Report of the Library Director for January 2024 Activities

Unfinished Business:

There have been changes to the ACP (Affordable Connectivity Program) at the Congressional level. We got approval to move our grant money to have Annalee do more hours and focus on computer and job application assistance.

We are waiting for a change in weather to continue movement on the improvements outside of the building.

New Business:

I am working on more grant applications for various projects and reports for previous grants. The 2024/25 budget is due soon. I am also working on budget and goal setting with the City.

Collection updates:

The Spanish language picture books and board books are checking out well.

Building issues:

Our newly hired janitor had to resign after a week due to family issues. A new janitor will be hired soon. Until then, Tawyna will be taking on a 2 extra hours per week to clean. In January we had 1 day without power and we were able to remain open. But our new backup batteries for the staff computers, security system and wifi did not perform as expected and might need to be replaced again. We also closed for 2 days and opened late another day due to the ice storm.

In building updates:

Our new circulation desk was installed on Monday (2/5). It is not a perfect solution, but will be far more functional than the original 1969 desk that we had. We added a new large rug and fort building cushions to our kid's area thanks to the Friend's of the Library.

In-person Programming:

We continue to increase the number of programs that we are offering each month. In January we added an afterhours teen game night and teen movie night. Both had great attendance with teens promising to bring more friends next time. Out Lapsit storytime (ages 0-2) has tripled in size the last few weeks.

We had an initial meeting with community partners to combine the Safety Fair and the Summer Reading kickoff event in June.

New Building:

We are working on some grant applications and still looking for collaborations.