

Library Director's Report

Prepared by Director Susan Getty

April 4, 2017

Monthly statistics: Please see attached statistical summaries for the month of March.

Financial/Donations:

- Grants: we received a Stewart's Holiday Match Grant in the amount of \$500, as I had emailed the board a few weeks ago. Karen has submitted the application for the NASA @ My Library grant (STEM activities). The Pilcrow grant (children's books) was not awarded to our library in the first round, but there are two more opportunities this year. Karen also put together a mini-grant application for the Ezra Jack Keats Foundation grant to help fund a program over the summer (Harry Potter "camp").
- I have some information from Sara Dallas about the tax cap (in reference to our funding through the school district). She said "The board will need to approve the budget resolution request with at least 60% of the board. To pass the public vote it is a simple majority."
- FYI : the subscription price of the Post Star will be increasing as of March 2017.
- I was asked to gather some prices on outdoor book return units. I have catalogs from two library supply companies, with pages marked so we can compare prices and get an idea of what they will cost.

News/Issues:

- Grand jury duty for me--starting Thursday, April 6th.
- Proudfit Hall policy: we need to be certain that there is good communication with the town of Salem regarding booking Proudfit Hall and the historical room for meetings, so we don't have any conflicts. Also, should the town sign the agreement form?
- The Public Library System Directors' Organization and the Division for Library Development have been working towards updating the NYS Minimum Standards for Public Libraries. This could mean some changes for us in the future, including increased continuing education/training requirements for director, trustees, and staff; as well as increased standards for our physical space.

Programs:

- Our first 4-H special program was attended by 14 kids, mostly from a local Girl Scout troop. The kids all seemed to have a good time. We are planning further programs; the next will be over the April school break. I have had a meeting with Meg Southerland from Gardenworks, who is willing to be supportive of any gardening related programs in the future.
- The Outsmart Your Smartphone workshop was postponed by two weeks due to bad weather, and five (very satisfied) patrons attended when it did take place. We will be working further with Sarah McFadden from CCE in the future, to offer more technology-related workshops.
- Adult Craft Night is April 13 starting at 6 PM.
- April break programs: we will be offering a story time, a 4-H program, an extra Lego Club, a family/kids movie, and the Safe Sitter training course will be offered on Wednesday, April 19th. This program is in partnership with Washington County Youth Bureau/Alternative Sentencing.

- Lincoln Center Screenings: this is a program that would allow our library to choose from a selection of pre-recorded Lincoln Center performances, which we could stream and project for our patrons to view. I have completed the informational webinar, and am waiting for the agreement to sign so we can proceed and schedule programs for the future.
- I have reached out to the Alzheimer's Association and Washington County Public Health in search of free educational programs for our patrons. As a result of this, educational programs about Alzheimer's and dementia, and various public health programs like bicycle safety and healthy living choices, are in the works. We are also on the list as a future site for the Tai Chi for Arthritis program. I'd love suggestions of other community agencies that may be willing to offer free programs for us.