



**DOWNTOWN LIBRARY**  
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## **DIRECTOR'S REPORT DECEMBER 2022**

### **COMMUNITY, GOVERNMENTAL, AND INTERLIBRARY RELATIONS:**

The library once again participated in the Community Connect outreach event. Attendees accessed free clothing and representatives from area human services and government resource providers. The library promoted services, renewed library cards and signed individuals up for new cards.

The department directors and mayor held a retreat, facilitated by Culture Strategist Leah Braun, to share departmental goals and projects and to discuss the possibility of shared city-wide services. We also reviewed efforts taken to improve city-wide culture and employee recognition. More discussion will take place monthly at directors' meetings to continue the shared services discussion.

The library participated in the Public Works Department and AFSCME Union food drive. A total of 374 pounds of food and \$250 cash was donated city-wide in support of Feeding South Dakota.

We are collaborating with Project Skills to help a disabled student gain work experience. The student will work for 2 hours each school day, with his wages paid by SD Vocational Rehabilitation. A job coach will attend work with him for the first few weeks, after which he will be supervised by library staff.

Our second tour of other city departments was at The Monument. Hailey, Stacy, Juliet, and Terri were shown all areas of the Summit Arena, including lounges for performers, the loading dock area, and the HVAC and storage rooms. We were even able to walk on the catwalks above the arena floor, and could see the huge scoreboard from above. We also heard about the planning efforts that went into development of the arena as well as some of the cost and labor-saving activities they've undertaken. These tours are intended to provide a better understanding of how other city departments operate, and how we all work together to provide a variety of services to the community.

### **NEW SERVICES:**

Staff completed a shelving reconfiguration project which lasted over several months. The lower two shelves in the adult fiction and Large Print sections were slanted up, making titles easier to read without stooping. This also allowed the upper shelves to be lowered by a few inches, making all the shelves more easily accessible to library users. This shelving enhancement will be assessed over the coming months to determine if a similar reconfiguration will be done in the adult non-fiction shelves.

### **STAFF TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT:**

Welcome to new Library Associate I Garrett Bach. Garrett has a varied work background, including customer service and educational experience. We're pleased to have him on our team.

Public Relations Coordinator Laurinda Tapper provided training to all staff on mental health issues; Laurinda's background in the mental health and social services fields combined with her knowledge of library services makes her uniquely qualified to provide this training. Staff members were educated on the causes and types of mental illness, strategies for assisting people with mental illnesses, and self-care techniques. This training is part of an annual safety series provided to all staff members.

### **DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

I was informed by Floyd's Truck Center that the bookmobile chassis is scheduled for delivery on February 4; delivery will be to the Odyne company in Wisconsin for installation of the hybrid drive system. This timeframe is pretty much as planned, so we are still anticipating a fall 2023 delivery of the completed vehicle.

The new Teen Advisory Board (TAB) had its first meeting, with participants suggesting furniture upgrades and activity ideas for the teen area. Some of their ideas (small projector, board games) will be implemented in the short term, while others will take additional planning. We are hoping to have TAB meet with the SDSMT engineering students who are working on our 2<sup>nd</sup> floor reconfiguration concepts; this will likely happen late in January.

### **MEDIA COVERAGE:**

- November 1 KEVN Mention: [Community food drive with Feeding South Dakota](#)
- November 2 Newscenter1 Mention: [Two events you can participate in to give back to the community during the holiday season](#)
- November 13 The South Dakota Standard Mention: [South Dakota rancher poet Linda M Hasselstrom writes in praise of libraries where a world of information and entertainment awaits readers of all ages](#)
- November 23 Newscenter1 Mention: [What should you do with your broken Christmas lights in Rapid City](#)
- November 23 Live KOTA Noon Show: Reader's Advisory

### **ONLINE REVIEWS:**

- 10/29/22 Google 1-Star Review: "I'm disabled and I have a service dog who is federally registered, there is a lady that works for the library she discriminated against my service dog because he is a dog, my service dog had his red service dog vest on and i have all his credentials showing he is a service dog, she told me that she has to know what he does for me just to let me in the library, I told her he helps me stay stable and walk. she said that's not a good enough reason and that she needs to know more, but what she doesn't know is that she committed a federal offense, I legally don't have to tell her anything about my service dog, infact I can sue the public library for even asking anything about my service dog, this lady needs to be fired immediately, discrimination is illegal, especially when the service dog is federally registered, the public library owes me an apology for the harrassment that both my service dog and I had to go through, cause I have contacted a lawyer. this didn't happen today however it did happen this past week." - Dustin Chalou

- 11/26/22 Google 5-Star Review: “As a fairly recent transplant from a large city, I was so pleasantly surprised by the Rapid City Public Library's convenient location, spacious and beautiful building, friendly and helpful staff, and unique programs. The library has a fabulous selection of books, a small used book market, a maker's space, board games, tool rental, computer and printer use, etc etc etc. I highly recommend it for anyone new to the area. I have attended the knitting club twice and enjoyed myself immensely both times. The women in the club are kind, welcoming, funny, and helpful. I also attended a monthly book club meeting and appreciated the engaging dialogue and discussion. At their best, libraries are not only filled book shelves. At their best, libraries are community centers, incubators for friendship, and a respite from a loud, rushing world. The Rapid City Public Library hits all of these marks and more.” - Katie-jo Ramirez

**VACANCY REPORT:**

<b>Vacancy Status as of 12/1/22</b>				
<b>LIBRARY DEPARTMENT</b>	<b>FULL AND PART-TIME POSITIONS</b>	<b>FULL AND PART-TIME EMPLOYEES</b>	<b>VACANCIES</b>	<b>STATUS</b>
Management	2	2	0	
Senior Librarians	2	2	0	
Coordinators	3	3	0	
Business Office	1	1	0	
Facilities	2	2	0	<i>We are again looking to post the facilities position, but have not done so as yet; we are also looking at options for sharing part-time workers with other city departments.</i>
Library Associate I and II	23.75	18.75	5	<i>The Library Associate II position for Makerspace/Tech continues to be advertised, and the LAII Training position has just become vacant. There are now two LAI vacancies, with three interviews scheduled.</i>
Library Technicians	2	2	0	
Outreach	2.5	2.5	0	
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>38.25</b>	<b>33.25</b>	<b>5</b>	