



# DIRECTOR'S REPORT

April 2021

## Staff and Volunteers:

Shibu Abraham, Finance & Facilities Manager, attended a NYS Library Construction Grant workshop on Eligible Projects on April 29.

Head of Community Relations, Veronica Reynolds, presented a tutorial on making YouTube videos at the annual SENY-Con. SENY-Con is an annual celebration of the skills and talents of library professionals in the Southeastern New York Library Resources Council (SENYLRC). She has been asked to present on the same topic again in a standalone, expanded version on June 15.

The Director attended owner design review sessions with VMDO on April 15, 22, and 29.

A quarterly, all-staff meeting was held in-person and on Zoom on April 30. Going paperless and computer security were discussed.

## Collections:

The Children's Librarians are busy weeding the collections of poorly circulating items and items in poor condition. Suitable discards were offered to local elementary school teachers and other children's services organizations.

The Audiobook collection (books on CD) and the Mystery collection are being weeded of outdated and low circulation titles.

## Programs:

One hundred fifty larch trees to given away to celebrate **Arbor Day**. A Girl Scout troop and another teen volunteer helped Mary Phillips prepare and distribute the seedlings for this annual event.

The popular online game **Among Us** is now opening up for younger siblings.

A **lecture on Vincent Van Gogh** on April 29 brought in one of our highest online turnouts with 86 patrons logging in.

Good attendance at **Determining Your Decluttering Personality Traits** on April 14 confirmed that programs about getting organized will always be in demand!

### **Building and Facilities:**

The Library closed at 11am on Friday, April 2, and reopened on Monday, April 5, due to a COVID-19 case on staff. The Library was closed for Easter Sunday, April 4.

Structural probes near the site of the future Children’s Meeting Room were performed on April 2. Borings to determine the soil structure were performed on April 27.

### **Technology:**

Our IT consultant returned to perform overdue updates on all the public internet machines as we prepare to open the building for internet use soon.

### **Miscellaneous:**

Some noteworthy patron comments:

*“Hi Ms. Janet,  
Thank you for the Among Us stuffies. We are having fun with them already!  
Thank you.”* - from attendees of the Among Us program (Janet made them little stuffed characters from the game)

*“I’m writing to let you know that we enjoyed this week’s Imagination Station session. It’s our first interactive activity with the library and librarian since the pandemic. We find the session fun, interactive, well-paced, and full of learning. Our dear children’s librarian was welcoming, engaging, and encouraging. The simultaneous reading and crafting worked out great. Amethyst nodded and proclaimed, “I like my class!”*

*Thank you for a wonderful program”.* – email from patron

*“Thank you so much. I have really enjoyed the Library’s trying to keep us informed, entertained, and saving us from boredom!! I have ravaged my own*

*book shelves for good reads that I bought at Costco and never got to but I am glad we can get books now since I am almost at the end of my own selections!!!”*

*“Thank you so very much and please thank Veronica as well! I wish I'd have reached out sooner. It would've saved me a couple bad in-person experiences at well-known shipping companies. You all are extremely gracious and much appreciated. I'll follow the instructions you've provided the next time I need to print.”* (patron receiving assistance for remote printing)

Respectfully submitted,  
Marianne Gallagher, Director  
NEW CITY LIBRARY  
May 13, 2021

MG/kc