

Report of the Library Director for April/May 2024 Activities

Unfinished Business:

We conducted interviews for our teen summer intern position. An offer should be made this week. We had 6 applicants and each of them would have made a great intern. We will look at available funding sources to be able to provide this program again next year.

Kira and I attended the Oregon Library Association Annual Conference in Salem at the end of April. We attended sessions on : Creating your own OBOB program, Managing grants, School Libraries in Crisis, Building a Zine Collection, Coordinating Inter-agency programs and events, Summer Reading programs, Language of Books Bans, Memory Cafes, Inclusion in Storytime, and Book talking. In addition to the programs we also attended several feedback sessions, keynote addresses and social events to get to know librarians around the state and exchange ideas. Megan also presented on 13 Ways to Kill Your Library and volunteered at the registration desk. Next year's conference will be in Eugene.

New Business:

The Friends of the Library received a grant from the Sweet Home Community Foundation for new Little Free Libraries. We are waiting for payment before ordering them. Several volunteers are waiting to install them and then keep them full of books!

We just received a renewed grant from System of Care of Linn County for teen programs and teen support.

Collection updates:

We received a donation of over 700 DVDs. We will probably add 2/3rds of them, but will need to get creative with our space.

We have reached the point where every item in the Library has checked out within the last 5 years, with exceptions for some non fiction, classics and our Northwest Collections. In the kid's collection, items have checked out within the last 3 years, except for a handful of classic titles. We need more space!

Building issues:

We are still working on finishing the outdoor space. We have all of the parts, just need to do the work.

In building updates:

Our newly donated kid's table is out in the kid's area and is already a hit. It is larger and has a smooth surface that is easier to color on.

In-person Programming:

We are currently offering almost 1 program/event per day. We expect this to almost double during the summer months. This doesn't take into account our passive craft project table, or teens using our Nintendo Switch to play games with each other after school.

New Building:

I meet several libraries around the state working on construction projects and architects working on those projects while at OLA. We talked about funding sources, new ideas, and individual community needs.