
Director's Report

May 2022

Facilities

The Village of Nyack TAP Sidewalk Improvement project was completed and the new sidewalks are safe and even. The final work on the area surrounding the tree between the curb and the sidewalk remains incomplete.

On May 9th and 10th the Depew House front steps, the porch and the rear entry area were painted along with the hallway walls on the first and second floors.

On May 17th Hayden Roofing performed the Spring 2022 Maintenance Inspection. I pointed out to them where we were still getting water in the Admin area. They identified the sources of the problem and repaired.

On May 25th, I met with Steve Cea and four engineers and staff from Bloc Power to analyze the potential of replacing the Local History HVAC system with their energy efficient solution. We expect to receive their proposal in June.

Personnel

Throughout the month I worked with Anne Shaw and individual department heads on plans and interviews to fill vacant positions in their areas.

I continued my work with attorneys from the law firm of Keane & Beane law firm regarding two separate personnel issues.

I assisted Anne Shaw with the configuration and deployment of the Kantola online training system, which staff and trustees will use to access and attend Sexual Harassment Prevention Training and Diversity, Equity and Inclusion training this year. Minerva Parker is an administrator for the system so that she can setup new employees to access the training as well as monitor completion of training for the Library's records.

Safety

Thank you to Sharon Alfano, who came into the library twice during her vacation time around the Memorial Day holiday to assist with the recoding of exterior and interior door locks to ensure that only current library staff can access staff only areas.

Finance

We received a payment of \$2,509.13 from the Village of Nyack for parking lot revenue for the periods of June 1, 2019-May 31, 2020 and June 1, 2020-May 31, 2021.

Meetings

On May 10th I attended the Board of Trustees Policy Development and Long-Range Planning Committee meeting.

On May 11th I attended the RCLS Directors Association meeting. G. Riario reported that on April 9, 2022 Gov. Hochul signed Chapter 56 into law which included two major changes to the Open Meetings Law after June 8, 2022, and expanding “the use of videoconferencing by public bodies to conduct open meetings under extraordinary circumstances, regardless of a declaration of emergency”. Jerry Kuntz reported that plans were ready to deploy the new patrons message system called MessageBee. The Directors Association approved a motion from the System Services Committee to authorize RCLS to contract for three years on behalf of member libraries for the Consumer Reports product, with no increase in cost for the first two years, and a 1.99% increase for the third year (10/1/24 – 9/30/25).

On May 12th we held a Long-Range Plan Action Plan review meeting to provide the opportunity for staff to share their LRP work. We opened the meeting to all staff to attend. We shared the documents that staff presented. Participants included Tracy Dunstan, Aldona Pilmanis, Morgan Strand, Pernel Wilfred, Sharon Alfano, Terri Evans, Amanda Thurston, and Jada Metellus. Several Access Services staff are still working on documenting Action Plans and we expect to hear from them at a future date. I was thrilled with the ideas and plans that the staff are working on to reflect and respond to our Long-Range Plan goals. It was very exciting to give them the opportunity to present their ideas in this type of forum and to also have all the participants engage and respond to the presentations.

On May 13th I attended the Board of Trustees Finance Committee meeting.

On May 17th, 24th and 31st I attended the RCLS presentations on their planned transition to two new contracts for ILS (catalog) and IT services. The first session was informational, the second session featured their attorney who made it clear that she was representing the interests of RCLS, and the third session was a follow-up for RCLS to address outstanding questions and concerns. They say they have addressed the questions that were presented to them, but the ANSER Committee maintains a list of 27 questions which remain unanswered. The RCLS IT Audit team completed an audit of our IT equipment on May 25th. We are waiting for their report.

On May 26th Mike Growney and I met with Art Café owner Dan Kramer and Sarah Murray of DR Pilla to review the initial plans for a renovation and expansion of the ArtCafe. We discussed our concerns regarding line of sight from the library, particularly with the location of trash and recycling bins and with building mechanical systems which will be added to a new roofline that they expect to build on the east side of the current building. They are still developing their plans, but anticipate that the project will be completed in phases over a 3-5 year period.

NY State Annual Report

I received a notice from RCLS that the NY State requested clarification of two questions on the Annual Report that we submitted in February. We needed to provide training information for all the trustees, even if they did not complete training in the calendar year 2021, and we need to add a note to explain the difference between prior year statistics for the Circulation of Children’s Other Materials.

Carnegie Concert

On Saturday, May 7th, Yong Kim presented a violin and piano performance to a full house in the Carnegie-Farian Room. The audience was very enthusiastic and appreciative of the program.

Looking ahead. Mark your calendars:

Nyack Library Staff Anniversary Celebration, Friday, August 5, 2022 6-8 pm

RCLS Training (register through <https://rcls.evanced.info/signup/calendar>)

Mandatory Construction Aid Workshop July 29, 2022 at 9:30am-12 Noon (via Zoom)

RCLS Annual Meeting & Awards Presentation Friday, September 16, 2022 10 am -12 Noon (via Zoom)