

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

JUNE 2022

This is my first report as Nyack Library's Interim Director. My first month here has been both busy and enjoyable, and I thank the Trustees, staff, and outgoing director Angela Strong for their warm welcome and assistance as I transitioned into my new position.

Facilities

The parking lot repaving took place from 6/29 – 7/1, one day longer than expected due to unusually warm weather. The new surface and striping are a marked improvement over previous conditions in the lot.

Some units in the Depew House are scheduled for painting and floor refinishing in early July. Sharon led me on a tour of the building and I met some of the tenants. I was also led on a tour of the entire property with landscaper Bob Roach. He certainly does a good job of keeping the grounds well-managed.

Every summer, NYS Library Development invites libraries to apply for construction grant funds. I have asked the Building Committee to convene a meeting to discuss possible projects for The Nyack Library. The application deadline will coincide with the date of our September meeting

Personnel

We began the summer with nearly a dozen vacancies to fill, but Anne Shaw and the department heads have been busy recruiting to fill the positions. We are making good progress with the part-timers but there are still three full-time vacancies to fill.

Staff are slowly completing the Kantola video training course on harassment prevention but there are still many incompletes. I will focus on this over the summer.

Consultant Leslie Burger is beginning to set up meetings with individual staff members and it appears that this part of her work will be completed by early August.

Information Technology

As previously reported, RCLS is transitioning to a three-tiered pricing structure, and member libraries need to make their choice by September before the new system goes into effect in January. The three tiers are Full Support, Hybrid, and Independent. I will be meeting with RCLS, IT consultants, and some member library directors over the summer to determine what our best options are.

Finance

On June 28 a staffer from our auditing firm was on-site to begin gathering documentation in preparation for the annual audit.

Security

I met Bob Scaglione from Global Security and he briefed me on the services they provide to the Library. So far, I've been impressed by their service and responsiveness.

Collections and Services

Comparing this month's statistics report with the report for June/2019, I was pleased to see that many of the metrics we track have risen to or even exceeded their pre-COVID levels. We're not quite there yet overall, but the trend is encouraging.

Meetings Attended

- 6/14 Policy Committee (via Zoom)
- 6/15 RCLS Directors Association (via Zoom)
- 6/21 Rotary Club luncheon
- 6/23-27 American Library Association Annual Conference (Washington DC)
- 6/30 Personnel Committee

Upcoming Events

- 8/5 Staff Anniversary Celebration, 6 PM
- 9/16 RCLS Annual Meeting (via Zoom)
- 11/18 Annual Donor Appreciation Concert