

Mayor
Alice Ruby

Manager
Robert Mawson



Dillingham City Council
Kimberly Johnson
Michael Bennett
Aksel Buholm
Curt Armstrong
Kaleb Westfall
Perry Abrams

MEMORANDUM

Date: March 28, 2023
To: Lori Goodell, Acting City Manager
From: Sonja Marx, Librarian
Subject: Monthly Report

Acknowledgements and Recognitions:

Our Librarian Assistant hired last December under the LINKED grant, unfortunately resigned in March. We advertised the position again, interviewed, and hired Helen Nelson. She started March 28th. A big “thank you” to Jenny Bennis for her time with us this winter at the library. We appreciate having the extra staff provided under this grant.

Department Accomplishment and Opportunities:

The Librarian, along with the Alaska E-rate Coordinator for Schools and Libraries, completed and certified USAC Form 471 on March 28th after receiving 5 possible bids for internet services for the library for FY24 (July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024). After many, many years of having GCI as our provider, we have accepted this year, the bid from another provider. We appreciate that GCI was able to put the infrastructure in place years ago so the Dillingham Public Library could be connected to other libraries in the state through the Alaska OWL program as well as providing internet service for us here.

Projects – Progress and Public Impacts:

The Library is working on the PLA grant for FY24 that is due April 1st. The Dillingham Public Library has been awarded this grant from the Alaska State Library each year for @\$7,000 to purchase materials for the library such as books & audio visuals, along with the supplies needed to process them. However, this year we heard the PLA grant might be reduced to @\$2,300. The Librarian went to the LIO office here in Dillingham to testify during the Finance Committee hearing on the State Budget to say just how important this funding is to our library, as well as to the other 86 public library facilities in Alaska that received the PLA grant last year, and we asked for it to be restored.

Upcoming Calendar Items:

See dates and times below for the next LAB and FOL meetings.

Public Feedback:

From the stats listed below, more and more patrons are visiting the library to check out materials and use the internet than in previous months.

Since the time we extended our hours on Mondays (starting February 27th), we have seen 24 more patrons come into the library between 4 – 6 pm over the last month. People are becoming aware that we are now open longer on both Mondays and Fridays (until 6 pm).

List of Attachments:

Library Stats report February 20th – March 26th, 2023:

**Patron Visits: 694 Computer Use: 53 Wireless Use: 498
Story Hour: 27 Museum Use: 69 Game Night: 22
AWE Station Use: 2 Volunteer Hours Logged: 1**

Next Friends of the Library meeting is 10 am Saturday, April 1st at the library.

Next Library Advisory Board meeting is 5:30 pm Thursday, May 11th at the library.

Game night will continue every other Friday night starting April 14th.