

Director's Report

Dates October 22-November 13, 2015

I am so happy to be here, and to say publicly how honored I am to be the new Director of the Long Beach Public Library.

I spent my first few days getting acquainted with the staff and having in-depth meetings with Michael Simon, Jennifer Firth, Martha McConnach, Ace Castellon, George Ramos and several librarians. These meetings have provided me with a sound introduction to Library operations. There is much to digest and each day I feel more immersed and comfortable in the position. I look forward to a full staff meeting which will be held on Tuesday, November 17th.

West End Branch – Plan to Increase Activity

I have been focusing on finding ways to attract more patrons, specifically tweens and teens to the West End Branch. We will promote a study time at the library during midterm and finals weeks setting up tables and providing snacks in an attempt to get students in. We hope that students find the space a great place for study groups. George Ramos will promote the databases during these sessions. A teen/tween program yet to be determined and a Youth Advisory Board Meeting will be held at West End in January/February.

To appeal to adults, we will be holding Card/Board Game sessions that will attract Bridge, Mahjong and Scrabble players. Details to be determined.

Nine preschool level Launchpad Tablets have been added to the West End Branch for circulation at the end of October.

West End Branch Hours

Winter hours, are recommended for the West End Branch. George Ramos tells me that during the Monday and Wednesday evening hours, specifically between 7 – 9 pm, he rarely sees a patron. It seems that 3 -7 pm or 4 -8 pm would work better for the winter months. **How would the Board like to proceed?**

Old Business:

Branch hours for budgeting: Extending branch hours is not recommended at this time due to budgetary constraints and tight staffing at Main.

Strategic Planning Process – responses: We are moving ahead with the Planning Process. As of this writing, of the 37 invitations sent we have 25 positive responses, including myself, Michael Simon and Jennifer Firth from the Library (See attached list of participants). Michael Simon and I will be meeting with Carolyn Ashby, the NLS facilitator to discuss the process in more detail and to get available dates for the first meeting.

Upgrade to Payroll System for Affordable Care Act: The Board has been advised at the October 21st meeting that our current payroll system, outsourced to Accudata is unable to handle the new reporting requirements resultant of the Affordable Care Act. It is recommended that we move

forward quickly to secure a reporting company, as there are penalties for non-compliance and we are concerned that manual calculations could result in an error and liability issues. Accudata quoted us a price of \$1650.00. As is best practice, we are checking with other payroll companies and Shalik Morris at the suggestion of Ralph Madelena. A decision must be reached at this meeting since the deadline was October 31st and Accudata granted us a one-time extension. **How would the board like to proceed?**

New Business:

Trustee Mosca requests that the Board address the topic of a separate programming budget for Point Lookout and West End.

With respect to programming, the breadth of programs and the October attendance statistics are impressive. Edie Kalickstein has a reputation for quality programming in the library community and now I see why! The number of program attendees for the month of October was 2097. The Long Beach ROXX NY 2015 Rock Music Festival held on October 23-25 attracted 611 attendees. The largest audiences were for the following:

The Electrix	116
The Liverpool Shuffle	87
Mudslide featuring Ann Klein	66
The Bionic Babes & Guest Guy	61

Other program highlights for the month:

That's Amore with Bob Spiotto	145
David Aaron Katz in Concert	130
Candidates Forum	120
Welcome to Lawn Guyland	100

The Kicking Country Music Festival, held on November 6-8 attracted 1010 attendees! Here are some attendance highlights:

Piedmont Bluz Duo	140
M.S.G Acoustic Blues Trio	140
Kate Mitchell Band	135
Melody Allegra Band	130
Marc Berger and RIDE	105

I got to enjoy the Sunday performance of Vienna Carroll and Keith Johnson and was quite impressed by their talent and excited by the energy in the room.