

Report of the Librarian for September/October 2023 Activities

Unfinished Business:

We received the check from Pacific Power for a grant we applied for in the Spring and were awarded in August. We also received additional outdoor items from another City grant. Together we will update the outdoor area that is currently dry dirt. The vision is for a seating area with a picnic table, new bike rack, bike repair station, outdoor water fountain (with a dog fountain!). We are looking for a metal worker that could create new railings for the area.

New Business:

Diane has taken a full time position at City Hall. Two new Library Assistants started on October 3rd, Tawyna and Taylor. As of October 13th we are adding one additional open hour on Fridays and Saturdays.

We are hosting the Oregon Library Association's Public Library Division meeting of Public Library Directors on October 27th at the Albany Public Library.

Collection updates:

Kira received a donation of books from the school district. Most are in Spanish so we are looking at creating a small Spanish collection. We are also sharing duplicate titles with the Halsey Library that is in need of Spanish titles.

Building issues:

The handicap access door stopped working. Batteries were replaced within 24 hours by Public Works. We are working with the SHPD to possibly hire and share a janitor position.

In building updates:

The Friends of the Library have purchased a TV, Nintendo Switch, Games and a Circuit for the Library. These items are for the Teen area and for programming in general. Kira is now painting a mural herself on the teen wall where the TV will be installed.

Passive Programming:

Coloring pages are still extraordinarily popular. With the new staff we can continue to offer in house craft projects for all ages. We are using this opportunity to finish off excess supplies from other events since we have even less storage space available now due to additional office space being used by new staff!

In-person Programming:

We are getting a regular schedule up and running with programs. We have weekly Lapsit and Preschool Storytimes. Monthly Family Storytime. Weekly walking group. Monthly Teen STEAM program. Kira is scheduling many more programs for the coming months.

We were incredibly busy at the Harvest Festival, it was incredibly helpful to have all staff available to work at the event.

New Building:

Discussion about talking points for the community on why the library needs a new building.