

Moorhead Library Board
Board of Trustees, Regular Meeting
July 14th, 2015
Director's Report

Materials and Services

- Lake Agassiz Regional Library continues to highlight its Database of the Month program. For more information on the current database, visit www.larl.org.
- Les Bakke has offered to volunteer his time to library customers by offering one-on-one appointments for genealogy research. Customers wishing to make an appointment can contact the library.
- Beginning in fall, computer classes will follow a different format. Rather than offer formal classes, library staff will instead offer informal help sessions. Attendance at formal computer classes has dropped and staff have found that the formal structure has not been helpful for those who do attend. These informal sessions will consist of library staff being available in the computer class for a set time period to answer questions and help customers with specific computer issues. Class handouts and other learning materials will still be available to customers. We are hopeful that this new format will be a better service to our community.
- Lake Agassiz Regional Library recently added two new genres to the online catalog – Graphic Novel and Christian Fiction. Stickers have been added to books that fall under these two categories. The purpose of adding these genres is to make shelving guidelines easier to follow as well as to make these materials more visible and easier for customers to find.
- Lake Agassiz Regional Library will migrate to a new Integrated Library System on October 2015. Staff will attend training sessions starting in September in order to prepare for the transition.
- The Moorhead Library is offering an adult summer reading program, Sizzlin' Summer Reads. Customers fill out a slip for each 4 books (or eBooks or audiobooks) they read. Staff draw for prizes weekly.

Library Activity

- The 2015 Summer Reading Program has been averaging about 150 kids per week.
- Staff are working to weed the library collection to make room for newer materials and to prepare for the migration to Evergreen in the fall.

Outreach Efforts

- Candace Perry, our Youth Librarian, will make three trips to the Migrant Head Start this summer to offer a condensed version of the Summer Reading Program. She has made the first of three trips and it went really well.
- The Moorhead Public Library is now a member of the Moorhead Business Association.
- Library staff will write and submit book reviews to the FM Extra. The Extra will print the reviews as space allows.

- The Moorhead Library has partnered with the Clay County Early Childhood Initiative to host a Little Free Library Building Contest. The goal of ECI is to place Little Free Libraries in city parks throughout Moorhead. This has been a goal of the Friends of the Moorhead Library in the past. There is room for collaboration and library staff will work with the Friends to ensure they are involved.

Continuing Education

- Deb and Jenny attended a workshop hosted by the Chamber of Commerce. The workshop was presented by local law enforcement and included a discussion on how to keep our community safe.
- Megan attended a workshop hosted by the Moorhead Business Association. Mike Hulett presented on giving effective performance reviews.

Upcoming Programs and Events

- The Moorhead Library is participating in One Book, One Community this fall. The book is “Fractured Land” by Lisa Westberg Peters, which is about a memoir about a Minnesota environmentalist inheriting mineral rights during the North Dakota oil boom. Events will take place in September and October. All three area public libraries are giving away free copies of the book. The Moorhead Library is giving away copies as prizes for our adult summer reading program, Sizzlin’ Summer Reads.
- Please see event brochure for a list of other events.

Friends of the Moorhead Library

- The Friends of the Moorhead Library have begun selling book and merchandise at Nerd Nook at the Moorhead Center Mall.

Building Issues

- The wall in the elevator has been fixed.
- Youthbuild is working to complete the table project. They expect to complete the tables and chairs by the beginning of August.
- Bremer Grant update:
 - We have received the \$20,000.00 of direct funds awarded by the grant.
 - We have a dollar-for-dollar matching grant opportunity up to \$10,000.00. This will mean a total of \$40,000. We currently have a total of \$454.14 in donations toward this project. The Clay County Bar Association has pledge another \$1,000.00.
 - Youthbuild plans to paint the meeting rooms over the summer. Cook Flooring will replace the carpet once the painting has been completed. Furniture will be purchased after that.
- We will begin looking into adding additional security cameras to library property. Currently, we are gathering information from the last camera project, and expect to have estimates in the fall.

Staffing Issues

- Jess Piek joined the Moorhead Library staff as an Associate in June.
- We are hosting a placement worker from the Youth at Work Program through the Rural Minnesota CEP office. He works at the library 10 hours per week. The work he does is consistent with what we would have a volunteer do.

Other Issues

- The LARL Board has created a preliminary budget for 2016. LARL has sent a letter to the City of Moorhead to inform them of the 2016 request, which includes a 2% increase from the 2015 funding level. LARL will ask for a 2% increase from all signatories in 2016.
- Bev Lake has resigned from the Moorhead Library Board and the LARL Board. We currently have two open positions, an At-Large position and a Ward 1 position. A current membership list is enclosed.