

DIRECTOR'S REPORT MARCH 2023

The Buildings and Grounds Committee met on 2/27/23, 3/7/23, 3/20/23.
The Finance Committee met on 3/6/23.
The Personnel Committee had a telephone call and will meet next month.
The Policy Committee will meet next month.

Buildings and Grounds

Due to difficulties with our restrooms, we snaked and scoped our waste lines with our architects and engineering team.

Waste lines in the Public bathrooms were installed at a depth sufficient for trenching new connections (for the unisex/family bathrooms). Waste line from the existing building house trap (located in the storage room, North side of the building) has a significant level of standing water. This is not good. Engineers need to follow up to see if we need to take it out. The "belly" (bend/bowing) in this original (1963) pipe is located in a 5 foot span and appears to be caused by tree roots. Remedying this standing water condition, before the new bathrooms are installed /completed is prudent.

At minimum, the section of pipe that needs to be removed and replaced is a 5 foot stretch starting near a sycamore tree, extending under the sidewalk, towards the waste pipe in the middle of Franklin. This means including the Town in the discussion, once we have more detailed information from the engineers, as it is their sidewalk that we will have to go under (or rip up and get replaced).

It is suggested that we take out several of the sycamore trees. They have negatively impacted the pipe, and need to be removed (including the roots). We are in contact with arborists and tree removal companies to see what our options are.

There will be a chiller rental proposal ready for the next board meeting.
See attached Energy Cost Analysis and recommendation.

Personnel

Library Page (P.T.)

Kerianne Costello Start Date 3/15/23

Clerk (P.T.)

Pearse McCann Start Date 2/24/23

Dina McKenna Start Date 2/22/23

Joette Yore Start Date 3/08/23

Librarian II (F.T.)

Diana Wendell Start Date 3/13/23

Page PT Trey Carnegie resigned due to relocation.

Clerk PT Cathy Cawley has transferred via promotion to Library Assistant PT.

Advocacy

John McGowan
4h · 🌐

I had the pleasure of meeting with members of our local libraries and the staff from the Ramapo Catskill Library System. Our libraries are a wonderful source of a variety of information and programs for all ages! With access to books from beginner readers to our seniors, there are learning and adventure opportunities that can take you wherever your imagination can dream! The RCLS is more than wonderful books and periodicals! There are also free online services such as Vete... See more



Library Director Schatoff, Head of Circulation Laurie Wilson, and Head of Youth Services Amy Chesman made visits to Assemblyman John McGowan and State Senator Bill Weber's local offices to discuss library funding, NYS Public Library Construction Grants, Bullet Aid, SAM grants, and DASNY funding.



Learning Lab

Patrons rely on our popular Tech Help sessions. We ran over 30 tech help sessions this month, in the library and at our twice-monthly outreach. Adults and seniors clearly appreciate this thorough, one-on-one service, working with our staff to solve their latest tech problem, or just to gain confidence and develop online skills with their devices. Thanks to the Learning Lab, PRPL is not only a place for patrons to find content, it is a place for them to create content of their own. Through Learning Lab classes, like Writing from Life and Adult Tech, and one-on-on project development sessions, patrons are achieving their creative aspirations.

Coming this Summer: Learning Lab Spotlight - The Short Stories of Jeanne Lyons. Over the last 7 years in Writing from Life, Jeanne Lyons has written and revised over 40 very engaging stories, with a wide-ranging cast of characters and situations. For the last few months Jeanne and I have been working on this collection, which will be published this summer by our own Pearl River Public Library Press. A Book Release program and a discussion of her development at the library will take place during our Summer Reading schedule of events.

Coming this Fall: Learning Lab Spotlight - Patron Projects, 3 Short Films, by Eric Bender. In his Tech Help Sessions at the library, Eric has been learning new skills such as file storage/labeling, video editing, and how to use midi musical instruments on his

desktop computer (which he brings to the sessions). A screening of the films and a discussion of Eric's development at the library will take place during our Fall schedule of events.

Learning Lab partner - Literacy Volunteers continues to grow. The Tuesday morning time slot is working out very well for the Literacy Volunteers. Normally a slow time in the Learning Lab, the volunteer group is now routinely filling the Lab with students. Many of these students are now learning the lyrics to the songs they will be singing when they participate in our adult/senior choir, which starts in April.

Alexsis Ramos de Moore has been doing a great job making big events of our artist



receptions. This month, artist Devinder Kaur Ahluwalia drew a crowd of 75 people in person, and the online reception drew another 271. The event included live violin music. As always, Learning Lab programs had full attendance plus waiting lists. Our Tech/Steam Fun Club, coding programs and Adult Tech sessions filled the Lab

to capacity.

Our 60th Anniversary Oral History project is going well. Librarian Jim Cassetta and Page Izsaak Gonzales have been doing a great job with our ongoing Oral History Project. There are now 10 interviews on video, which we will soon be making public.

Incident Reports

3/2/23 9:45 AM Handicap parking

3/15/23 2:15 PM Middle school students loud asked to leave they complied

3/16/23 5:49 PM A young patron removed and smashed all of the newly installed solar lights along the Franklin Avenue walkway. The police were contacted.