DIRECTOR’S REPORT
JUNE 12, 2017

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Summer Reading Kickoff (Laurinda Tapper):
Our May 20 Summer Reading Kickoff event saw record numbers – an estimated 1100 kids and their families came to the library to enjoy crafts, a photo booth, snacks, dancing and to celebrate a start of a summer full of reading!

Grand Reopening:
The library hosted a grand reopening for our updated public areas on the main floor on May 11.

S&T Security:
S&T have been very responsive to the needs of the library. We have had four of their staff trained for this location.

2018 Budget:
Sean and I met with the Mayor, Finance and the new Budget Analyst for the city to initially go over the 2018 budget. No changes were requested at that time.

Efficiency Committee:
Library staff did two presentations and tours to members of the efficiency committee on May 11 & 17. There was a request for additional information from one of the members that staff researched and sent to them.

County Commission:
We will be making a short presentation to the County Commission, along with the other Pennington County libraries, on June 20.

New Website:
Currently the library has its website hosted on the city’s site. City IT said we could create our own website and just have a link to it on the city’s page, as both the Civic Center and the airport do. We have been working on a new site that should be easier to navigate and post information. We hope to have that up by the end of the summer.

Chaos (Stephen Tafoya):
In May, we got busy!

For programming, CHAOS had three main programs. We hosted our final Scratch Club for the Spring to teach kids computer coding. We also implemented an art based program called Sharpie Something. During that week, we had 186 people participate by giving them creative freedom with markers on a variety of surfaces (art books, book shelves, and even an old wooden 3d printer). We also wrapped up our Drop-in and Design series where participants learn the basics of 3d modeling.

For partnerships, CHAOS hosted and helped the Girl Scouts (30 kids, 9 adults) receive their inventor’s badge. They learned about invention literacy and that it is okay to fail fast and fail repeatedly because that’s how inventors innovate. It was an amazing program and we are looking to plan future partnerships with them. CHAOS hosted East of 5th. The business professionals from this group learned about the CHAOS makerspace and we made connections on potential future partnership. Moving forward, I will be involved in the Startup Weekend event that many of the members from East of 5th coordinate and participate in.

For professional development, I attended the Construct3D conference at the beginning of May hosted at Duke University. The conference focused on education in 3D printing. Overall, the conference was phenomenal and I have several ideas I took from the experience that we can/will implement in our makerspace with our design classes and 3D printing. Well worth the trip.

At the end of the month, I spent some time volunteering at the ICPC World Finals held here in Rapid City. While this was primarily volunteer work, it was also a learning experience for me as I got exposed to the world of computer programming competition.

Final note, we are seeing CHAOS grow and get busier and busier. We are looking at ways we can assist staff to make it not so overwhelming and a positive experience overall. Moving into summer, we will focus on CAMP CHAOS as our programming efforts and continue to help people who come into the makerspace to turn their ideas into reality.

Media coverage:

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