

Gering Public Library

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The Gering Public Library Board will meet on Tuesday, May 16th, 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) Unfinished business
- 8) -Appoint a liaison to the Friends of the Gering Library and to the Gering Library Foundation
- 9) New business
 - Review the current Public Services Policy for a small amendment.
 - Discuss having a table at the SRP Kick-off Event
- 10) Closed session (Board reserves the right to enter into closed session if deemed necessary)

MINUTES OF THE April 18, 2023 BOARD MEETING

Present:

Board Members: Tracy Henderson, Michelle Moore, Jeff Kelley

Library Director: Christie Clarke

City Council Liaison: Rebecca Shields

Kelley called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m. Board members reviewed the March 21, 2023 board meeting minutes. Kelley asked for a motion to approve. Henderson moved to approve the minutes and Moore seconded it. The vote was called. "Ayes": Henderson, Moore, Kelley. "Nays": none. Abstaining: none. Absent: Robinson and Gross. The vote passed unanimously. Next, the board reviewed March stats and expenditures. Clarke explained about the newly implemented cash receipts documents and procedures. Henderson motioned to approve expenditures and financial reports and Moore seconded the motion. The vote was called. "Ayes": Henderson, Moore, Kelley. "Nays": none. Abstaining: none. Absent: Gross and Robinson. The vote passed unanimously.

Director's Report:

1. Clarke reported that Library Assistant I, Jan Jolliffe submitted her resignation on March 23 to accept a director's position in a Wyoming library. Her last day was April 7th. The job opened to the public and closed on April 14th. Interviews were held on April 17th. Josh Jensen accepted the position and started work on April 24th.

2. Clarke reported that library page, Jenna Buck, submitted her resignation on April 5th. Her last day will be May 31st. Clarke explained that she does not plan on filling this position for the summer and will give extra hours to the other library page, Jada Whipple, during June and July. Clarke will revisit filling this page position in the fall if necessary.
4. Clarke explained that she is working on the budget for the next fiscal year and plans on asking for one of the current library assistant positions be made a full-time position as an assistant to the youth services librarian. The plan is to allow the youth services librarian to target the teen and tween age groups with more services and programs. If this position change is granted then Clarke plans to hire in house from the current library assistants and the vacated part-time position will not be filled.
3. Clarke explained that in the next phase of the library refresh, the electric department had explored the adult space in preparation of the incoming new public computers and ADA computer desks. Staff has been finalizing the reimagining of the adult space and the public computers will be in a new spot. The electric department decided that an electric access pole would be the best way to go so that we can place the computers anywhere we would like. This pole will be installed by the city electric department
4. Clarke stated that the Summer Reading Kick-off event will be held on May 31st from 3-5 p.m. in Legion Park. She invited all board members to attend. This year's theme is "All Together Now".
5. Clarke reported that library assistant, Logan Allen, has applied for grad school to get his MLIS.
6. Clarke noted that the lift is still having ongoing issues and that the city admin was following up with the city attorney.
7. Clarke reported that the Foundation is taking six months to review their mission and goals. They are exploring other library projects to sponsor.
8. Clarke reported that public services librarian, Sherry Preston, held an extremely successful Spring Lawn Maintenance program with 47 in attendance.
9. Clarke reminded the board that the Friends annual book sale would be held April 19-29 and to please renew their memberships or if they were not already a Friend to consider joining.
10. Clarke reported that security cameras had been ordered and are awaiting install.
11. Clarke stated that Sherry Preston has partnered with Keep Scottsbluff & Gering Beautiful (KSGB) to add four "Litter Kits" to the collection. KSGB provided all of the materials/items for the kits which include a bucket, gloves, trash grabbers and more. Kits may be checked out to use for trash clean up in the community. Clarke shared an informational flyer about the kits. They should be catalogued and ready for check out next month.
12. Clarke noted that Sherry Preston will be participating in the Earth Day Celebration at Uptown Scottsbluff Mall as an outreach activity. Her table will provide information on Earth Day topics as well as like materials available at the Gering Library.
13. Clarke described a new outreach program created by Sherry Preston called Steamworks. It is a monthly program at Heritage Place which will focus on elements of STEAM (Science. Technology. Engineering. Art. Math). This month Preston will provide a fun activity with Boomwhackers which are educational musical tools. Future plans for this exciting new program will include use of tech kits such as simple robots from the Nebraska Library Commission.
14. Clarke announced that Preston held a very successful and new program this month, a Poetry Reading. This program was popular and there are plans to hold more poetry readings in the future.
15. Clarke reported that this year's SMILE program is finished. This year was different because of the kids' collection being on two different levels now. The students adapted nicely and the program was successful.
16. Clarke stated that Perez and library assistant, Hayley Grams are going into the schools next month to promote the Summer Reading Program.

17. Clarke announced that Sherry Preston invites all board members to take a turn writing for the weekly library column and to contact her for more information.

18. Kira Perez is partnering with Target to provide a children's activity for National Library Week. Target is providing materials for children to decorate and take a book bag, a sun catcher for the library window, and a take-home "bookworm" baggie with gummy worms as a treat. Target volunteers will be on hand to help with the activity.

Unfinished Business

None

New Business:

-Henderson motioned for the board to accept her resignation effective May 16, 2023. Moore seconded the motion and a vote was held. "Ayes": Henderson, Moore, Kelley. "Nays": none. Abstaining: none.

Absent: Gross and Robinson. The vote passed unanimously.

-Because there were two absentees the board decided to table choosing a liaison for the Friends of the Gering Library and for the Gering Library Foundation until the May meeting.

-Kelley reported that he watched the ALA video "Board Ethics" for accreditation on his own which provide the necessary CEU's to finalize board accreditation so watching a video as a group at the meeting was not necessary.

-Council Liaison Shields gave a council report. Shields stated that she liked the annual library report that that Kelly and Henderson presented at the March 27th council meeting.

Kelley adjourned the meeting at 5:57 p.m.

Christie Clarke
Library Director