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## *Director's Report*

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July 23, 2018

### **Personnel**

Shira Barkoe started as Department Head for Technology and Digital Services on June 27 and she, Jen Harrigan, our new Programming Coordinator, and Jeffrey Flournoy, our new Maintenance Tech will be in attendance for the Board Meeting so you can get a chance to meet them and hear a little bit from them.

### **Buildings and Grounds**

The Construction Grant portal has opened and I have begun to look through it to see what needs to be submitted. There is another mandatory Construction Grant meeting on August 3<sup>rd</sup> at RCLS.

The stone exterior entryway was cleaned a few weeks ago. It looks great. I have ordered the portable stage, using the vendor that Peter recommended and got a quote for me. So as soon as those bills are paid, Sharon can submit them for reimbursement and we are done. We did have property lines staked for the fence on the northern side of the parking lot. But after seeing how close the property line is to our neighbor's parking lot and the damage snow plowing and potentially parked cars might do to it, Sharon and I recommended that the fence be replaced in its current spot. It will line up with the current fence further east on the property line that we are not replacing and will not be in danger of damage. The HVAC work has been completed.

### **Meetings and Programs**

July launches the Summer Reading Programs for adults, children and teens. As you will see from their reports, all three departments got off to a quick start, with high registration for children and teens and great programs for all ages.

Contract negotiations have begun. We have met with the Union twice to exchange information and demands and all is proceeding well. I will keep the labor committee informed as we go forward.

### **Collection/RCLS updates**

On June 17, a group of us came in and reorganized the DVD feature films so they are shelved alphabetically by title, regardless of genre. Most patrons looking for older feature films search for them by name, not genre, so shelving them that way will enable them to find the movie they want more easily.

RCLS initiated a program called automatic renewals. Each library must either opt in or out. I opted in. When a book is checked out and the due date arrives, if there are no holds on it, it will automatically be renewed. If RCLS has the patron's email, an email will go out notifying the patron of that action. Certain types, at the individual library's discretion, can be auto-renewed once, some can be auto-renewed twice.

There are 13 libraries who will be starting a fine-free trial starting September first. Most of these libraries will be eliminating fines on juvenile and young adult materials.