

Report of the Library Director for March/April 2024 Activities

Unfinished Business:

We applied for and have received a grant to be able to hire a teen summer intern. We are currently accepting applications for this position. We received \$2000 for this grant and 100% of it will go towards the salary of the teen hired. We currently have 4 applicants and are expecting 5-10. Teens must be 16-19 years old during the time period. They will be learning how libraries work, working with our Programming Librarian on programs and work on their own projects.

We received a grant from the Rural Development Initiative Leadership Program for \$2000 for tween programs and collections. We will be working with RDILP members and our teen intern on how to best spend this grant.

New Business:

This week is National Library Week! In addition to a Proclamation that was read at City Council this week, we are sharing different 2023 statistics on social media.

The Library is taking over management of the Saturday Community Market. This makes sense because it takes place in our parking lot and we have staff essentially on site during the market. So far we have a lot of interest from vendors.

Kira and I will be attending the Oregon Library Association's Annual Conference in Salem the last week of April. I will be hosting a meeting of the Public Library Division at the Salem Public Library and presenting a program during the conference.

Collection updates:

We now have a designated section for graphic novels that are for a non-youth audience. Graphic novels have the same benefits for all ages: Improved literacy, improved visual literacy, engaging reluctant readers, and aiding comprehension of the story.

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 new children's AWE computer was ordered, arrived and is in use. This computer was paid for by a grant from the State Library. It replaces one of our older AWE computers that no longer had working sound. These computers typically last 3-5 years, this one was over 7 years old.

3 new patron computers have been ordered from this same grant.

In-person Programming:

April and May will have slightly less programming happening. (so far just canceling April Teen Movie night) Kira will be presenting to each class in the Sweet Home School District from Kindergarten to High School Senior about Digital Literacy and safety. This is part of her position with the school district. She will also be able to promote the library and summer reading during these trainings. Other library staff and special readers will be helping to cover Storytimes when Kira isn't available!

New Building:

Discussions about the selected site have been occurring!