

Report of the Librarian for February 2022 Activities

Unfinished Business:

City Council approved the Library becoming Fine Free at the Feb 22 meeting.

Approval was given for expanding library hours to offer more morning hours, starting February 22. We are now open 10am-6pm Tuesday-Thursday and 12-4pm Friday-Saturday. We will reassess hours as needed and requested by community members. Opening later on Friday will give us the opportunity to have library programs in the park over the Summer without impacting staffing in the building (i.e. allowing the library to still be open during programs).

New Business:

Megan met with the High School Media specialist. We will be bringing the literature classes over to the library to introduce the students to the library and collections and getting new cards for the students, as possible.

Supplies are in the process of being ordered for the start of the 1000 Books Before Kindergarten program.

We have added some additional staff hours so that Joy can catch up with the work created by all the new materials being purchased and added to the collections! We have the room in the budget for this. It is planned to continue through the end of June.

We are seeing several people each day requesting library cards. The majority of them do live within city limits, but we are also adding library cards for those living outside of city limits.

We can now accept online payments for fees (lost or damaged items) and for non-city resident fees.

We are working on website updates.

Collection updates:

We are updating and expanding the teen graphic novel collection. The current collection has been weeded and replacements of well loved books were ordered. Over 100 new graphic novels were ordered, based on the YALSA Great Graphic Novel lists for 2021 and 2022.

Sarah is working to clean up the audio books by making sure the series match the collection where the book is shelved and that the entire series is in the same place (Mystery vs Fiction or Western).

We are continuing to move the 100 Books Before Kindergarten and Ready to Read books into the general Kid's collection as they come back.

We purchased a new device to cover the spines of our paperback books. Many books are now only being published in paperback and we needed an easier method to tape the spines to help the books last as long as possible.

We continue to add lots of DVDs, movies and tv series. Patrons are starting to request particular titles. This means that they are excited about the collection and know that we are listening to them and their requests. When titles are requested they tend to be checked out by many families, not just the person that requested the title.

We received 2 family passes for the museum of natural and Cultural History on the UO campus. Patrons will be able to check out these passes and then have free access to the museum for up to two adults and four children per pass.

Building issues:

The latest safety inspection revealed that one of our fire exit doors has a lock on it, preventing access when in the locked position and will need to change in some way. Megan will be meeting with someone from Public Works to find a solution.

We started working with Public works to fix some flooring issues in the Children's area. They have made temporary fixes until parts can be ordered.

In building updates:

We have added more colorful and inviting posters on the walls in the kid's area.

Shelf dividers have been purchased to mark off and identify sections of the non fiction collections to make subjects easier to find.

Additional bean bags and lighting for the teen area. Final arm chair for the main space has been added.

Passive Programming:

For Valentine's Day we gave out around 65 bead kits.

We offered handout activities for Valentine's Day and Black History Month.

After Valentine's Day we started handing out our St. Patrick's art kits and have handed out 45 so far in February

For March we will be handing out Dr Seuss activities, St. Patrick's Day activity pages and Women's History Month activities.

In-person Programming:

The Community reads discussions for Braiding Sweetgrass will be on April 19th and 20th. The book is available now.

New Building:

Megan had initial conversations with the interim City Manager about where the project stands. A meeting with LBCC (long postponed) has been set for March 7.