The Alva Public Library Board met on March 4th, 2019 in the Share Conference Room at the Alva Public Library. Members present were: Chairman Mrs. Lynn Wilt, Ms. Linda Joseph, Mrs. Patti Harkin, Mr. Len Reed Ms. Marilyn Clyne and Council Representative Chris Eckhardt. Dr. David Kovarovic was unable to attend the meeting. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Lynn Wilt. Council Member Reed made a motion that the February 4th, 2019 minutes be approved. The motion was seconded by Ms. Clyne. Those voting in favor of the motion: Mrs. Harkin, Ms. Joseph, Mr. Reed, Ms. Clyne, Mr. Reed, Council Representative Eckhardt and Chairman Wilt.

Library data and Financial Report

The library data and financial reports were presented by Library Director Sandra Ott-Hamilton. The board reviewed the financial statement. Twenty one meetings were held at the library during the month and 174 new items were added to the library collection.

In February 663 e-books/audiobooks/magazines were downloaded. 1408 physical items were checked out from the library resulting in a total of 2071 items checked out for the month. The circulation was down from January and City Council Representative Eckhardt commented that the weather and short month was probably a factor. The demand for the Internet was also slightly less as the Internet was logged into 840 times during the month.

Council Report

City Council Representative Eckhardt reported that the Council held a short meeting and that a majority of the meeting was a Public Hearing about the Young Street Housing Project. The recommendation was that the project should not move forward as it was in conflict with city regulations and the public hearing indicated that was also the consensus of the citizens at the Public hearing.

Library Report

Director Ott-Hamilton informed the Board that the Alva Public Library will be hosting a 6 week Financial Fitness Workshop available free of charge to the public. The program will start on March 25th and sign-up will be required.

The Friends of the Alva Public Library will hold the Chocolate Fantasy on Thursday April 4th. Newsletters have gone out to Friends of the Alva Public Library and newspaper ads and flyers will also publicize the event.

The library has received the new short-throw projector for the auditorium. The new unit is replacing aging technology. The library is currently exploring the possibility of mounting speakers on the walls to improve the sound quality.

The Summer Reading Program will begin the first Monday of June. The theme for this year is “Universe of Stories”. The six week long program will feature programs for both readers and non-readers. The program will feature several guest presenters that have been popular at the library during past Summer Reading Programs including Mad Science and Monty Harper. The Little Explorers group will also will also meet through the summer. This group meets on Tuesdays.

Director’s Report

The first meeting of the Code Club was held last week. The first group includes eight 5th grade students. The plans are to open the group up to patrons that are going into the 3rd grade or older during the summer. Any library patron can set up an account with Prenda (coding program) and then they can work at their own pace using a library computer or the program can be access on personal devices and from home. Adult patrons in other libraries have used the program to help build webpages.

Director Ott-Hamilton reported that she had presented a program for the Kiwanis club promoting the library and its services.

The library budget worksheets for the next fiscal year are due to be turned in by March 18th. The City will be holding the annual budget retreat on March 30th. Board members need to let her know if they would like to attend.

Board Member and Visitor comments

There were no comments from the library board members and the meeting was adjourned by Chairman Lynn Wilt.