgiving to be in harmony with the City of Gering's holiday closings. A discussion was held and the board asked Clarke to write up the policy with the changes and they would vote on it at the next meeting.

Moore adjourned the meeting at 5:56 p.m.

Christie Clarke
Library Director