
Director's Report

October, 2016

Personnel. I am pleased to report that Michael Grella has been offered and has accepted the job of Technical Services Supervisor. His experience in processing, receiving and cataloguing items for our collection as well as his knowledge of the staff in addition to his education that will lead him to a Masters in Library Science make him the perfect fit for the position. It had always been my goal to have a librarian, preferably a cataloguer, in this position. His vision for the future of the Department matches with my own and I know that with guidance from both Elizabeth Hobson and me, Mike will shape this Department into what it should and can be for the Library.

Buildings and Grounds. The railing for the DePew House has now been installed and we are now code compliant and I have asked the Building Department to close out this project. I am still working to ascertain the best way to repair the roof so that it no longer leaks. I reached out to Barbara Corwin to ask her advice about the lights. I'm waiting to hear back from her.

I'm pleased to report we have received a conditional yes from the New York State Thruway Authority for a Grant as part of their Community Benefits Program. As stated in the email I received, "this award is pending final approval from the Office of the State Comptroller. Once that approval is received, an agreement can be signed." This money, which would be paid directly to any vendors we hire, is intended for capital repairs or improvements to the Carnegie Room. They are asking for several items from the Library, the first of which is a resolution from this Board. The resolution, which is also included in your packets, authorizes the Project as defined by the Agreement and would authorize someone from the Library to execute the Agreement on behalf of the Library.

The items for which we have requested funding are: sandblasting and cleaning the stonework; replacing the clock; refinishing the woodwork; refinishing and repairing the floors; replacing the furniture and shelving; and purchasing a platform that can be used for programs.

Rental Properties

Cathy Spagna informed me last week that she hoped to be out of the building by Friday, October 7. She also recognizes she has to pay rent to the end of her lease, which she will do. We did have an interested tenant for the bigger of the two offices, but nothing has been finalized.

Meetings and Programs.

We had our third Annual Banned Books Read-Out at which 24 people read from books that had been challenged or banned either in the United States or around the world. Interestingly, there were three books chosen by two different people: *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian* by Sherman Alexie, *As I Lay Dying* by William Faulkner and *Lolita* by Vladimir Nabakov.

I also attended the RCLS Legislative Breakfast, along with Elizabeth Hobson and Duncan Bell who had a display of our Maker Space plans, Sharon Aperto, Ellyse Berg and Denise Leslie representing the Friends of the Nyack Library.

I will be taking vacation from October 26 to November 3 and Sharon Alfano will be Administrator-in-Charge in my absence. As always, I will be available by cell or email.