



Hiawatha Public Library
150 West Willman Street
Hiawatha, Iowa 52233
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January 2019

Librarian's Report:

Director Jeaneal Weeks met with Metro Library Network directors Hollie Trenary and Dara Schmidt for a monthly directors' meeting. Discussion involved further collaboration regarding cataloging, collection development, and collection maintenance.

Echo Batson, Executive Director and Kristin Novak, Program Officer of the Hall-Perrine Foundation presented a check for \$400,000 pledged to the capital campaign for the expansion and remodel of the library. This amount had been pledged over a period of two years. We were surprised and thrilled that the Foundation was able to fulfill their commitment in one payment rather than two.

Collin Dorsey from KWWL interviewed Director Weeks for a story about the Hall-Perrine Foundation gift and the library expansion and remodel project.

Finance Director Cindy Kudrna informed Weeks that the collected donations for the expansion and remodel project are over \$1.2 million.

Brenda Powers and Jeaneal Weeks met with Finance Director Cindy Kudrna and City Administrator Kim Downs in preparation for the library wage request to the wage consideration committee.

As mentioned in the December report, Weeks continues to work on the library's accreditation application due February 28, 2019. The application is largely complete with a few tasks and projects to finish up. She is on track to have it completed and approved by the February deadline.

Director Weeks is working on employee evaluations of the Youth Services Librarian, Library Cataloger, and Operations Manager and will review the evaluations of the remainder of the staff which will be conducted by Operations Manager Zaputil.

Operations Report:

Operations Manager Erin Zaputil is creating a new Employee Orientation Checklist for accreditation. In conjunction with this process she is developing a new employee training protocol for the library.

Applications have been received and Zaputil will begin interviews for the new Library Circulation Clerk position soon. The goal is to have someone in place by mid-to-late January.



Zaputil is working on employee evaluations, as well as establishing a schedule for periodic one-on-one meetings with staff.

Youth Services:

The hustle bustle of December holidays usually means less hustle bustle for youth services December programs, but not this year. Attendance at December story times, crafts, Play & Learn sessions and special events demonstrated that patrons will find time for fun free library programs regardless of their personal schedules.

Four December events were especially popular. Many new readers latched onto the opportunity to share a book with a dog at Paws to Read on December 3. And speaking of dogs, a big red one named Clifford was our special guest on December 17. Kids were thrilled to shake his paw and pose for a picture. Also, a large crowd gathered on December 8 to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of Eric Carle's *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*. Our friendly sock puppet caterpillar urged kids to feed him, birthday crowns were created and everyone dined on the caterpillar's favorite foods. Lastly, kids started their holiday break in a crafty manner with Snowman Paintings on December 21.

Iowa Campus Compact (IACC) has selected Hiawatha Public Library to serve as a host site for the 2019 Summer Reading Corps. The Library requested and received 2 AmeriCorps positions valued at \$7,780.68 and looks forward to welcoming service-oriented individuals to further our summer reading mission.

Adult Programming:

HACAP's mobile pantry visited the library on December 3rd to distribute food. This is the second time that they have visited, and library staff are gaining ground with letting patrons know about this service. Thirty people were able to obtain assistance.

The library's inaugural Financial Literacy class was offered on December 4th. This program is sponsored and presented by the First Federal Credit Union Foundation. The first class focused on debt: how to manage debt, repay debt, budget, and how and when to apply for credit cards.

The library offered the last Chair Yoga as a program for adults for the year. We look forward to working with Lauren in the future.

The library's adult craft night offered patron an opportunity to make lotion using goat milk. This program was well-received and well-attended. No goats were harmed in the making of this product ;)

Local author Cynthia Peterson returned on December 15th to guide patrons in self-publishing their own books.



Upcoming Adult January Programs

January 3rd: Mystery Book Club at 2:00 pm

January 7th: HACAP Mobile Food Pantry at 2:00 pm

January 7th and 14th: Tech Day with members of Kennedy Key Club. These students will assist patrons with learning how to use their tech devices.

January 7th: Scrabble Club at 5:30 pm

January 15th: Job Search Series-“Getting Started” at 6:30 pm

January 25th: Family Fort Night at 5:30 pm

Crochet Club meets weekly-every Wednesday at 6:00 pm

Heartfulness Meditation meets weekly-every Sunday at 9:00 pm