

## DIRECTOR'S REPORT

### LIBRARY SERVICES & COVID

The library is now open on Mondays. All seating is available and meeting rooms are open. In person programming for kids is still on hold. Face covering is optional for staff and patrons. The plexiglass barrier at the front desk will remain in place for the foreseeable future.

### SUMMER PROGRAMS

- **Baby Bookworms (June 1-July 12)**

A read-to-me program for ages 0-5. Parents or caregivers read 5 books a week to their child for 6 weeks. Every child that finished the program received a \$25 gift certificate to the local bookstore. The grand prize drawing was a care-giver massage. A music and movement program was held at Sandy Beach once a week for kids 0-7 with a caregiver. This was a fun and well attended.

- **Summer STREAM (June 1-July 12)**

113 kids ages 5-13 participated. Kids needed to earn 12 badges to complete the program. They earned badges by reading 20 minutes a day and completing an activity. We had raffle prizes geared toward ages 5-7 and another for ages 8-13. This year we simplified the program by offering fewer prizes and having the drawings all online. Participants could be entered in the grand prize drawing of \$250 (two winners were drawn). Classes were held outside at Sandy Beach. We had ukulele lessons, comic drawing, writing, and a science class "Eat Like a Whale."

- **Read Around the World - June 1-July 31**

51 adults and 19 teens participated. Participants read 4 books from around the world in 9 weeks to be entered in the grand prize drawing of \$250 (one adult prize and one teen prize). Staff put together bookmarks for each of the categories with reading recommendation listed. We also had a map online and, in the library, where patrons could pin where the books they read took place.

### AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT GRANTS

The Alaska State Library received \$2M through the American Rescue Plan Act to use for grants to Alaska libraries, archives, and museums. Applications have been submitted for both grant programs:

- Easy grants: Noncompetitive and guaranteed to applicants that meet eligibility requirements. We applied for \$3,500 for janitorial service and \$2,500 for collections.
- Project grants: An application was submitted for the Petersburg Indigenous Voices Project – the library, KFSK, and the Petersburg Indigenous Awareness Committee (PIAC) will partner to produce 36 thirty-minute radio podcasts with original content generated by a committee of local tribal members. \$39,661 has been requested for this project.

## **MAINTENANCE**

- The slate tile floors were resealed in September, some carpet squares were also replaced.
- Carpets are scheduled to be cleaned Oct 16.
- We have increased janitorial service from every other day to daily. The cost was reasonable, and it will help with keeping the facility in good condition as we go into our 9<sup>th</sup> year in the building.
- Routine mechanical system maintenance continues, the hot water tank was replaced this summer.
- Our first summer without Jesse caretaking the library grounds went well. Matt Gerrits did the lawns, fertilizing and bark mulching. Andrea Weathers created and took care of the amazing planters and baskets and also weeded and maintained the plants.
- We were hoping to have the gravel area in front of the library paved this summer, but it looks like the contractor may not get to it until 2022.

## **DIRECTOR TRAINING**

I will be attending the annual Library Director's Leadership (DirLead) meeting in Girdwood Oct 5-9. This year the meeting will be led by Kedge Foundation's Future School (<https://thefutureschool.com/>). The objectives are:

- Ensure the development of a resilient, adaptive and transformative DirLead group in order to successfully position Alaska State Libraries as sustainable enterprises for continued success in spite of a volatile, uncertain, complex and ambiguous environment.
- Leverage a long-term strategic thinking process which embraces a "long now" mindset - a holistic way of thinking that includes the best ideas from yesterday and the most dynamic visions from tomorrow in order to create robust and successful action today.
- Create an immersive, fun learning experience that helps broaden the perspective of DirLead participants as it relates to the future of our globally connected world. Participants will get exposed through tangible models and reusable templates that allow them to apply their learnings immediately.