



## **SOUTH SIOUX CITY LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD AGENDA**

2121 Dakota Avenue  
South Sioux City, NE 68776

MEETING DATE: February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2026, at 5:15 p.m.

A current copy of the **OPEN MEETINGS ACT** is posted on the north wall in the South Sioux City Public Library meeting room and is available for review by all citizens in attendance.

The City of South Sioux City reserves the right to adjust the order of items on the agenda if necessary and may elect to take action on any items listed. ***This meeting is being held in compliance of the Open Meetings Act.***

### **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Addressing the Advisory Board: Please raise your hand to be recognized and state your name and address.

Public comments will be taken at the beginning of each agenda item, after the subject has been announced by the presiding officer and explained by staff. Any person who wishes may speak one time for 3 minutes on each agenda item. Public comments will then be closed, and the topic will be given to the governing body for possible action. At this point, only members of the public body and staff may discuss the current agenda item unless the body moves to allow another person to speak and there is unanimous consent. Questions from the body may be directed to staff or a member of the public through the presiding officer. Public comment on items not on the agenda will not be allowed. The public may request that a matter be placed on the agenda by submitting a timely written request to the Clerk.

### **ROLL CALL:**

Sally Reinert, Mary Macomber, Jessica Sanders, Heidi Gonzalez and Deanna Hagberg

### **EXCUSE ABSENCES:**

 Introduction of Library Interim Dan Nieman and Board Members

### 1. **READING PREVIOUS MINUTES AND REPORTS:**

a. Minutes from January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2026, meeting [Hyperlink](#)

### 2. **LIBRARIAN / DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

a. Information from Dan Nieman

### 3. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

a. Library credit hours: information – what is the process in getting the library credit hours and where is the South Sioux City Library at in the process – what are the next steps in the process [Hyperlink](#)

### 4. **ANY OTHER NEW BUSINESS:**

a. Librarian Director job ad – information on process from Mary Clark – HR Director

b. Advisory board possible recommendation to City Administrator on Pajama Day at the Library – April 16<sup>th</sup> (Celebrate National Wear Your Pajamas to Work Day with your librarians and enjoy a laid-back day designed to unwind after tax season, featuring animated movies, popcorn, and simple, fun crafts - all while wearing your most comfortable clothes!)

c. Safety concerns / issues – discussion on concerns and possible plan of action for recommendation

- d. Discussion / election of secretary for Library Advisory Board
- e. Approval of future programming - process
- f. Review of South Sioux City Library Mission Statement and Advocacy Policy [Hyperlink](#)
- g. Informational discussion about changes in the way we need to do meetings (formal voting on issues), taking minutes etc. in short what the city needs to see from us to catch up to city standards

5. **ADJOURNMENT:**



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**A meeting of the South Sioux City Library Advisory Board was held in the South Sioux City Public Library meeting room on January 7, 2026 at 5:15 p.m.**

**Present:** Sally Reinert, Veronica Guzman, Jessica Sanders, Cicely Douglas

**Absent:** Mary Macomber

Notice of the meeting was given in advance by publishing notice in the Dakota County Star. Notice of the meeting and agenda were given in advance to advisory board members and published on the South Sioux City homepage.

Board Secretary Veronica Guzman stated that a copy of the current Open Meetings Act was posted on the wall in the Library meeting room and was available for review by all citizens in attendance.

**EXCUSE ABSENCES:** President Mary Macomber, Sydney Siordia

**READING PREVIOUS MINUTES AND REPORTS:** Read by Secretary Guzman. 1st Motioned by Board Member Reinert, 2nd by Sanders.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Denial letter of Board position for Curtis Alexander was discussed. All Board Members expressed disappointment. Board Member Reinert will reach out to the City and ask to expedite the process when new Board Member applications come in.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:** NA

**LIBRARIAN REPORT:** Director Douglas will send out statistics and data for the month of December. However, there was discussion that there is not much public engagement during the winter months in the Library due to inclement weather, and Holiday activities.

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT:** Need the rest of the Board to complete viewing webinars for accreditation. Director Douglas has emailed the Board about what website to use.  
-Assistant City Administrator Oscar Gomez emailed about the CCFF Grant. The grant application process is included.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** Director Douglas will meet with CMBA Architect and Planning Engineering. RFG requested.  
-Director Douglas shared ideas about Summer Reading Program events - Dino Dash, Unearth Story Saturdays, Jurassic Amber, Virtual Learning, and UNL Museum Virtual Field Trip/T-Rexplorers  
-Director Douglas handed out policies for updates and review: Tablet Lending Policy, Biohazard Accident Response Policy, and Universal Right to Free Expression

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### **ANY OTHER NEW BUSINESS:**

- Fundraising ideas were shared - hosting a future gala
- SRP 2026 Program
- Reading Buddies
- Scholastic
- Teen Leadership
- New Hires

### **ADJOURNMENT:**

Next meeting will be February 4, 2026, at 5:15pm in person.

## **Library Advisory Board Accreditation – CEU Status**

The South Sioux City Public Library Advisory Board is required to earn **12 continuing education units (CEUs)** within a **three-year period** to maintain accreditation through the Nebraska Library Commission.

### **Current status:**

- The Board has completed **8 CEUs** toward re-accreditation.
- **4 additional CEUs** are still required.
- The re-certification deadline is **March 31, 2026**.

CEUs may be earned through Nebraska Library Commission–approved trustee education opportunities, including workshops, webinars, and online training. Approved options and guidelines are available at:

<https://nlc.nebraska.gov/trustees/pubcert.aspx>

### **Next steps:**

The Library will identify and complete approved CEU opportunities and submit required documentation prior to the March 31, 2026 deadline to ensure continued accreditation.

## Mission Statement

The South Sioux City Public Library is an innovative and responsive community center that supports cultural programming, lifelong learning, literacy, and open access to the world of information and ideas, with a staff committed to excellence and personal service.

## Advocacy Policy South Sioux City Public Library

(Approved the City Council of the City of South Sioux City 8/28/2017)

### **Purpose:**

This policy defines when, why, how, and who would engage in advocacy activities on behalf of the South Sioux City Library.

### **Policy:**

Advocacy is an ongoing activity which lays the foundation for specific awareness and understanding of the importance of the Library. This policy applies to the Library Advisory Board, the Library Director, or designee, and any other staff members who are authorized by the Library Director to advocate on behalf of the South Sioux City Public Library. This assures communication in one voice, in an informed manner, the unique benefits of the Library in the community. This will ensure communication be positive and consistent.

## **GUIDELINES:**

### **Advocacy Role**

#### **The Library Advisory Board:**

- Participates in advocacy planning.
- Ensures that advocacy remains a planned and sustainable ongoing process at the Library.
- Fulfills its advocacy responsibilities by identifying and responding to issues, concerns, and government policies that may directly or indirectly affect the Library.
- Encourages Board members, staff, volunteers, concerned individuals, and other community organizations to bring advocacy issues to the Board's attention.
- May communicate, cooperate, and coordinate with other libraries, organizations, agencies, and institutions in order to support the advocacy initiatives of the Library.

## **Issue Response**

### **After discussion of the advocacy issue(s), the Library Board:**

- Shall advise the Library Director to convey its concerns, in person or in writing, to the appropriate person, organization, or government agency, and possibly to the media.
- May convey its decision to the general public and to the Library membership and customers.
- Shall advise government officials on the impact of proposed policies.
- May, at its discretion and by duly approved motion, undertake lobbying activities in support or opposition to these policies.

## **Library Spokesperson**

### **Either the Library Director (or designee) will:**

- Be the official spokesperson for the Library on advocacy issues, depending upon availability and the nature of the issue.
- Speak to the transformative impacts on the Library.
- Coordination with Decision Makers

### **The Library Board:**

- Advocates carefully to build relationships and understandings with the people who make the decisions.
- Shall be an effective advocate for the provision of good Library service by ensuring that the community is aware of the importance of the Library and that the government decision-makers at all levels fully understand the pivotal role played by the Library in the community.
- Will work toward having a 'voice at the table' to be part of the process when problems are identified, solutions proposed, programs and funding for the community are discussed, and decisions made.
- Sees lobbying as a means of working to persuade the government to resolve a decision, policy, or law in favor of the Library.

*(Approved by the Advisory Board, 7-5-2017)*