

Library Director's Report

November 2017

Building and Grounds

Work on the Children's Garden is complete, except for a raised garden bed that will be constructed by the Facilities Dept next spring. The incorrectly built benches were taken back by the contractor and the amount was deducted from the invoice by Matt Sturgis.

The resolution of the noise issue continues to be on Facilities radar. We are also going to start reviewing how the spaces in the library can be configured to better alleviate sound issues and better align with how our patrons use and wish to use our spaces. Both will be lengthy, well researched and thought out processes which will dramatically increase the quality of the patron experience in the library when completed.

New Initiatives

Rachel has begun doing a weekly, afternoon storytime at Cape Care (Community Services). This is a great interdepartmental collaboration and a way to promote the Library to potentially non-users.

Alyssa has formed and begun meeting with a new Teen Advisory Board. This group will help shape the future of teen services at the Library as well as possible programs and other activities. These groups are a great way to connect with local teens and given them a feeling of investment in their library.

We have also begun a partnership with the Cape Elizabeth Food Pantry and the Book Fairy Project. The Book Fairy Project is an initiative to distribute new or gently used children's books in food pantries. We will be collecting books to take to the food pantry for users to take while they are there.

October Storm

We were without power all day Monday (30th) and part day Tuesday (31st). We reopened around 1:30 on Tuesday. People quickly began to come in. We were most busy on Wednesday, as we had power / internet and most of the town did not. We brought up six tables from the Community Room and gathered power strips to set up makeshift work spaces for everyone who came in to reconnect. It was easily the busiest we've been since the opening and on non-program days. Going forward, I will be exploring with Matt Sturgis and Facilities the possibility of getting a generator for the building. It would have been a valuable service to have been open as a shelter during the entire period the community was without power.