COMMUNITY, GOVERNMENTAL, AND INTERLIBRARY RELATIONS:

NEW SERVICES:

STAFF TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT:

DIRECTOR’S REPORT:

Update of the Public Area: The project is moving ahead. We have met with AcV2 to put together the bid, choosing the color schemes and carpet samples for the updated areas. We consulted with Rod Johnson, Public Works, and he will help getting the bid through the Public Works committee on November 14 and then past City Council on November 21. We hope to have acceptable bids back by December 13. We will have a special board meeting on December 14 to review bids and, if all goes well, to have the City Council award the contract on December 19.

Foundation Center Database: I spoke with Jessica Gromer and Sandy Diegel about a plan for us to work cooperatively with them to make this database available to library users. My proposal is for the Vucurevich Foundation to pay for the database for one year and for the library to designate one staff person as coordinator for research and to possibly teach grant writing, but NOT to write grants. They will bring the idea to their board in December.

Landscaping: We have gotten one proposal for removing the rocks on both sides of the main doors and laying concrete. We were thinking of creating a patio seating area instead of just laying cement to the east side of the doorway. The price for that would be just over $3,000.

Meeting Room Use: We are looking at the possibility making meeting rooms accessible to the public before the hours the library is open. There are still a few logistical problems we are trying to iron out. Please take a look at the meeting room policy.

Serving special needs populations: We are still exploring serving the needs of people with autism in our area. This was a nice article on another library doing that:


We are also exploring what needs we could meet for people with Alzheimer’s and their caregivers. We have contacted an organization in Sioux Falls and have a trainer coming in early next years for the staff.
Chaos: The biggest event for October was our partnership with Douglas Middle School. Taylor and I spent four days working with the librarian there to host a Mini Stop Motion Film Festival with 748 students. The kids were excited and inspired to learn a new skill, hear about our CHAOS makerspace and what makerspaces do for the community, and some of the teachers were ready to implement this form of storytelling in their classroom. This was a good trial for future CHAOS-related partnerships with other schools.

We partnered again with General Beadle for their Math Night event. We didn’t see as many people (37) as we did for STEM night, but it was still a good event overall.

We partnered with the Dahl for their “It’s Okay, I’m from the Internet” event. For this event, several of our staff 3D designed “memes” that were 3D printed for display at the event. We also designed and created a “Meme Arcade” experience using tools from our makerspace. The experience was playful, silly and opened up multiple conversations with adults in attendance about our CHAOS makerspace and what it could do for them.

In CHAOS, we hosted several events: Design and 3D Print a Luggage Tag, Trick Not Treat drop in program, and the Taung Skull experience. All together, we reached 102 people through these programs, the most popular being the “Create Your Own Slime” activity, with the “Screaming Play-Doh” experience a close second.

Children’s librarian: We recently hired Nancy Avalon to fill this position. However, she resigned effective November 3. We will be reposting the position.

Genealogical Conference: I opened the Black Hills Genealogical Conference on October 15 at Faith Lutheran Church. It was well attended.

Mayor’s Department Director’s Retreat: I spent Oct. 24-25 in Deadwood Lodge with the mayor and other dept. heads. We spoke about succession planning.

Media coverage:
KTEQ: November 7; I did a half hour radio interview on ukulele and music in the library.
KEVN/KOTA: http://mms.tveyes.com/Transcript.asp?StationID=5350&DateTime=10%2F18%2F2016+6%3A49%3A30+AM&Term=Rapid+City+Public+Library&PlayClip=TRUE
KOTA: http://mms.tveyes.com/Transcript.asp?StationID=5365&DateTime=10%2F25%2F2016+5%3A56%3A10+AM&Term=Rapid+City+Public+Library&PlayClip=TRUE