

Hopkinton Town Library
DIRECTOR'S REPORT
October 21, 2014

STAFF: On September 29th, Leigh, Karen and I visited the staff of the Hooksett Public Library, which is the 2014 NH Library of the Year. We had an excellent and stimulating exchange of ideas, learned some new things and confirmed that we are doing some things well. Hooksett is more than twice our size and has a staff person dedicated to technology issues. He is willing to be a resource for us and will be coming to HTL to do some training. Going to visit another library with some of the staff was a productive activity and we will be doing more of these in the new year.

PROGRAMS:

We have had some excellent programs in the past month, each successful but with inconsistent attendance.

PROGRAM	COST	Attendance
Speltz Kenya Program	n/c	12
Powell Family Travelogue	\$ 50.00	55
Lisa Eberhart Anxious Kids		
Book Discussion	\$ 100.00	14
David Feltus on		
Cuba	\$ 50.00	13
Ernest Hebert Author Talk	n/c	7
Civil War Songs	\$ 300.00	40

In the last week of October, the Tibetan monks will be in Hopkinton as part of their nationwide tour educating people about Tibetan culture and raising funds for the work of their monastery and the charitable work they do there (e.g. running a health clinic). Programs will take place around town, though the library community room will be the primary venue.

- Mandala Sand-painting demonstration (October 29th-30th 8am-2pm. On the 31st 8am-10am. Closing ceremony and deconstruction of mandala.)
- Multi-phonetic Chanting (October 28th @6-8pm)
- Tibetan Food Preparation Demonstration (October 30th 5:30pm Cooking Demonstration; Dinner 6:30; Chanting 7:30) Registration Required

Also coming up in October and November will be Hopkinton READS! B.A. Shapiro's "The Art Forger." See bookmark for details.

BUILDING: The boiler was installed last week without event. We were lucky that the weather was so mild. Richard from Pro Controls met with them last Friday and completed the computer programming necessary to get the system up and running. The ballast on the dome light has been replaced.

BUDGET: The 2015 proposed budget has been reviewed with Neal Cass and will be distributed at today's meeting . the major increase is in our telephone line, which has gone up to \$2,200 from \$1,200 due to the fact that TDS is no longer giving us free Internet service. Our budget has increased .81%. This does not include any salary increases, which are being discussed with the select board, but will likely be a 2-3% "pot" on which to draw. We are scheduled to present the budget to the Select Board on

October 27th at 6pm. The overall budget will be presented to the Budget Committee by Ken Traum and Neal on December 3rd. We are welcome to attend.

With 25% of the year remaining, we have used 71% of our budget, indicating that we are on track with spending.

LONG-RANGE PLANNING: The staff has constructed a list of questions that they would like to have answered as part of a survey or focus group process. Susan Covert has agreed to facilitate some focus group sessions to engage library users and people who don't currently use the library. Tom Ladd is currently working on other projects so we have not been able to meet, but I am moving forward with the work. Before the end of the year, we will bring together our community advisory group for the planning process to review the public phase of the planning process.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS:

A Fall Issue of our "Library Ink" newsletter will go out to every household this week. I mention the vandalism to the StoryWalk in my Report.

We have received a grant of almost \$900 from the NH Humanities Council to host a gathering of libraries and historical societies in our region to learn about how to undertake oral history projects in partnership with the Hopkinton Historical Society. It will take place on January 10, 2015 and we will invite a team of community members from Hopkinton to attend the free workshop so they will be able to participate in our own local oral history project for the 250th anniversary.

I have been working with a Rotary Club Committee on their 2015 calendar, which will be dedicated to the 250th anniversary. We will display the historical photos from the calendar in our gallery in December and January.

We are also working with the school district on co-sponsoring an event focused on the film "Who Cares About Kelsey" by Dan Habib, which highlights the need of schools to become more supportive communities. It takes place this Thursday at 7pm.

Respectfully Submitted, Donna V. Dunlop