

MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 18, 2025 GERING PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD MEETING

Present:

Board Members: Kirstee Moore-Schutte, Suzanne Myers, Mary Robinson, Kim Walker

Library Director: Christie Clarke

Foundation Liaison : Jay Skiles

Absent :

Board Member : Jeff Kelley

City Council Liaison: Tamera Frye

Robinson called the meeting to order at 4:03 pm

Attention was called to the posting of The Open Meetings Act - NEB.REV.STAT. CHAPTER 84, ARTICLE 14.

As required by State Law, public bodies shall make available at least one current copy of the Open Meetings Act posted in the meeting room. Agenda items may be moved up or down on the agenda at the discretion of the Board President. As required by State Law, additions may not be made to this agenda less than 24 hours before the beginning of the meeting unless they are considered under this section of the agenda and the Library Board determines that the matter requires emergency action.

Board members reviewed the October 21, 2025 board meeting minutes. Robinson asked for a motion to approve. Walker moved to approve the minutes and Moore-Schutte seconded it. The vote was called. "Ayes": Moore-Schutte, Myers, Robinson, Walker "Nays": none. "Abstaining": none. "Absent": Kelley. The vote passed.

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

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

Discussion from board members:

Moore-Schutte wondered if statistics could be scrolled on screen. It probably could be done both print and digital.

Amazon was used for some book purchases and Clarke explained why and what might happen in the future.

The use of credit card was explained by Clarke as necessary for some purchases but invoices are preferred.

Director Clarke's Report

1. JEO has finished and shared the renderings for the ADA access and building expansion project. They are fantastic! Concept floor plans are to follow soon. Renderings of the expansion were shown to the board and the foundation will show them for the Mingle and Jingle.
2. Board needs 4.75 hours for certification before April.
3. Our Halloween Escape Room was very successful. All slots were filled and we received positive feedback from the community. For the downtown trick-or-treat event staff made a cool giant Frankenstein head for kids to reach in the nose and retrieve candy from. It was a huge hit! Hayley counted 1,001 children and adults that visited the library spot and our Frankenstein.
4. Stats are not only used for our board to look at. They are also used for the annual library survey for the Nebraska Library Commission and important for accreditation. Bibliostat is the company via Baker & Taylor that creates, houses, and supports the survey. Due to the closing of Baker & Taylor, the Bibliostat survey has become defunct. The Nebraska Library Commission is currently using their own techs to create a like survey and will be testing it in coming months with the hopes of going live with it in February. This is happening in other states as well for all of those libraries and library systems who used Bibliostat.
5. The Foundation took the Book Nook quilt to the recent craft fair at the civic center and raised \$250 in ticket sales! They also raised \$80 from ticket sales at the Friends annual meeting on October 12 and \$40 at the Sushi & Sake event at the Emporium Bean & Bottle on October 20.
6. The Friends annual Mingle & Jingle will be held on Friday, December 5 from 3-6 pm. There will be Library Foundation members present to answer questions and share the new renderings for the building project. There will also be renderings showing on all library tv's.
7. There are new holiday themed quilted bookmarks made by Diane Downer available for a good will donation.
8. The library holiday closings are as follows:
 - a. Thurs-Sat Nov. 20-22 Closed
 - b. Wed Dec 24 close at 12:00 pm
 - c. Thurs-Fri Dec 25-26 closed
 - d. Wed Dec 31 close at 4:30 pm

- e. Thurs Jan 1 closed
- 9. During the month of October, the library cash receipts were \$754.12.

Gering City Council Liaison: none

The Gering Library Foundation Board Liaison Report: Jay Skiles

1. No meeting was held in November due to Veteran's Day.
2. Grant committee has been waiting on renderings and have already reached out for information.
3. Quilt has traveled to craft fair at Civic Center and Emporium wine event.
4. We will have renderings loop displayed on TVs for Mingle and Jingle on Dec 5 and Krystal Holthus will be in charge of foam board displays and distribution of information about the foundation with help of other foundation members.
5. Plans are to have a campaign kick-off for the public and media on January 29th hopefully at the Civic Center. The annual foundation report and meeting will be included at this event.

Unfinished Business: None

New Business: None

Closed Session: None

Open Comment: None

Robinson called for a motion to adjourn. Myers moved and Walker seconded. Ayes": Moore-Schuttte, Myers, Robinson, Walker. "Nays": none. "Abstaining": none. "Absent": Kelley. The vote passed.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:47

Suzanne Myers
Secretary