

Holmes Public Library

Director's Report

December 10, 2013

The library has submitted a letter of intent to apply for an LSTA staff development Customer Experience in a Digital Age grant to “develop a two-pronged approach to customer service, focusing on traditional elements while embracing emerging technology.” This had to be sent in by December 5. In order to be eligible for LSTA grants, the library must file an updated action plan each year, based on the long-range plan, by December 2nd, and attend a mandatory workshop on applying for LSTA grants. I will attend the workshop in Somerset on January 14, and provide additional details on this grant application at the trustees’ meeting that night.

The library is ready for Holidays in Halifax on Dec. 14th. The Friends’ Silent Auction is underway and the holiday decorations are up. The library will be open regular hours, 10–2, and re-open for the Open House at 5 p.m. This year the program will include an announcement that all town buildings will close at 7:45 p.m. in preparation for the fireworks at 8 p.m. Cookies and cider will be provided by the Friends. If you would like to bake or buy a dozen cookies to contribute, all donations are gratefully accepted at the library on Friday, 10–5 and Saturday, 10–2.

Starting in late November, the library has experienced problems with static on the phone lines and a dead line. The problem is being addressed by the town departments responsible for the phone system.

The coffee hour presentation, Fort Warren in the Civil War, done by Kevin Rogers on Saturday, November 16, was enjoyable and attended by 17 people. The poetry reading by Winston Bolton, sponsored by the Friends, was also very enjoyable and attended by 37 people. The Senior Singers Christmas Sing-Along planned for December 4th was cancelled by the group due to scheduling conflicts.

Book discussion groups led by Jean Gallant and Susan Scott continue to be well attended each month. The Evening Readers will not meet in December due to the holidays. The Combined Book Club Potluck is planned for January 21 at 6:00 p.m. The Children’s Book Club met on November 7, and will meet again on Wednesday, Dec. 18. Weekly story times led by Marie Coady are in session through Dec. 13, and she has planned a special family event, Cookies & Cocoa, for Saturday, Dec. 21, at 11 a.m. The writers’ group continues to meet monthly; the November meeting is Thursday, Dec. 19, at 3 p.m.

On Dec. 5th, Susan Scott and I attended the SAILS Open House to see the library network’s new headquarters in Middleboro. Rose Ruel attended the SAILS Technical Services meeting in Lakeville on Dec. 4th. Jean Gallant will attend the SAILS Circulation Meeting on Dec. 11th in Seekonk. I attended the Holidays in Halifax planning meeting at Town Hall on Dec. 9th.

Upcoming dates to remember include:

- Afternoon Book Club, *December 6* by Martin Cruz Smith, Tues., Dec. 17, 1:00 p.m.
- Friends of the Holmes Public Library meeting, Wed., Jan. 22, 6:30 p.m.
- Holidays in Halifax at the library, Saturday, Dec. 14, 5-8 p.m.
- Annual Silent Auction bids due by 5:00 p.m. on Wed., Dec. 18
- Cookies & Cocoa, Sat., Dec. 21, 11:00 a.m.
- Southeastern Mass. Library Legislative Breakfast, February 7, 2014, 8-10 a.m.