

MINUTES OF THE June 18, 2024 GERING PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD MEETING

Present:

Board Members: Jeff Kelley, Suzanne Myers, Mary Robinson, Kim Walker,
Public Services Librarian: Sherry Preston

Absent:

Library Director: Christie Clarke
Board Members: Kirstee Moore Schutte
City Council Liaison: Rebecca Shields
Foundation Liaison: Jay Skiles

Kelley called the meeting to order at 5:03 pm and asked if there were any additions or changes to the agenda. There were none.

Board members reviewed the May 2024 board meeting minutes. Kelley asked for a motion to approve. Robinson moved to approve the minutes and Walker seconded it. The vote was called. "Ayes": Kelley, Myers, Robinson, Walker. "Nays": none. Abstaining: none. Absent: Schutte. The vote passed.

The statistical and financial reports for May were reviewed. Kelley called for a motion to approve. Myers moved; Walker seconded the motion. "Ayes": Kelly, Myers, Robinson, Walker. "Nays": none. Abstaining: None. Absent: Schutte. The vote passed.

Board members reviewed the May bills and Kelley called for a motion to approve them. Robinson moved and Walker seconded to approve the bills. The vote was called. "Ayes": Kelley, Myers, Robinson, Walker. "Nays": none. Abstaining: none. Absent: Schutte. The vote passed unanimously.

Director Clarke's Report as shared by Sherry Preston

1. The replacement cabinets for the circulation desk are in as is one of the shelves for the front. Eakes is still waiting on the other front shelf and the ADA access shelf. They want to wait for everything to come in to install.
2. Eakes is trying to get a chair for staff to try out before we make a purchase for the community room and for upstairs. Director Clarke is also pursuing quotes and example chairs from Nebraska Total Office to find the best quality/price.
3. Thank you to Suzanne Myers for volunteering at the SRP kick off. The Kick-off went as well as can be expected with the bad weather that hit. Everyone pulled together and did the best they could and people still attended. Although we do not have an overall attendance number we do have the following stats: 34 adults visited the adult sign-up table; There were 40 Early Literacy sign-ups; 35- K-2nd sign-ups; 26 - 3rd - 5th sign-ups; and 20- teen sign-ups. As of June 8th, there were 223 total sign-ups for kids and teens. A more thorough stats report will be given next month after the conclusion of SRP.

4. Library Page, Jada Whipple, has submitted her resignation and her last day will be August 12th. She will be attending Chadron State College in the fall.
5. We will be advertising for the Page and Library Assistant positions in mid-July.
6. Director Clarke has submitted the library budget for next fiscal year. Department Heads will meet with the City Administrator and Finance Director the week of June 24th to review proposed department budgets. Director Clarke has requested another full-time position to be added to the library. She has requested a Library Assistant II/Adult Services position to work with Public Services Librarian, Sherry Preston on adult programming and services. This will mirror the position created last year for youth services and filled by Hayley Grams. If this request is denied, Director Clarke has requested another part-time Library Assistant II position to be added as an assistant to Public Services.
7. During the last week of May the library lift stopped working again. The City Administrator requested that Wes Robinson, owner of Robinson Electric, take a look at it. Wes worked on it for several days including getting the schematics from the original company and as of today it is working. Board members wanted to know what happens when someone needs to get up or down and the lift is not working. Preston said that worst case the fire department would be tasked to help get patron upstairs.
8. Information for the United for Libraries Virtual Conference was distributed and Director Clark will register board members for the July 30-August 1 conference. July 30th is the day especially designated for trustees.

The Gering Library Foundation Board: No Report

Unfinished Business:

None

New Business

1. Preston explained the plans for the front desk arrangement when the shelves are delivered

Kelley asked for a motion to adjourn. Walker moved and Robinson seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 5:21.

Suzanne Myers
Secretary