

Hopkinton Town Library
REPORT FROM LIBRARY DIRECTOR
March 21, 2023

Library Staff: I have just hired Sarah Hofe to work part time in the Circulation area. She will be picking up some of Barb Diaz’ hours, who wanted to reduce her schedule. Sarah is a regular library user and the mother of two daughters in their early teens and will be a great addition to the staff. Goal Two 1c.

Finance: The library’s budget passed without comment at the March 18th Town Meeting. The audit is complete without a hitch. I still do not have updated year to date numbers from the finance office, since the budget was just approved. Goal One 2bandc and Goal Two 1b.

Library Services: Overall circulation was up by 2% in February in adult and children’s categories. Room usage was up by 23% and library visits (1,403 versus 1,133 in 2022) and computer usage were up by over 20%. Children and Adult program numbers were also strong. Goal One 1a 4a Goal Two 2a-e.

Programs.

The library was busy in recent weeks with our puzzle and craft swaps and the Friends Mini Booksale. The booksale brought in over \$300 and were pleased with the effort as was the community.

PROGRAM	PARTICIPANTS
Puzzle Swap February 28 th and Craft Swap March 3 rd	50-75 at each
Contookuleles (Ukelele Meet-up) Feb 2nd	22 (35 are registered for the 3/22 session!)
Beginner Ukelele Feb 15th	9
Mini Booksale with Friends of the Library Friday March 3 rd	50-75
“Cookies with Cass” (March 7 th 3:30) Q and A on town meeting	24
Poetry Conversation with LR Berger March 16th	12

Upcoming programs: We are offering a seed sharing program again this year. Library patrons can choose packets of vegetable and flower seeds that have been donated by Cooperative Extension and Witching Hour Provisions. This project is managed by our staff member Cindy Garland who is a master gardener. We will be hosting a Seed Starting Program on Tuesday 3/28 at 6:30 with a speaker from Cooperative Extension.

To celebrate National Poetry Month in April, we have planned the “Hopkinton Poetry Festival” featuring the NH poets who have been the focus of our monthly poetry conversations with LR Berger. At 3pm on two Sundays (April 23rd and 30th), we will be hosting four poets each reading their work. We are also featuring all things “Owl and the Pussycat” in April with a call for art for the gallery with that prompt, a variety of children’s programs and a new I Spy cabinet with that theme. This will be the focus of our National Library Week celebration (week of April 16th) with the theme “There’s more to the story.”

We are hosting a NHSaves “Button Up” Home Energy Workshop on Wednesday April 26th from 6:30 to 8pm. This is a grant funded project from the four NH utilities with a goal of improving homeowners’ energy efficiency. Our local partners include the Hopkinton Energy Committee, the Rotary Club, the School District’s

Energy Management Plan Committee and local businesses, all of which have committed to promoting the program to their constituencies. Goal One 4a-b Goal Two 2c

Building. The proposed patio project is moving forward. Keim Landscaping has received the \$44,000 downpayment from the Foundation. Depending on weather conditions, Rob Keim hopes to begin work in early April. He has begun to order materials.

We are in the process of updating our Emergency Plan. On March 22nd, staff from Servpro will visit the library to review all of our systems and help to create a template for staff in order to respond to different emergencies (e.g. burst pipes, fire etc.) This is a free service that Servpro provides. Goal Two 2a and e.
Respectfully submitted, Donna Dunlop