

Director's Report
Friendship Free Library
March 8, 2022

○ **Old Business**

Tyira distributed the take home craft kits for the Senior Apartments. I am so glad to say that the program is going well. She made Wee Shamrock People for March.

Tyira also made two different videos for February: one reading a story and the other was making our month's craft. That way patrons can see how to do it. We are hoping for more turnout. I posted the March craft video last week.

○ **New Business**

Southern Tier Health Care System contacted me again. They want to know if they can have patients come use our meeting space for free. Their argument is that we will get to keep the equipment afterward. I told them we would discuss it. I have included the agreement paperwork they sent over.

We were awarded \$2700 out of the requested \$3304.20 for programming through the Arts Council for Wyoming County. We will be having 6 performers starting in June. We have:

- Perry Ground with Talking Turtle Stories, who tells indigenous stories
- Mary Beth Dolan with Animal Draw, who teaches kids how to draw while using simple shapes
- Darren Liebman with Didgeridoo Down Under who teaches about Australia and music

- Kyle Carey with Gaelic Americana who sings in English and Scottish Gaelic
- Cathy McGrath with the Irish band Cuisle Mo Chroi
- Julia and Ira Levins with “The Poe Show: The Lighter Side of Poe.”
- I am very excited for the project!

Out of the blue, we received a check from a donor. It is for \$1,000 and we are able to use it however we need. Sue suggested the Board vote on how to use it. I propose we should use it for books. This would give us a great chance to put almost half of what was cut back into the book budget for 2022.

We participated in the website mystery scavenger hunt. While there was a very small turnout, the directors have decided to try this again during Summer Reading Program and centering around oceans, keeping with the theme for this year.

We need to approve the Annual Report to the state.

As we are updating our policies, we should also update our long-range plan.

I am also making a graphic for our annual report to the community. We will have it printed out at the front desk and posted online to our social media.

As a reminder, I will be forwarding trustee training opportunities to you during the year and Brian would like to come down sometime for a board meeting to chat with you guys.

With the masking mandate having been lifted, I wanted to see where we stood with the library’s masking policy moving forward.

We received 2 gallons of hand sanitizer and 25 small spray hand sanitizers from the county. Dee dropped them off for us.

STLS is partnering with the Pioneer Library System (OWWL) and the Finger Lakes Library System (FLLS) in a reciprocal lending program through our ebook app Libby. I've already used it and it's a great way to check out books that might not be in STLS but could be in another system's database. It doesn't require a card for these other libraries, you use your STLS card.

We received our Cost Share Contribution bill for STLS and Overdrive (Libby). Our contribution for 2022 is \$3,990 and for ebooks is \$68, totaling \$4,058.

On March 2, I was in Zoom meetings with a representative of Assemblyman Giglio's and with Senator Borrello as part of Library Advocacy Day. There were representatives of libraries all over the Western New York region in these calls. We represented our libraries and advocated for funding that reflects the work we do in our communities. I talked about our passing out PPE in addition to our work and that the budget should reflect the extra things we're being asked to do. The biggest topic was the construction aid which is proposed at being \$14 million for 2022 when it should be at \$45 million for the state. For non-construction aid, we are at levels from 2008 or \$6 million under where we should be. Brian estimated that to be \$102 million. Both the representative and the Senator spoke about these concerns in a manner that seems educated on the subject and open to hearing what we had to say.