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## Director's Report

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April, 2017

### **Buildings and Grounds**

I am happy to report that work as begun in the Carnegie-Farian Room. I have hired David Grab to retouch the woodwork and he is doing an excellent job. I have also received a proposal to sand, refinish and repair the floor of the Carnegie-Farian room. A few details have to be worked out on that and Peter Vermazen has been helping me with those details. I have received one quote for new "lounge" chairs which is what that style of chair currently in the room is called and will get a few more. The logistic of refinishing the floors, cleaning the carpet, moving the furniture currently in the way and getting new furniture installed has to be worked out. My current plan is to have everything done by the fall of 2017. That will give me a 3-4 month cushion if something goes wrong.

### **Personnel**

This has been a tumultuous month with the sudden resignation of both Claudia Uccellani and Dennis Sullivan. They were two valuable employees and brought a lot to the library. Their absence has placed a burden on Aldona, who has worked hard to maintain programming and other services at the level where they had been. As Anne noted in her report, we have begun to look for replacements.

### **Meetings and Programs**

The two final programs to celebrate Carson McCullers' Centennial took place on March 23 at the library and on March 25 at the Nyack Center. Both were well attended and enjoyed by the audience members. We hope to collaborate on future programming with the Carson McCullers Center.

I attended a meeting at the Haverstraw Library conducted by Grace Riario of RCLS. The program, attended by 12 Rockland library Directors had as its purpose to explain a project undertaken by the Division of Library Development (DLD) and the Public Library Systems Directors Organization (PULISDO). PULISDO is a professional association of administrators from each of New York's twenty-three public library systems spread throughout the State. Their purpose is to collaborate on issues common to all libraries in the State.

Their current project is to revise the New York State Minimum Standards. These standards are the measures DLD uses to determine if a library can retain its status as a library in New York State. There are currently 11 minimum standards. There are suggestions made by a committee made up of PULISDO members to revise wording on all but 2 of them, along with adding five more minimum standards. Many of the proposed changes are clarifying language changes. Others are attempts to involve library boards and make them more active. This has been ongoing for a year and a half. This is an ambitious project at best and may go nowhere or be pared down significantly. For your information, here is a link that will explain the current minimum standards and why they are necessary. <http://www.nysl.nysed.gov/libdev/helpful.htm>

The Friends of the Nyack Library had its Annual Meeting on Friday, March 31<sup>st</sup> at which local author Brenda Ross spoke about her book, *Bibsy*, a novel set in Rockland County during the 1950's and 60's that sheds life on the African American communities here and how the construction of the bridge and highway system impacted their way of life.

Afterwards there were light refreshments. It was a lovely evening and a chance to thank the Friends for all they do.