

Geneva Public Library
Library Board Meeting
Tuesday, February 25, 2020

The Geneva Public Library Board met in open session at 5:30 p.m. abiding by the Nebraska Open Meeting Laws, with Deb Novak– president, presiding. Other members in attendance were Trustees Debbie Bullock, Sally Miller, Apryl Schwarz, and Brandon Thompson; and Sarah Johnson, Library Director. No one was absent.

The minutes of the January Board Meeting had been emailed to members, and were also displayed for review. Sally M. made a motion to accept, seconded by Apryl S., and the minutes were approved with the following voting “aye”: Deb, Sally, Apryl, Brandon, and Debbie. No negative votes or abstentions.

The February bills were reviewed. After brief discussion, Sally M. made a motion to pay the bills, Apryl S. seconded the motion, and the bills were approved with the following voting “aye”: Deb, Sally, Apryl, Brandon, and Debbie. No negative votes or abstentions.

Sarah presented the Librarian’s Report. See attached. Special mention was made of two upcoming programs: Nebraska author, Tosca Lee, who will be at the library on May 28 and will be co-sponsored by the Geneva Women’s Club; and Helen Waring Johnson, who will present a program about Weldon Kees (Beatrice native and songwriter) on June 11.

Sarah announced that the newspaper database is now fully operational.

Attorney Paul Bixby drew up three resolutions for the Board to facilitate the transfer of the Board’s assets. The first resolution was to waive the ten-day period required to change the By-laws. Sally M. made a motion, and Brandon T. seconded it with the following voting “aye”: Deb N., Sally M., Apryl S., Brandon T., and Debbie B. No negative votes or abstentions.

Next, the Board voted to amend Article VI, Section 4 of the By-Laws. Apryl S. made a motion, Sally M. seconded the motion, and the following voted “aye”: Deb N., Sally M., Apryl S., Brandon T., and Debbie B. There were no negative votes or abstentions.

In the third resolution, the Board voted to transfer outright all of the Board’s remaining assets to the Geneva Public Library Foundation. A motion was made by Brandon T., seconded by Apryl S., and the following voted “aye”: Deb N., Sally M., Apryl S., Brandon T., and Debbie B. There were no negative votes or abstentions.

The Board reviewed the four bids for the roof and gutter project with the Board making their recommendation to the City.

Sarah reviewed the Holdings and Circulation Report (see attached).

Sarah displayed and explained the City's Revenues and Expenses Report for the library.

The Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 6:45 p.m. after a motion by Sally M. and seconded by Apryl S., the following voting "aye": Deb, Debbie, Apryl, Brandon, and Sally. There were no negative votes or abstentions.

The next meeting will be March 24, 2020, a week earlier than usual due to scheduling conflicts for Sarah.

Respectfully submitted,
Debbie Bullock
Secretary

Geneva Public Library Librarian's Report February 2020

Library Trustees

At the February 18, 2020 City Council meeting, Mayor Eric Kamler recommended Brandon Thompson to fill the open seat on the Library Board of Trustees, which was recently vacated by Troy Berggren. In a unanimous vote, Brandon's appointment was confirmed, and we welcome him to the Board for his first meeting on February 25.

Programming

Library staff coordinated nine programs between January 25, 2020 and February 21, 2020.

- Sowing Seeds' storytime. Of the five Monday's in this time frame, we cancelled storytime due to the President's Day holiday.
- The February LEGO® Night will be held this week, February 27, from 6 to 8 p.m.
- The Fairmont Public Library director and Sarah co-taught a third section of the Fillmore Central 5th grade students to use the Libby by OverDrive app for their Language Arts class. We reached approximately ten students in this section. There may be an additional 6 to 8 students between the 5th and 6th grades that we have not seen.

The library is excited to be partnering with the GFWC Geneva Women's Club to co-host author [Tosca Lee](#) at the library for a book talk/author visit on Thursday, May 28, 2020, at 6:30 p.m.

The library will also be hosting a Humanities Nebraska program on Thursday, June 11, at 7:00 p.m. Helen Waring Johnson will be presenting her program "Getting to Know Weldon Kees Through His Songs and Lyrics". The program description is as follows:

Beatrice, Nebraska native Weldon Kees, known primarily for his dark poetry, was also one of the mid-century's most versatile and artistic personalities—an abstract expressionist artist, photographer, accomplished pianist and composer-lyricist of popular songs. Singer-Songwriter Waring Johnson discusses Kees and performs from this little known repertoire focusing on Kees' witty, intelligent lyrics of songs written in collaboration with San Francisco clarinetist Bob Helm.

Library Foundation

Two great pieces of long-awaited news related to the newspaper database: Statistics started being generated in Google Analytics at 9 a.m. on February 6; and the 2009-2017 newspaper images went live at 11:30 a.m. on February 20. Altogether, this means that the database is fully functioning and as up to date as we can make it. This last batch of newspapers cost a total of \$1,255.00 to add to the database, leaving the Foundation with \$5,815.00 in this project account to fund future additions.

We are still receiving donations for the newspaper project, most recently a check for \$200 arrived from a gentleman in Geneva, in memory of [Evelyn Mersch](#).

In December 2020, we tentatively plan for *The Nebraska Signal* to provide the pre-press PDF files of their entire 2018 collection of published newspapers which will be added to the database shortly thereafter.

The Foundation has their next regular quarterly meeting (and annual meeting) on Wednesday, May 6, 2020.

Building & Grounds

We have not received official word on any of the three grants at this time.

Koenig Construction was asked to update their estimate to include ALL parts of the scope of work list. After this change, we will be able to more closely compare the roof project bids.

Chuck Chapman has agreed to be the gardener for the Secret Garden, for the 2020 growing season.

The Secret Garden's Spring Clean-up event has been scheduled for Saturday, April 25, from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. The rain/snow date has been set for Monday, April 27, at the same time. Any volunteers who can attend would be greatly appreciated.

The annual Secret Garden activity with the Fillmore Central 3rd graders will not be held on Earth Day (April 22) this year, but rather Friday, May 1, 2020, at 1:00 p.m. Any adult volunteers who could help direct activities with a small group of students would be greatly appreciated.

The fence on the west side of the Secret Garden will be worked on by a collective effort of Chuck and other City maintenance employees. They will be removing the fence panels from the rotted posts and putting them into a City storage area before things start greening up too much in the garden. Details on getting the fence posts replaced have not been confirmed yet.

Other

The 2020 U.S. Census will officially open March 12, 2020, with the official "Census Day" as of April 1. The U.S. Census Bureau is promoting online responses as their preferred method of completing the questionnaire. They, as well as several other nationwide federal and state departments and organizations are encouraging people to go to their local public library to complete their census online. We are working on library programming events and coordinating with community groups to encourage people to complete their census questionnaire. The questionnaire will have four general questions about the household, and then five questions about each individual in the household.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Johnson

Geneva Public Library
January 25, 2020 through February 21, 2020

Physical Holdings & Circulation Report

| Material Type | Added Holdings | Deleted Holdings | Total Current Holdings | % of Holdings | Checkouts during this period |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------|------------------------|---------------|------------------------------|
| [Unassigned] | | | 0 | | |
| Adult Fiction | 23 | 2 | 5,247 | 22.76% | 244 |
| Adult Nonfiction | 5 | | 2,374 | 10.30% | 75 |
| Audiobooks | | | 623 | 2.70% | 19 |
| VHS | | | 257 | 1.12% | 3 |
| DVD | 11 | | 3,574 | 15.51% | 426 |
| Easy | 15 | | 2,166 | 9.40% | 159 |
| Juv Fiction | 1 | | 1,847 | 8.01% | 57 |
| Juv Nonfiction | 6 | | 1,592 | 6.91% | 11 |
| Large Print | 19 | | 534 | 2.32% | 59 |
| Biography | 5 | | 494 | 2.14% | 10 |
| YA Fiction | 1 | | 526 | 2.28% | 42 |
| YA Nonfiction | | | 6 | 0.03% | |
| YA Audiobooks | | | 8 | 0.03% | |
| Christian Fiction | 4 | | 905 | 3.93% | 59 |
| Serial Publication | 6 | | 1,104 | 4.79% | 48 |
| Music CD | | | 324 | 1.41% | |
| Puzzle/Game | | | 3 | 0.01% | |
| [Keys] | | | 19 | 0.08% | 18 |
| Reference | | | 0 | 0.00% | |
| Juv Audiobooks | | | 33 | 0.14% | |
| [Use Records] | | | 11 | 0.05% | 440 |
| [Computer Use Records <i>now recorded inside of "Use Records"</i>] | | | | | |
| Yearbooks | | | 107 | 0.46% | |
| First Reader - Level 0 | | | 34 | 0.15% | 3 |
| First Reader - Level 1 | | | 170 | 0.74% | 14 |
| First Reader - Level 2 | | | 125 | 0.54% | 9 |
| First Reader - Level 3 | | | 58 | 0.25% | 1 |
| First Reader - Level 4 | | | 33 | 0.14% | 3 |
| Genealogy | 26 | | 795 | 3.45% | |
| Rotating Collection/On-the-fly | | | 0 | 0.00% | 73 |
| Junior Graphic Novels | 2 | | 63 | 0.27% | 39 |
| YA Graphic Novels | | | 17 | 0.07% | |
| Total | 124 | 2 | 23,049 | 100% | 1,812 |
| | compared to last month* | -55% | -97% | 1% | -51% |
| | compared to last year | 59% | -83% | -7% | -5% |

* Note "last month" was a 60 day time frame, not the typical 30 day time frame.

(continued)

Geneva Public Library
January 25, 2020 through February 21, 2020

OverDrive Holdings & Circulation Report

| Material Type | | | Total Current Titles | % of Holdings | Checkouts during this period |
|----------------------|--|--|---------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| ebooks | | | 29,243 | 66% | 568 |
| audiobooks | | | 15,392 | 34% | 243 |
| Total | | | 44,635 | | 811 |

ebooks compared to last month* -33%

ebooks compared to last year 168%

audiobooks compared to last month* -15%

audiobooks compared to last year 193%

* Note "last month" was a 60 day time frame, not the typical 30 day time frame.