
Director's Report

March 2021

Facilities

Following rain events water continued to infiltrate the Furnace Room and Local History Room in the area adjacent to Furnace Room. We have managed water through the use of absorbent materials, fans and dehumidifier, which usually dry the moist areas by the next day. We began planning for the relocation and reconfiguration of cabinets in the LH Room so that we access the space where the water appears.

Following late month rain events, Technical Services staff reported water in the Creative Lab ceiling area directly under the north side of the Bridge Patio area. A follow up water leak test will be conducted to verify the source of the leak.

As a follow up to continued water leaks from the roof drain area of the 1973/1993 East building addition, I met with a roofing contractor for another estimate and recommendation. The company provided several options for repair and replacement. With now three different solutions proposed by three different companies, I reached out to a roofing consultant, Russel Walesky, who assisted New City Library with their roofing project. Mr. Walesky will conduct an evaluation of roofing on all three sections of the building to develop an independent assessment and recommendations report.

The 3rd floor restroom in the Library remained out of order.

The Water Sprinkler Project moved forward with the installation of electric service. We continue to gather estimates for running a water line to serve the unit that provides water to the Diebold Garden and south lawn area.

In the DePew House, the exterior telephone cable was secured to the side of the building to prevent its sagging to close to the north lawn area. We also had the electrician trace circuits in the building to correctly identify and label the circuit panel to reflect the current room use in the building. A circuit that tripped several times in the past few months was replaced.

Personnel

Two staff members are on leave from the Library this month: Donna Lightfoot Cooper and Aaron Baldwin. One staff member needed to quarantine as a precaution this month.

Anne Shaw and Sharon Alfano worked on the renewal of the Health Insurance programs for the 2021-22 benefit year, which begins June 1st. We shared information about coverage and premium costs with the Nyack Library Staff Association. Sharon did a great job updating easy to read charts that illustrate health insurance options and costs to make a complex topic more accessible to the staff. Anne did a great job working with our insurance broker to gather information and with assisting staff to better understand and utilize the benefits that are available to them.

Due to changes in New York State Travel and Quarantine guidelines, I modified the Daily Health Questionnaire that staff are required to answer every time they report to work. I updated the question

related to quarantine requirements for domestic travel. In addition, a change was made to reflect the relaxation of social gathering requirements.

Meetings

I attended the RCLS Director's Association meeting on March 10th and a meeting of the Rockland Directors on March 16. I also met with several Board Committees: Finance; Building and Property, and Policy. On March 24th I attended an HR workshop sponsored by RCLS.

Carnegie Concert

We presented a successful and well-received Carnegie Concert on March 14th.



NYS Annual Report

Stephen Hoefler, who organizes all the Annual Reports for RCLS member libraries, notified us that two changes needed to be made to the report:

- Section 7.7 was revised to No with this note, "Due to COVID."
- Section 10 – Trustee Education was updated to include an answer to the training question for each individual trustee. We had only indicated Yes for the four trustees who attended training in calendar year 2020.

Village of South Nyack Dissolution

The Library was contacted by a Laberge Group consultant assigned to the Village of South Nyack dissolution process. While the consultant said that they did not think the Library would be impacted by the change, they asked for confirmation that the Library would not be impacted by the planned dissolution of the Village. I contacted Roger Seiler, who confirmed that other than a reference to South Nyack in our Library Charter, there is no other impact. However, we will need to request a change to the Library Charter since the chartered service area of South Nyack will no longer exist once it becomes a hamlet. Roger estimated that it will be about 18 months before we need to undertake that charter amendment.

Grants

Minerva Parker assisted with the production and mailing of letters to the community partners and presenters who participated or supported the *Black American Culture and Art Series*. We were proud to share the news about the Joseph F. Shubert Library Excellence Award. Tracy Dunstan and I have been invited to attend the April 22nd meeting of the Regents Library Advisory Board to accept this award.

Looking ahead

- April Poetry Walk 4/15-30 throughout Village. See the website for more information
- May 1st 7:30 pm Carnegie Concert via Livestream classical piano concert with Yalin Chi