



## LIBRARY BOARD COMMUNICATION

**DATE:** May 24, 2023  
**FROM:** Laura Klenke, Library Director  
**AGENDA ITEM:** Director's Report

### **SUMMARY:**

- February had staffing changes. Jessica our part-time library assistant resigned. Audrey Tolle resigned as Library Director. Laura Klenke was appointed Interim Library Director.
- The library offered its Blind Date with a Book program in February. It was very popular, with over 70 books checked out to participants for the month. We also received a record number of the most "Rate Your Date" book reviews since we started the program in 2015.
- "Reptiles and Amphibians" program was on February 17<sup>th</sup>. The event was very well attended with 18 adults and 28 children. Denton County Master Naturalist Sharon Betty and staff brought skins and skulls of local animals. The highlight of the event was the showcasing of live snakes. Both children and adults were fascinated and enjoyed getting an up-close look at the reptiles.
- New programs, Tech Time and Book a Library debuted in February. We offered one on one assistance with both technology and reference research. Patrons were pleased with the service and were appreciative of the individual attention the library provided.
- The migration process for our integrated library system continued throughout February. We're still working with support to iron out issues and add enhancements to the software to allow for ease of use for both patrons and staff. We have been very thankful for our patron's patience during the transition period. Our new system allows for easier reporting of library statistics than our previous system Evergreen.
- Our annual Dr. Seuss Birthday Party was March 2, 2023. Families were invited to celebrate all things Dr. Seuss! Some highlights include ice cube water color painting. Thanks to our Parks & Recreation Department we were able to offer Dr. Seuss theme corn hole.
- Our Preschool Music and Movement program has seen a steady increase in family participation. We had 17 children and 8 adults attend in March. We invite children, their caregivers and families an opportunity to sing, explore instruments and groove to the beat! This program encourages gross motor movement, following directions and listening for rhythm.

- On March 28 we had the first session of our Advanced LEGOs program for teens (ages 10 and up). The Advanced LEGOs event was designed to introduce teens to our LEGO Mindstorms robotics kits so that they can add interactivity, automation, and basic robotics to their creations. After a 15 minute introductory course, participants were able to build and program the robot with minimal assistance.
- Back by popular demand, our Plant and Seed Swap was a smashing success! We had 24 people who swapped and trade plants, seeds and helpful information. In addition, Denton County Master Gardener, Cheryl Huckabee and Denton County Master Gardener Intern, Denise Babb gave advice and helped identify plants.
- April was National Poetry Month, the library celebrated by giving poetry lovers an opportunity to read and share a poem on our poetree. Our tree was full with many poems from poets young and young at heart.
- Sanger Library Staff celebrated and shared their love for children's book author Mo Willems by throwing a 20<sup>th</sup> birthday party for Pigeon, from *Don't let the Pigeon Drive the Bus*. Kids and their families joined in the fun with a variety of crafts and activities featuring characters from the world of Mo Willems. Some highlights include creating their very own monster from *Leonardo, the Terrible Monster*. We were pleased with the attendance, 18 kids and 13 adults.
- We hosted our first homeschool meetup for our growing homeschool population. It was very well received with 21 children and 8 adults in attendance. Library staff showcased available library resources to families, including STEM kits, homeschool curriculum study plans, digital resources such as launchpads and databases, etc.. Children socialized and worked together using magna tiles, STEM kits, keva plank wooden toys, and ozobots. We received a lot of great feedback on how to better support their learning needs, including a wish list of new equipment, books, and digital services. We hope to make this a quarterly event in the future as a way to connect with our homeschoolers.
- The library's annual report and application was completed and submitted to the State Library & Archives Commission in April.
- The City had their annual budget meeting in March. We will be asking for a capital request for a fire alarm detector system.
- We welcomed a new part-time library assistant, Renee Grayson to our library staff in April. We're excited for her to join us. She comes to us with a degree in social work and prior municipal court experience. Her customer service skills have been excellent, and in a short time she has gotten to know our patrons very well.
- I'm currently working on creating a procedure manual for staff. Hoping to fill in the gaps during onboarding and training. What we have currently on file is incomplete, outdated or

sparse in explanations. Staff has given feedback on what can be improved and what needs to be expanded on.

- I met with the high school librarian, Christina Moore. We were hoping to collaborate on activities for the teens, possibly doing outreach during their open tribe time periods, but we found our schedules to be a challenge. We will revisit at the beginning of the school year.
- I was officially hired as Library Director on April 26, 2023. I look forward to the future and am excited for the opportunity to serve the community.
- The City is working towards implementing performance measures for all departments. Currently evaluating library data, and seeing the best ways we can align these performance measure with the library's goals and objectives.
- The City is planning a City Showcase in September, for all departments. It will be a come and go event for the public. Each department will showcase their offerings to the public and have an opportunity to answer questions from participants.

**FISCAL INFORMATION:**

Budgeted: YES/NO

Amount: \$0.00

GL Account: XXX.XX.XXXX

**RECOMMENDED MOTION OR ACTION:**

N/A

**ATTACHMENTS:**

N/A