

Report of the Librarian for September/October Activities

Unfinished Business:

Discussion about Collection Development policy and Request for Reconsideration (delayed from cancelled September meeting due to City Power outage emergency) *To be discussed later in agenda.*

New Business:

Introduction of new City Manager.

Collection updates:

The City is currently under a temporary spending freeze. We are still authorized for our standing order materials to be received and paid for. Other materials are being ordered on a priority basis with City Manager prior approval. The freeze should be lifted soon.

Prior to this, we ordered several more board games and puzzles in anticipation of the rainy Fall/Winter months driving more families inside and in need of new entertainment options!

Building issues:

We survived the earthquake! We just had 1 book and 1 picture fall down. Working with Public Works, I did a walk through of the building to check for any damage. We noted several cracks in the brick work where pin pricks of daylight can be seen. These do not appear to be related to the earthquake. They will be photographed and sealed soon. I will also be taking pictures and doing an inventory of other similar damage (un-repaired and repaired) so we can track any changes over time. When looking at the building for damage we also noticed several leaks in the gutters and a large build up of moss in one location. The gutters will be cleaned and sealed soon.

In building updates:

We have added Free Period Products in the Women's bathroom. After the initial stocking, we will be asking for donations from the community to continue this program. We have gotten lots of positive feedback so far.

Passive Programming:

We are once again offering Take and Make craft kits. October is a yarn pumpkin.

We are also bringing back the craft table and are offering spooky night lights this month.

In-person Programming:

Story time is back! Starting October 6th, Story time is back in person, in the building!

We are offering twice weekly drop in board games and snacks for teens on Wednesdays and Thursdays after school until just before closing. We are providing snacks and letting the kids pick a game to play. This will have minimal staff involvement, but may involve some volunteer time.

New Building:

I attended the Library Journal Design Institute in Missoula MT on September 29th. I was able to brainstorm through a lot of issues with many designers and architects. We toured the new Missoula Public Library building, which was great inspiration for things we can do here. We had sessions about funding, design, disaster preparedness and designing for flexibility. I'm still awaiting digital copies of some design layout possibilities for our new library.

With my first meeting with the new City Manager we talked a lot about the opportunities for the new library.