

Report of the Librarian for March/April 2023 Activities

Unfinished Business:

We judged and selected a winner for our Student Library Card contest. Aubree is super excited. We have sent her artwork to the company that will be printing the cards and hope to have the cards available by the end of the school year. The Community Library Card contest did not have enough quality entries, so we decided to select a second student to create some new artwork for that card and should have something back from her soon.

New Business:

I attended the Oregon Library Association Conference in Bend, April 19-22. I attended sessions about conspiracy theories, Virtual Reality to preserve Native American Languages, Reimagining Library Services, Mental Health services in Libraries, Reaching teens in small and rural libraries, Social Media Data, Overcoming Imposter Syndrome, Leadership beyond the walls of the library and Collaborative Collection Development. Of course there were lots of conversations with attendees during breaks and meals.

I shared the 2023/24 Budget in late April. (I've also included it again in this packet). The Budget Committee unanimously approved the City's budget. The next step is for approval from City Council at the meeting at the end of May. In anticipation of the budget being approved by City Council, we will start advertising for a Librarian position soon. This position will be a shared position between SHPL and the Sweet Home School District.

Collection updates:

We are making another shift of the adult collections. Nonfiction was weeded for non circulating items and shifted over. Fiction will move over a shelf next. Then SciFi will switch sides of the aisle. This will allow the Mystery collection to take over all of the wall shelves and be easier to browse. Mystery is one of our larger collections and had outgrown the current amount of space. Eventually the North west collection will also shift to be at the end of the Nonfiction collection.

After all of that, then we can grow our puzzle and game collection. We are hoping to add outdoor games as well as more board games.

We continue to hand out thousands of seeds every week. We have had several great donations from community members of their seeds too!

Building issues:

Public Works has been cleaning up the parking lot and outdoor space.

In building updates:

We should have faxing available for the public soon, we are just waiting on a dedicated phone line to be installed.

Our new IT company has visited several times to work on our mess of Public Computers. They have been great to work with.

Our library catalog software has had some licesnsing issues, due to our last IT company. We hope this issue will be fixed this week.

Passive Programming:

These continue to be extremely popular with all ages. Right now we are offering beaded key chains and butterflies to make!

In-person Programming:

Story time continues to be incredibly popular. Once we have a new librarian on board, we will probably be adding a second story time every week.

We will be selecting our next Community Read soon.

New Building:

I am keeping in touch with several architects that would love to work with us on our new building. The City Manager and I continue to discuss the new building and possible partnerships. At one of the upcoming City Council Workshops, we will be focusing on discussion of a new library building. Also in the 23/24 budget is the okay to purchase land for the new building. Once we have land, it will be easier to apply for and receive grants.