

FERN RIDGE LIBRARY DISTRICT

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Director's Report to the Board of Directors For April 8th, 2009 Meeting

Administrative

Business Manager Fred Welding alerted me to a discrepancy with PERS that relates to his active status. He is following up on the matter and will report to the library board as the ramifications of this discrepancy become clear.

Anticipating that the *Renovate '08* campaign will come to a close sometime this year, I have begun reviewing Oregon's public contracting laws and gathering information about overseeing construction projects.

Beginning in April, I will cross-train on a number of the business manager functions in order to better understand them and to be available to serve as a back-up.

Youth and Teen Services

Summer Reading Program activities and programs are now set. Information is available at the circulation desk with dates, times, and program descriptions.

Please see Youth Services/Volunteer Coordinator Katie Kane's report for more information.

Community Programs

The Friends of the Fern Ridge Library presented a program on Volcanology Tuesday, March 17th.

Assistant Director Laura Blankenship and I represented the library at the 'Spring Forward' ART, Inc. event on Saturday, March 21st. I spoke with several ART, Inc. volunteers about future partnerships and unveiled the Summer Reading Program shirts during a brief presentation between musical acts. Laura networked with local artists and merchants and distributed information about library services.

My presentation to the Chamber of Commerce lunch crowd has been moved to May in order to accommodate another presenter in April. I have invited the Foundation board to join me as I will discuss the state of the *Renovate '08* campaign.

The library will again run an adult summer reading program concurrently with the youth SRP. I am working on several ideas to tie in with the 'Creativity' theme, including kits available for checkout that feature books and equipment for making arts, crafts, and music.

National Library Week begins April 12th and continues through the 18th. Local author John Daniel will do a reading and signing of his new book at 7pm on Thursday, April 16th in the Konnie room as part of our celebration. Late fees up to \$5 will be forgiven for all who visit the library during the week.

Facility/Equipment

All is well.

Foundation

I attended a Foundation board and Renovate '08 Campaign meeting on Monday, March 23rd. Former mayor Tim Brooker has been invited to join the Foundation as a board member.

Friends

Assistant Director Laura B. attended the FRIENDfest 2009 planning meeting on Saturday, March 28th. This celebration is the 10th and likely the final FRIENDfest. Library staff will consider some kind of event or celebration to fill the void in future years.

Library Meetings

A staff meeting was held Friday, February 20th. Library Assistant II Marly Stapp facilitated this meeting.

The Lane Council of Librarians met in the conference room on Monday, March 16th. Working together as a consortium, the group has voted to join the Oregon Digital Consortium in order to offer Library2Go, a service that will allow patron access to downloadable content, including audio books and e-books. This service will be available beginning in the 2009-2010 fiscal year.

Materials

Statistics – We have added a significant number of new adult and non-catalogued books in March. Donations of mass-market paperbacks have been increasing, with many individuals bringing multiple boxes or bags in at a time.

Acquisitions- The spring book 'season' hits a peak in April and the library will be adding a large number of new titles as quickly as we receive them.

I have been looking at circulation reports from the SPL for Spanish language books in order to find titles and/or subjects that might be of interest to our Spanish speaking patrons. Our collection has been long overlooked, and must be bulked up in anticipation of the children's books we will be receiving from the *Amo Leer* grant.

Weeding- Adult fiction weeding continues.

Patron Services

Basic computer classes are now offered monthly, on the first Tuesday of the month. Attendance has been between 5 and 8 patrons per class and the instruction has been well received.

The job search workstation is now available for use to the public with a 2 hour time limit. Information about the service has been sent to the West Lane News and was written up in the current edition of *Groundwaters*.

Cybrarian settings have been changed to limit public computer use to 60 minutes per day. This should allow more users per day on the 12 public access machines. There has been very little negative feedback about this change to date.

Flash drives are now available for purchase at the circulation desk. 1GB drives are available for \$6. A 1GB is also available for circulation.

Personnel/Staff Development

All staff members, myself excluded, was able to attend at least one full day at the Oregon Library Association conference in Salem on April 2nd and 3rd.

Business Manager Fred W. and I attended a PERS Workshop at city hall in Eugene. An overview of the newly updated EDX on-line data entry system was presented. I will be cross-training on this system to serve as a back-up to Fred.

Staff Recognition

Library Assistant II Marly S. passed the Frog Cup on to Library Assistant I Barbara Brutschy to recognize her ability to keep up book-covering duties quickly and efficiently.

Use Statistics

March came in like a 'literary lion' as use statistics jumped markedly. Total circulation is up almost 40%, on an increase of hours of only 22%. We are averaging almost 250 patrons through the door each day and doubled the number of computer users from last March.

Please see the March 2009 Statistics report for more information.

Volunteers

The annual Volunteer appreciation party will be held on Saturday, April 25th at 2pm in the Konnie room. Cake, beverages, party favors, and goodwill will be provided.

I attended the Distinguished Service Awards at Crow High School on Thursday, April 2nd. Volunteer Gena S. was presented with a certificate and gift certificate in honor of her work with the youth at the library.