

INTERIM DIRECTORS REPORT

25 July 2016

Notes on Library Services, Programs, and Staff:

- In June of 2015 our half year totals (January to June) for circulation of items was 1,063,810 and in 2016 the half year total is 1,086,542. Door count numbers were 282,626 in 2015 and 297,457 in 2016. The total number of programs for the first six months in 2015 was 969 (with 31,171 attendees) and for the first six months in 2016 the total number of programs was 1,155 (with 37,630 attendees). Comparing the first half of both years, 2016 appears to be on a record breaking year.
- Reciprocal borrowing continues strong as well, with CCPL continuing to lend more than 77% of the items borrowed by Hamilton County residents. Hamilton East Public Library is second, lending just under 18% of the total.
- Summer Challenge is going strong with 6,795 participants, including Arlo, the library's gecko in the Children's area. As of 17 July Arlo had 80 points in the Summer Challenge. Check out his adventures on the library's Facebook page. Will he get to 100 points before Summer Challenge ends on 15 August?
- Another stop will be added to ccpl2go in August – Green House Cottages of Carmel. The mobile library participated in Touch a Truck the Carmel Park's event on Wednesday, 20 July.
- CYS staff had RTV6 meteorologist, Kevin Gregory, present a weather camp for children that was both fascinating and interactive. On Thursday 14 July a special program on drones let students entering grades 4-8 learn how to safely fly them. Arlo's Storytime was another popular event.
- Our AV Department continued with the AV Summer Movie Classics Series of the Star Wars Prequel trilogy. The usual AV movie night featured Hail Caesar on Friday, 15 July.
- A Bicentennial celebration of Indiana fashion, The Empire Strikes Back, was a huge success. Over 100 attendees witnessed a live fashion show with models representing fashion from 1816 to today. The models interacted with the audience by answering questions. Another well received program was a collaboration between IT and Reference. Katherine Huddle and Brooke Baker conducted technology sessions for seniors. These classes on social media, email and online shopping were so popular that more sessions were added to accommodate the interest of the participants.
- YA Department and the teen volunteers have been hard at work crafting bookmarks as a Summer Challenge prize.
- On the Fourth of July the IT staff did an upgrade to the Sirsi system which was needed so that the larger upgrade could be done in September. Peter also reported that the new EMV card readers were added to the self-check units.
- Communications staff completed this year's Countdown to Kindergarten calendar. According to Beth this is the fifth year for this calendar and a wonderful tool that CYS distributes all year to parents of children heading toward Kindergarten. This year thanks to Liz and the sponsor, Franciscan St. Francis, health tips have been added to the calendar to aid parents.

- The Foundation's Small Business Owner Program series featured "The Art of Networking on Tuesday, 12 July. The Guild revealed the authors for the October Book and Author event. Please read Liz's report for the details.
- Many staff members and teen volunteers participated in the CarmelFest parade walking in front of our mobile library. We had a great time representing the library and hearing people shout out their appreciation of CCPL. A special treat was having Josh Kaufman (Season 6 winner of The Voice) in the parade entry behind the library. As you may know, he tutored in our library before winning and having his musical career bloom. He even joined us in front of our mobile library for a picture.
- Received a telephone call from a patron, Connie Latas, about the library's superb staff. She has always received good service from everyone at the library and mentioned that the staff is friendly and extremely helpful. As she said more than once "*I love our library*".

Budget/Finance:

- Cindy Wenz sent this report concerning some of our benefits. *Our life, short-term disability and long-term disability insurance coverage with Lincoln National was renewed effective July 1, 2016. Initially, we were quoted a 10% increase overall. However, our dental insurance was also up for renewal August 1, and the current carrier (MetLife) notified us of a 13% rate increase. We asked our broker (Gregory & Appel) to have Lincoln reconsider the life and disability increase and to obtain other dental bids. They brought us five additional dental quotes, with one of the top two being from Lincoln National. By moving our dental coverage to Lincoln, we are saving \$2,400 per year in premium cost with a two-year rate guarantee and identical coverage to the existing MetLife plan. In addition, by placing the dental coverage with Lincoln, they also agreed to hold rates on the life and short-term disability insurance for two more years and reduced the increase in long-term disability coverage from 10% to 5%, resulting in a \$238 increase in annual premium as opposed to original quote of \$1,284. Thanks, Cindy.*
- Instead of driving downtown Indianapolis to the State Library for the 2016 Annual Budget and Legislation Workshop on 12 June, Dan and I attended via webinar in our Board Room. This enabled us to work on the 2017 Budget during the lunch break.
- Dan and I will meet with Mike Reuter on Tuesday to begin the various forms that will be entered into Gateway for the 2017 Budget. As a reminder, Mike will be at the August Board which will begin at 5pm.

Building and Grounds:

- Jim Sawyer repaired the pot holes at the exit of our patron parking lot.
- During our annual Fire Department inspection of the building it was noted that some of the emergency batteries in the exit lights did not work. Culture Lighting informed me that the batteries are not readily available and the few they found cost \$21 per unit. A new energy efficient unit with LED lights with battery backup would cost \$22 per unit. Culture Lighting is in the process of replacing the exit lights.
- The fire extinguishers had their annual inspection on 11 July to comply with the fire codes.
- During the CarmelFest parade the library was a designated cooling station.

Foundation Report from Director Liz Hamilton:

- See separate report

Friends:

- The Friends Hospitality Committee will treat the library staff to cupcakes on the last day of Summer Challenge.

Legislative Issues:

- Nothing to report

Strategic Planning:

- The Steering Committee met on Tuesday, 19 July. Details will be presented at the Board meeting.
- On Tuesday morning, 2 August, the Management Team will hold a Retreat/Objectives Workshop at the Tarkington.

Other:

- The Library received a \$360 check from the retired Hamilton County Teacher's Association for our great work with students.
- Paula Newcom from the Indiana State Library visited our library for almost 3 hours on Thursday, 7 July. Our library may be featured in the ISL annual report. Paula remarked during the tour that our staff was extremely friendly and welcoming.
- Check out Happenings for August. The Library has many program offerings and events. Here are a few you may wish to attend. For more details and many more programs please look over Happenings.
 - Another Bicentennial event features the *History of the Carmel Dad's Club* on Tuesday, 30 August
 - The Small Business Owner Program series continues on Tuesday, 9 August with the program "*A Good Referral For Me Is...*"
 - Wrap up the Summer Olympics with our AV movie night in August featuring the story of Jesse Owens from the 1936 Olympics
 - AV Summer movie classics series "The Star Wars prequel trilogy" will show the final episode on Thursday, 4 August
 - The Music of Star Wars a celebration of the movie music of John Williams will be presented on Thursday, 18 August
 - The Foundation's Stethoscope series continues on Wednesday, 24 August with a program called "*The Mystery of Low Back Pain and Sciatica*"
 - Technology sessions for seniors this month features a "Senior Tech Petting Zoo" on Saturday, 27 August
- At the wrap up meeting of the DragonBoat Festival the library was asked to participate in the Mooncake Festival, on Saturday evening, 13 August. Our mobile library will represent the library at this event. Thanks, Judy and Kasey for your willingness to work this event.
- You may have the Current in Carmel article about Pokémon Go on page 7 of the 19 July issue. According to the article, "*Pokémon Go is a free game that uses augmented reality. It displays a graphic of a Pokémon character on the phone when someone stumbles upon it through the city. Players then "capture" it by throwing poke'balls at it.*" These places are call *Poke'stops*". We have discovered that the library has four Poke'stops. Many of our staff have noticed groups of people playing this game around the library. For a detailed article about this phenomenon see: <http://www.vox.com/2016/7/12/12158372/pokemon-go-ios-android-game-questions>