

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

March 2015

Programs

North Shore Reads, the joint program with other local libraries, was held on Thursday March 26th at the Metropolitan in Glen Cove. The book is Alice Hoffman's Museum of extraordinary things; Ms. Hoffman was a guest speaker at our event. Over 250 people attended, including some 50 Sea Cliff residents. (see attached photo)

We are going to offer ESL classes beginning April 21st. Local residents Maria Fernando Pardo and Janis Angliss have offered to present these classes. They are offering their services gratis with the library only supplying space, PR and using the copy machine. This is in keeping with Goal I – Continue to expand our programs to deepen the Library's significance to our distinct community –of our Long Range Goals. (see attached proposal)

Buildings and grounds

The Library was closed on March 5th due to weather conditions.

Finances

We have been informed that we will receive \$300,000 from the Village which is no change from last year.

We renewed a CD from the Broader Horizons account for 6 months for \$10,050 @.1%.

We are going to exceed our Computer Maintenance line of the budget due to unexpected expenses related to removing the pre-existing internet connections in the Children's Library.

NYS has passed its 2015-2016 Budget. It provide

- **Library formula aid** was increased by **\$5 million (5.8%)** in comparison to the amount (\$86.1M) allocated in the state's 2014-15 budget and the Governor's Executive Budget for FT 2015-16. The \$5M represents the **biggest single-year gain in library aid in 7 years**.

This "increase" is actually another partial restoration of library aid that was reduced by **21.6%** via a series of cuts from 2008 through 2011. This restoration brings total library aid back to **\$91.6M**. Because of the support of the Legislature yearly incremental restorations of library aid began in 2012 and have continued. Library aid appropriated in the 2014-15 state budget was still **14.8%** below the amount that is authorized in State Education Law and was appropriated in the State's 2006-07 budget (**\$102.6M**). Because of this latest restoration, library aid will now only be **10.7%** less the amount authorized law and allocated in 2007.

- **\$14M** was once again appropriated for the **Public Library Construction Grant Program**.

Our advocacy efforts certainly paid off this year.

Services

We are looking into the purchase of a 3D printer. I have spoken to and visited several libraries that have these machines. When I queried them about the philosophy behind purchasing these machines, they responded:

- It is keeping with the emphasis on STEM education, introducing young people to new directions in engineering.
- It is a way of introducing this new technology to residents, much as we did with the Nooks. Prices of these machines are coming down and within a few years many people will have them in their homes.
- It is a way of bringing young adults into the library.

There are two machines that would make sense to us:

- MakerBot Replicator Mini at a cost, including materials and 1 year service -- \$1784.40. It is 29.5 x 31 x 38 (h).
- MakerBot Replicator Fifth Generation -- \$3692.98. It is 52(w) x 44 (d) x 41(h).

Obviously, one can make larger things on the Fifth Generation. In either case, one of the biggest challenges will be finding the space for this.

If we purchase such a machine, we will have to review how to make it available to the public as even a small project can take several hours to make.

We are also exploring 3D pens and Roku video sticks where movies are downloaded and then circulated.

We are also gathering information about a new public printer as well as a photocopy machine as the existing one has been a bit troublesome. The public printer is over 10 years old and is challenged printing PDF or graphic heavy documents.

We have gotten information about purchasing a Museum Pass to the North Shore Historical Museum in Glen Cove. It cost \$50 which is reasonable enough and I think it is important to support endeavors such as this. We would pay for it out of Gift Funds.

Library survey

In the last issue of our Newsletter, we included a survey. Unfortunately, we got only two responses so I am not sure what conclusions we can draw from them.

Accidents

On March 7th, one of our residents, Virginia Pedulla, fell in the library. An ambulance was called and she did go to the hospital. Fortunately, she was not injured. Staff responded efficiently and compassionately to this emergency.

Correspondence

Letters of congratulations were sent to Mayor Kennedy, Trustees Lieberman and Epstein.

Important dates

Thursday April 23rd – Open Poetry nite, 7pm

Thursday April 30th – Maureen Murphy will speak on Irish poetry, 7pm.

Tuesday May 12th – Library Board meeting, 7pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Arlene Nevens

Library Director