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## *Director's Report*

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### **October 2021**

#### **Facilities**

The large rain storm of October 25<sup>th</sup> caused water to seep into the Local History furnace room and into the LH Room itself. We also experienced water intrusion in several of the usual spots like the east side tutor rooms and the Programming Office, but we also had leakage in an area of the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor near the comfortable chair seating area. I notified the roof repair company to alert them to the problem so that when they come to do the maintenance check, they can further investigate.

Thanks to the keen ears and eyes of Ellyse Berg, broken limbs on the Sugar Maple Tree on the SE corner of the DePew House were trimmed ahead of the large storm on October 25<sup>th</sup>.

In anticipation of trying to lease De Pew House office suite 2D, the floor was refinished.

The Building Condition Study got underway on October 21<sup>st</sup> with a three hour visit by architects from Michael Shilale Architects. As they requested, I provided an orientation tour that day. They took pictures and asked brief questions. They took that information back to their office for further study, and said that they planned to return to ask more detailed questions about the mechanical, electrical, plumbing and other systems. They also recommended that we proceed with an energy audit, and I completed paperwork to get that study underway.

The broken window (west side left corner) in the Community Meeting Room was repaired on October 18<sup>th</sup>.

I met with a furniture company to discuss options to replace the Creative Lab furniture, which has reached its end of life. We discussed replacing the current table and chairs with ones that will provide for more flexible use of the space. We also tested a comfy reading chair style that would be good addition to the Teen Room.

#### **Personnel**

The Management Team continued to work on contract negotiations with the Nyack Library Staff Association, which resulted in an agreement for a new labor contract for July 1, 2021-June 30 2024.

#### **Meetings**

I attended the Ramapo Catskill Library System Directors' Association meeting on October 13<sup>th</sup>. The new state law, which requires annual library trustee training, and plans to apply for an American Recovery Plan Act grant were reviewed. I provided RCLS with information regarding our interest in participating in the grant which will add an exterior wifi access point to the building.

I attended three ANSER Committee related meetings. The first meeting involved a site visit to Finkelstein Memorial Library to meet with their Chief Information Officer, who gave a tour of their IT facilities to representatives from a number of libraries. The second meeting was held here on October 14<sup>th</sup> to present RCLS with the ANSER Committee Survey and Expectations document. The third meeting was the regular monthly meeting on October 25<sup>th</sup> during which RCLS provided proposed amendments

to the ANSER Agreement, which if accepted by the Directors' Association, may impact the cost and requirements/limitations for using their IT services.

### **Training**

Omar Pecou and Anne Shaw conducted a session of mandatory Evacuation safety training on Friday, October 29th. An additional training session will be held on Sunday, November 14th.

### **Long Range Planning**

Dr. Valerie Williams-Sanchez and I conducted a Staff Forum for employees to have the opportunity to review the LRP process, to learn about the community and staff survey data, and to share any additional suggestions for consideration as the plan is written. Thank you to members of the Personnel Committee, Tamara Jhashi, Ellyse Berg, Bebb Stone, and Peter Danish for their support to this effort.

Department Heads worked on gathering further input from their staff and submitted those documents for consideration in the new LRP.

### **Events**

A very successful Friends of the Nyack Library book sale was held the first weekend in October. We are grateful for the support of so many volunteers, including trustees Ellyse Berg, Bebb Stone and Wayne Henry.

We rented the Carnegie-Farian Room for a concert planned by Creative Financial Planning, Inc. a Nyack business, to celebrate the special anniversary of Baxter Hall at 101 S. Broadway. Thank you to Minerva Parker, Omar Pecou and Jean Vital for their assistance with the event, which went well with as guests followed our COVID mask wearing guidelines.

The first in person Carnegie Concert was held on October 22<sup>nd</sup> with a performance by the Piermont Chamber Music Society. Most attendees followed our COVID protocol for mask wearing without an issue. Thank you to Kat Sullivan and Minerva Parker for their assistance with support of access to the Library for rehearsal time for the group, and a thank you to Omar Pecou, Kristine Kumpf and Jean Vital for their help on the night of the concert.

Minerva Parker created an invitation for the Annual Appeal Donor event which was sent to donors.

### **Grants and Donations**

Creative Aging in Nyack provide a donation for \$500 in appreciation for the use of the Community Meeting Room and the assistance our staff provided. I invited Rosemary Farrell, Georgia Grandstaff, Tracy Dunstan, Jeff Flournoy and Omar Pecou to be present when they presented the check to the Library. The staff who could attend got an enthusiastic greeting and applause from the members.

### **Open Meeting Law Revision**

The Governor signed S1150A/A1228A into law on, October 19, 2021. The law requires that open meeting documents be available upon request or posted to the public body's website at least 24 hours prior to the open meeting at which the documents will be discussed.

## **Looking ahead**

Please note the upcoming events:

The authors, Jerry Nichols and Rebekkah Smith Aldrich, of the Handbook for Library Trustee of New York State are leading a series of Book Club events.

Each month trustees will be encouraged to read a chapter of the Trustee Handbook and send in questions that the authors will address during the live event.

- Tuesday, November 16, 2021: Library Board Meetings
- Tuesday, December 14, 2021: Personnel

Annual Appeal Donor Reception and Concert on Saturday, November 20<sup>th</sup> 6:30 pm with a concert by Peter Danish and Rita Harvey at 7:30 pm.