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DIRECTOR'S REPORT JUNE 2018

COMMUNITY, GOVERNMENTAL, AND INTERLIBRARY RELATIONS:

The Summer Reading Kickoff was a wild success, with approximately 1,384 attendees, topping last year's record attendance. By getting kids excited about the library and reading, we encourage them to develop a habit of reading each day, with the goal of maintaining or improving their grade-level reading skills.

As a lead-up to Kickoff Day, staff presented at special assemblies for 20 local schools, providing information to the students about the library's children and teen summer reading programs.

Sean Minkel spoke at the ribbon cutting for Rapid City Police Department's new Little Free Library. RCPL donated books for the endeavor.

In a collaboration with the school district, we are now the official repository of the Board of Education meeting minutes. These date back to 1879 and will be cataloged into the archives.

Another five vouchers were issued to Ellsworth Air Force Base families in the last month. Twenty-five vouchers have been issued in total since this collaboration began.

NEW SERVICES:

A service desk has been moved from the main floor to the Children's area upstairs. This will allow staff to better assist families participating in the Summer Read Program as well as activities in Kids Chaos.

An ADA accessible parking spot was added in the covered parking garage. Additional ADA parking has long been requested, but we had been told that per a formula, we had as many spaces (3) as were possible. Most recently, we were told it was our decision, and following review by the city's Operations Management Engineer, implemented the new (4th) space.

STAFF TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT:

Planned de-escalation training did not occur due to a conflict for the presenter; it has been rescheduled. However, as all staff were gathered, we used the opportunity to have an open discussion about strategies for de-escalating incidents, customer services successes, and budget planning.

Staff participated in annual fire safety and fire drill training, as well as training for the library's new microfilm machine. The microfilm machine also allows for the scanning and digitizing of microfilm, which is something that will be worked on as a future service.



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Russ Conklin participated in a one training provided by Black Hills Energy. The workshop highlighted energy-efficient LED lighting and lighting alternatives.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

The Mayor has asked all general fund departments to make reductions in their proposed 2019 budgets. Our management team reviewed all budget line items and identified a total of \$80,295 reductions, including efficiencies with maintenance contracts, cataloging services, and staff assignments; cuts were suggested to magazines and newspapers, DVDs, and databases. Once the Mayor has determined the library's final allocation from the general fund, a revised budget will be presented for Board review and action.

The Montana State Library confirmed they will pay the honorarium for the September conference directly to the Foundation; necessary documents have been submitted to facilitate that.

Implementation of the photos for card registrations began May 29; the process appears to be going smoothly on both the customer service and technology fronts.

New signs are up on the windows of the main floor makerspace, to bring additional attention to the services available in that area.

MEDIA COVERAGE:

- May 11: [KNBN Little Free Library Partnership](#)
- May 11: [KOTA Little Free Library Partnership](#)
- May 15: [Rapid City Journal Compass Article Summer Reading Promotion](#)
- May 17: [KNBN Summer Reading Promotion](#)
- May 19: [Summer Reading kickoff day](#), KNBN
- May 19: [KNBN Summer Reading Kickoff Event Coverage](#)
- May 22: [Rapid City Journal Compass Reader's Advisory Promotion](#)
- May 27: FaceBook review
 - *'The leaders of this "Public Place" Discriminate. Against Native Americans. And my first Amendment rights.'*
- May 29: [Rapid City Journal Two Cents](#)
 - *'I may be repeating myself, but to be really treated warmly, kindly, and as if you are their only customer, use our Public Library. All of them deserve a word of appreciation.'*
- May 29: [Rapid City Journal Compass Article Star Net Exhibit & Kickoff](#)
- May 31: [Rapid City Journal Two Cents](#)
 - *'On a day intended to honor our fallen, I'm saddened to see our own local library can't even lower their flag. Why have a flag if you don't follow etiquette?'*
 - Per previous information, the library was in compliance with the Governor's directive for half-mast flags on Memorial Day
- June 1: [American Libraries](#), Sam Slocum interviewed regarding local information



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