



DIRECTOR'S REPORT

June 2019

Staff and Volunteers:

Full-time Library Assistant II *Debbie Murphy* retired at the end of the month after 26 years of service.

Library Assistant II Chris Ely and Head of Adult Services Brian Jennings attended a 2020 Census training session at Pearl River Library. Libraries everywhere are preparing to promote participation in the census and assist patrons using the computer-based questionnaire.

Multiple staff members attended the Library Association of Rockland County's (LARC) annual meeting held here on June 14. The Director was installed as President for 2019-20.

Brian Jennings attended Southeast New York Library Resource Council's (SENYLRC) annual meeting at the Thayer Hotel at West Point. Brian works with the council frequently for digitization projects.

Head of Community Relations Veronica Reynolds conducted Sexual Harassment Prevention Training for trustees and staff on June 20 to satisfy the New York State legal requirement. There will be at least one more session before the October deadline.

The Director met with Julie Sadowski, Executive Director for the Rockland Community Foundation, to discuss possible fundraising for the renovation. She will be addressing the full board at the August 15 meeting.

Several candidates were interviewed for the full-time Library Assistant I position and the part-time Community Relations assistant position.

Collections:

Both Adult and Children's music on CD collections have been experiencing a decline in circulation for some time most likely due to the availability of streaming services. Budgetary adjustments will be made accordingly.

The Holds shelving system was changed with the intent of creating greater efficiency for staff while still maintaining privacy for patrons. There has been negative feedback, and we will revisit.

Programs:

Dozens of patrons enjoyed the Summer Reading kickoff appearance of the Bubble Bus and the Sno-Cone party. It was a classic hot summer afternoon in the lower parking lot but it didn’t put a damper on the fun.

A bus trip to the Grounds for Sculpture in Hamilton Township, NJ, was a success. Forty-eight patrons participated.

The first summer concert, featuring Ricardo Gautreau, had to be moved inside due to extreme heat. Fifty-three people attended.

Worldwide Knit In Public Day was celebrated on the patio with approximately twenty knitters/crocheters.

Building and Facilities:

The door of the Group Study Room was kicked in by a student during final exam week, resulting in damaged sheetrock and electric. He was identified from video camera footage and his parents contacted. He will be performing community service here in reparation.

The mini-renovation of the long-neglected staff kitchen has begun.

Technology:

The two additional wifi access points installed last month seem to have made a difference. No complaints about internet access speed or inability to connect were received during final exam time, which is when we usually experience peak capacity of the building.

We will be piloting the circulation of three mobile hotspots. Patrons can check them out with a Chromebook. These might be useful for travelers or for homes without internet access.

Respectfully submitted,
Marianne Gallagher, Director
NEW CITY LIBRARY
July 3, 2019

MG/kc