

Hopkinton Town Library
REPORT FROM LIBRARY DIRECTOR
October 15, 2019

Staff: As part of our new Inclusivity Agenda, we are planning a staff development session on Monday November 18th, building on the information gained in the focus group for families with kids with disabilities facilitated by NH Family Voices in early October. NHFV will run the session. Goal Two 1c 1k

Finance: The proposed budget for 2020 will be distributed at the October trustee meeting. There is a 3.04% increase over 2019, largely due to personnel costs and returning our maintenance budget to \$6,164 after the select board reduced it by \$5,000 in 2019, using the lightning strike as justification, despite the fact that we had ongoing maintenance costs (e.g. HVAC and sprinkler).

The big ticket items in our Capital Improvement budget are the purchase of a generator and the staining and painting of building exterior. Town has recommended that we pursue the purchase of a generator for the library alone, rather than exploring a large unit that would work for Slusser and HTL. Earlier bids ranged from \$7-10K, but need to be updated. I have three bids for staining/painting the exterior as follows: Jeff Ackerman: \$27,159; Gabbett Painting: \$35,991; and Chris Wardell: \$9,600. The trustees should review these and get back to the vendor selected so that we can get into their 2020 queue. I have references for all.

I am in the final stages of completing the Primex insurance claim. My goal is to have it completed by early November. Goal Two: 1b.

Programs:

We gave out approximately twenty free copies of the US Constitution on September 17th, Constitution Day. The Concord Monitor covered our event with a photo and good community conversation resulted from the observance. We hosted the Supervisors of the Checklist on National Voter Registration Day, September 24th. They were very pleased to sign up five new voters and enjoyed having a presence at the library to talk about their work. We will do this event again next year. On Sunday October 13th we had twenty people here for a program on Invasive Species with master gardener Sienna Larson.

We are continuing our series of after school/early evening programs on Tuesdays. There are four monthly options including "express yourself" (kids come with their own projects, musical instruments etc. to share); storytime; chess club for elementary schoolers; and visits with our therapy dog. Upcoming programs:

- Bookbinding workshop. (Thursday October 17th 6:30-8:30)
- US Census Information Table (Friday October 25th) Representatives from US Census will have a table with information about the upcoming census at the library as well as recruitment information for census takers.
- Parents and Social Media with Leah Plunkett, UNH Law School, (Sunday November 17th 4pm). This program is partially in response to one of the goals of the School District's Family Support Team.
- Holiday Piano Concert with Deborrah Wyndham (Sunday November 24th 4pm)

Inclusivity Program: NH Family Voices, a statewide organization working with people with disabilities and their families, facilitated a family focus group on October 3rd at 6pm. Eight families were represented and the feedback was positive and constructive. We are now in the process of planning a staff development session based on the focus group findings for Monday November 18th. We are also exploring the development of some community programs addressing these issues working with the school district, building our parent

collection of materials for loan on related subjects and creating a series of sensory programs for kids and families with sensory appropriate toys/tools/games. Goal One 4a and 4b. Goal Two 1k

Building:

Porch Renovation: Jason LaCombe has developed preliminary plans for closing in the porch on the boiler room end of the building. This could include a small study room and expanded storage space. Bergeron is planning to put in a bid for the porch renovation. John Wuellenweber's (Beaux Woods Construction) bid for the project is \$119,600. Goal 2 1a

Planning and Policy: The Behavior Policy will be distributed for review at the October meeting.

Community Relations: I received a Family Engagement Award from the statewide Parent Information Center along with Sarah Scalph, the parent who wrote me the original email that prompted our Inclusivity Agenda. We were one of eighteen receiving awards this year. I will be speaking about the library's re-opening project at Rotary on Wednesday October 23 at 7am. The library staff is preparing Senior Lunch at the Slusser Center on Wednesday November 13th. If any trustees are interested in assisting, please let me know. I have been asked to serve on a panel for the NHLTA conference on May 12th 2020 on Disaster Recovery. Goal 2 1k

Respectfully submitted, Donna Dunlop