Library Director's Report

May, 2018

Statistics: the Library is doing better than this time last year in some meaningful categories: foot traffic, circulation (loans), and number of items being borrowed or loaned to other LINCC Libraries (decreasing significantly). Other areas look much the same as this time last year or even a little below. It's all a very normal distribution of use which reminds us that we really must look at trends over time as opposed to daily or even monthly. However, some of these stats really help me feel we are going in the right direction!

Building: As you know, I am working with P&C Construction and SEA Architects to get some more work done. We are vetting the process and the numbers. The cost will be significant but we have funds budgeted to cover them. When we have this more worked out, we will bring you more information prior to this going to the Commission for their approval (a Consent Agenda item).

Programs: We are just about ready for Summer Reading!! We just need to stuff the bags. We will be having a pizza party on Thursday, May 24, from 6-8 p.m. You're invited!! We will stuff ourselves with Pizza first, then stuff bags. There has been a lot of planning for Summer Reading, which as you know also extends to adults. But first, lined up for May:

5/4: Ask me about May the 4th Be With You!

5/5: Civics Workshop

5/10: Frederick Law Olmsted film viewing/End of the Oregon Trail

5/11: Baby Sign Language starts (every Friday in May at 11:00)

5/12: Youth Symphony performance

5/15: Equitable Housing Workshop

5/17: Willamette Falls Story Maker Film Festival

5/19: Floral Crown Craft

5/21: Strategic Planning Stakeholders Meeting #1

5/23: Strategic Planning Stakeholders Meeting #2

5/28: closed for Memorial Day.

All month long: Lake Oswego Reads Art Display

Staffing:

Staffing is stable and strong. We know we need more staff and we *might* be able to afford more on an ongoing basis. However, we want to get through the Strategic Planning process before we really start planning anything long term. In the meantime, we are filling certain holes by outsourcing. Baby Signs is a good example of that. And we are filling in with on-calls on certain projects that need a temporary

boost. Relabeling in the Children's Department is a good example of that. We are fortunate to have some great volunteers and we are growing these ranks. We also have a part-time intern, Alissa Forbes, coming to us from the Recorder's office in June, and another part-time staff who will get some intern hours learning about collection development in the Children's Department.

Strategic Planning:

We have been putting together information for the Stakeholders Meetings as well as a PowerPoint. I'd be happy to send all of this to you after the meetings. Or we could even review at our next meeting?

Collections:

As you could tell from the large number of added items (1870) and the small(er) number of borrows, our collections are growing with the influx of funds from the Foundation! This has been a really helpful boost to our much need collection growth. And we will keep up with this.

Our children's collections have gone through a lot of change. Our Youth Services Librarian, Barratt Miller, has a real vision for the breakdown of collections in order to support the ease of finding youth materials. She wants this process to be as intuitive as possible. However, its hard to do everything at once and this process takes time. As I have always said, you must create a mess to create a masterpiece. She is getting there and sees the light at the end of the tunnel-she, and others, have really worked hard on this.

You will continue to see changes in Adult sections as well. Libraries are dynamic places and this is how it should be. Please let me know if you ever see anything that does not make sense or seem quite right to you. If you think something could be tweaked, it's very likely someone else will think that too! After all, we are making changes for the patrons, not for ourselves!