

Holmes Public Library
Director's Report
January 12, 2016

The library is back in the swing of things in January with a flurry of activity. All our regular groups will meet this month. The Genealogy Club met on January 6, 2016. The group was very pleased with the publicity plug in the January Library Newsletter. Our Technology Coordinator Marie Coady set up the projector with an old laptop with links to Ancestry to be used during the meeting. This was a big hit so we will set up the projector and laptop for all meetings in the future. Stacey, our Children's Library will host a Star Wars 'Art2-D2' program for kids in grades K and up. Registration is required for this program and limited to 15. We already have 11 kids registered. The only program that was not brought back in January was our Word Game Night. This program was cancelled in December and was not on the calendar in January. Participants in this program were very enthusiastic and had a wonderful time but attendance tended to be low. Participants have been asking to continue this group so we are thinking of ways to jumpstart this program to encourage more participation. The theme for February is "Just chillin". A number of programs are being planned around this theme of relaxation. Susan will begin a coloring program for Adults in February. This is currently very popular with many libraries hosting this type of program. To begin this group we will have this program once a month in the afternoon. A display of books has been put up in the library for the 2016 Reading Challenge. We have a sign explaining the challenge and bookmarks for patrons to take home. This challenge was shared on Facebook with me and is generating a lot of interest. Thanks Priscilla for the idea.

Stacey has been working with the Librarian from the Elementary School giving tours of the library to students during the school day. This project is being started with the fifth grade but we hope to expand so that all classes get a chance to have a tour of the library. Stacey introduces herself, talks about the different programs the library offers, explains the procedure for getting a library card and then gives a tour of the building. In addition to these tours two of the fifth teachers are teaching students in their class how to put books on hold through the Sails Network. The students come over during the school day with their library cards to pick up the books. Every student is required to have a library card so we have issued quite a few new cards. Great Idea!!

Significant progress has been made in bringing a Sensory Storytime to the library. Currently we could only find two libraries offering this type of Storytime, those being Milton and Reading. I will give the board a complete update on the steps we have taken to make sure that the program that the Holmes Public Library offers is an excellent model for our libraries to follow. We should be ready to go with this project first week in March.

The budget, capital plan for FY17, and an amended narrative was sent over to town hall on January 7, 2016. I am supplied you with a copy of the capital plan and the narrative. The finance committee will be in contact with us shortly to go over the budget.

A total of 53 applicants applied for the Library Assistant job. 13 applicants were residents of Halifax. Two applicants had library experience. All applicants that met the minimum requirements for applying for the job will be acknowledged through mail.