
Director's Report

August 2021

Due to predicted inclement weather conditions of Hurricane Henri, the Library was closed Sunday August 22nd.

Facilities

Hayden Building Maintenance Corporation made extensive repairs to all three roof areas of the library building between August 2nd and 9th. They also inspected, caulked and sealed the clerestory windows and vertical joints on the split block face. We were fortunate that our neighbors at Wright Real Estate neighbors, Russ Wooley and Ray Wright, supported our request for the contractors to access the east and north sides of our building for the repair work.

Repairs to the squirrel cage fan motor units on the HVAC Rooftop unit were completed on August 12th, which returned AC to the New & Popular Materials area, the 3rd Floor and 4th FI NF, the Admin and Staff Kitchen areas. Staff reported water entering the building from the ceiling below the rooftop unit early on the evening of August 12th. The contractor responded to address the issue.

Repairs were made to the Local History furnace room HVAC by Hauser Brothers in late August to clean clogged drains and install clean out traps with the goal of stemming flow of water from the unit onto the floor of the furnace room and into the Local History area.

Reopening

In keeping with the *Nyack Library Services During the Pandemic Emergency Policy* that recommends adjusting policies and practices based on changes in the status of community health and the increase in the transmission rates of COVID-19, we changed Mask Requirements for the public and staff on August 5th to require a mask while in the building for all individuals in a public setting regardless of vaccination status.

Personnel

We held a Staff Meeting on August 5th to review the training, health and safety requirements of the New York State Health and Essential Rights Act (HERO), which aims to provide for Airborne Infectious Disease Exposure Prevention planning. The Plan was distributed to employees via email and was posted to the Staff Lib Guide and Co-share files in its own folder labeled HERO Act.

On August 9th and August 13th, the Management Team participated in negotiation meetings with the Nyack Library Staff Association.

Meetings

I participated in an ANSER Survey Committee meeting on August 12th to review questions for the member library survey that will be conducted.

Sharon Alfano and I met with Bauer and Crowley insurance representative Vincent Russo on August 13th to review the Library's insurance coverage. The cost of the premium increased this year by

approximately 9 % from \$30,821 to \$33,674. Mr. Russo assured us that the cost increase reflected an across the board insurance industry rate increase and was not related to specific issues the insurer had with the Library. Mr. Russo sought competitive insurance bids on our behalf, but all three estimates were \$3000 to \$9000 more than the policy with The Hartford.

On August 27th I attended the Community Brew virtual meeting organized by Kim Cross of the Nyack Center. I shared information about the 2021 LRP Community Survey, the great success of our Summer Reading Program with nearly 700 participants and our planned observance of the 20th anniversary of 9/11.

On August 31st I met with the Audit Committee to discuss membership of the Audit Committee and plans for audit firm engagements.

On August 31st I met with the Building and Property Committee to discuss recommendations for the selection of the Building Condition Study vendors.

Training

Omar Pecou and I conducted a session of mandatory Code Adam (Missing Child) and Lockdown safety training on Friday, August 13th.

CPR Essentials of Nyack provided CPR training on August 30th to 10 library staff. The staff included: Terri Evans, Mike Grella, Ralph Reda, Jeff Flournoy, Minerva Parker, Tania Yenidjeian, Omar Pecou, Georgia Grandstaff, Pernel Wilfed and Angela Strong. Several other staff were interested in the training, but had schedule conflicts so we expect to offer the training again.

Long Range Planning

The LRP 2021 Community Survey was launched on August 10th with a completion deadline of August 31st. Postcard mailers were sent to every household in the library district. Participants were asked to complete a digital survey, or to request a print version from the library. We were prepared to mail the print version to homes when requested. We also provide print version of the survey in Spanish and Haitian Creole languages. The survey was promoted on social media, print flyers and through the weekly email blast. A survey collection box was set up in the Bridge Entrance area.

Grants and Donations

We received a check for 90% of New York State's appropriated Local Library Service Aid (LLSA) in the amount of \$3,804. The LLSA payment is calculated based on the 2010 Census population figures and multiplied by \$.31 per capita. The State did not fully fund LLSA, and we received 7.68% less than what is prescribed in Education Law. The remaining 10% will be distributed in late September.

Nyack resident Alan Englander made an indefinite loan to the Library of his collection of Tappan Zee Playhouse posters dating from 1958 to 1974, and also an original oil painting "Yesteryear on the Hudson" by John Elliot.

Susanna Styron, Nyack filmmaker donated copies of her 2006 film *9/12: from Chaos* to our library as well as to over 30 member libraries in the Ramapo Catskill Library System.

Events

With great assistance from Minerva Park who organized the catering, the gifts and the invitations, we held a Staff Anniversary celebration on Friday August 6th to celebrate 10 staff members who reached milestone anniversaries in 2021: Kim Weston- 30 years; Sharon Aperto and Myra Starr - 20 years; Lou Moreno, Joan Rosen, Tamara Theodate - 10 years; Ruth Vandevanter, Michelle Morales, Julie Zweibel and Elyse Stoller - 5 years. Thank you to Tracy Dunstan and Mike Grella for assisting with the music set-up for the event.

I worked with Peter Danish and Minerva Parker on plans for the Annual Appeal Appreciation Event now scheduled for Saturday, November 20th. We will have a reception followed by a musical performance by Peter and Rita Harvey.

I scheduled several performers for the 2021-22 Carnegie Concert season.

- Piermont Chamber Music Society October 22, 2021 7:30 pm
- Annual Appeal Donor Concert November 20, 2021 6:30 pm reception/7:30 concert
- Kyunghye Kim, Piano February 11, 2022 7:30 pm
- Brian Conway, Fiddle March 13, 2022 2:00 pm
- Carolyn Enger, Resonating Earth program April 2, 2022 7:30 pm
- Yong Kim, Violin May 7, 2022 7:30 pm

Looking ahead

Please note the upcoming events:

The authors, Jerry Nichols and Rebekkah Smith Aldrich, of the Handbook for Library Trustee of New York State are leading a series of Book Club events. It will be an informative series!

Each month trustees will be encouraged to read a chapter of the Trustee Handbook and send in questions that the authors will address during the live event.

- Tuesday, October 19, 2021: Duties & Responsibilities
- Tuesday, November 16, 2021: Library Board Meetings
- Tuesday, December 14, 2021: Personnel

LRP Community Forum, Spet. 22nd at 10:00 am and 7:00 pm

RCLS Budget Review Meetings 9/28 and 9/30 7:00 pm

Annual Appeal Donor Reception and Concert November 20th 6:30 pm with a concert 7:30 pm