

## **Report of the Librarian for June/July 2023 Activities**

### **Unfinished Business:**

We have conducted 6 video interviews for the Programming Librarian position. The top two candidates will be visiting Sweet Home on the 14<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>. We hope to have someone selected by the end of the July and starting by the end of August.

### **New Business:**

I spoke with an Albany Democrat Herald reporter about book bans for an article. There have been no requests to pull items from the shelves in the entire consortium, but there have been public comments made at city council meetings in Albany and Lebanon.

### **Collection updates:**

Our newly added outdoor games are checking out really well. While we always accept suggestions and requests from patrons for new books, movies and games to add to the collection, we have now also added an option for people to write down requests and place them in a box as a more visible way to let people know that they can request items to be added to the collection.

### **Building issues:**

Our building trim color should be updated towards the end of the Downtown painting project. July 1<sup>st</sup> our building alarm went off for a unlocked door after hours. Video clearly showed the door being locked and no one entering the building prior to the alarm going off and SHPD entering the building. We are unsure what happened, as video shows nothing out of the ordinary. Therefore, we decided to replace the locks on the front two sets of doors.

### **In building updates:**

Nothing of note.

### **Passive Programming:**

We have transitioned from having a Seed Library cart to having the cart host a Free Little Vegetable Library trading spot. As community members grow their gardens and have extra produce, fruit, herbs, they can bring them to the Library to either leave for others or to trade for extras that other community members have left. Zucchini is allowed.

We aren't currently offering any take and make or in building art projects during Summer Reading Program.

### **In-person Programming:**

Our Summer Reading Program started with signups on June 1. We simplified the sign up process this year to be similar to what we do with the 1000 Books Before Kindergarten Program. Based on age, we have prepackaged bags with the necessary logs, materials, and other materials ready to go. We are covering ages 0-5, 5-12, 12-18, 19+. Kids and teens on the edge of high or low age can decide which program they would rather do. We have already handed out over 100 packets for kids!

### **New Building:**

The 2023/24 budget was officially approved by City Council and we can go ahead and select a site for purchase. The City Manager and Library Director will present three options to the Library Board in the Fall (most likely September). Then we will present that option to City Council for final approval.