

Springfield Town Library  
**Library Director's Report for April / early May 2023**  
Submitted for discussion at May 9, 2023 meeting  
Sue Dowdell

**Sustainable Libraries Initiative**

*(Environmentally Sound, Socially Equitable & Economically Feasible):*

- Implemented using both sides of paper for computer slips and for technical services slips to reduce paper usage. Also investigating creating an online form / email system for time-off requests.
- Library Clerk Molly is participating in webinars with Vermont SLI cohort on fabric sustainability. When the town leaders institute the Sustainability committee, Molly will be the library representative
- All library staff will have completed "Cultural Competency" training by the end of the week.
- Discussions with Youth Services and Adult Services staff to implement program benchmarks.
- Plastic collection in collaboration with Springfield Rotary Club. FOSTL has signed on as a sponsor, close to getting enough plastic for a second bench for the town. 4 bags of plastic collected last week alone. Almost 900 pounds of plastic has been removed from the waste stream since the past 3 months. The NexTrex program coordinator willing to do a Zoom program for the community explaining more about the program.

**Building and/or Grants**

- Pre-bid meeting for roof replacement held on May 3. Bids due and will be opened on May 19. Treasury grant application will be available in the fall. Hope to get reimbursed for roofing costs. If successful, we can use the reimbursed funds for the A/C and air handler replacements.
- ARSL grant funds (Sustainable and Resilient New England Libraries)
  - 3 Little Libraries are being created, designs complete, will give boxes to artists soon.
  - Cleanup of outdoor garden to be completed by a cadre of adult and teen volunteers including consumers from Lincoln Street's Lifelong Learning program.
  - Pollinators are ordered from Woodbury Florist. Blueberry bushes to be planted soon. The rest when they arrive.
  - Gate from the ramp to the garden has been installed Springfield Fence Company.
- Preservation Trust consultant due on May 19<sup>th</sup> to evaluate the historic sections of the library.
- Have not yet hired a maintenance person but will have had interviewed 2 new individuals as of Friday, May 5<sup>th</sup>. The cleaning service is doing a great job but larger maintenance projects are lagging. Town Manager Mobus has authorized a \$500 signing bonus.
- CLiF grant application has been submitted. If awarded, it will provide books and an author visit.

**Patron Services:**

**April Statistics:**

- Visitors = 1741
- Reference questions answered and/or tech help given: 74
- Website visits: 1737
- Computer users
  - 185 people used library computers, for over 120 hours in April
  - Average of 65 people per day logged into the Project Connect Wi-Fi including outdoor access when the library is closed
- Circulation of physical/traditional library items = 2103
- Circulation of nontraditional library items (Library of Things, items mostly received from grants or FOSTL) = 62, twice as many library passes checked out vs last month
- Circulation of digital items: 661 (eAudiobooks, eBooks, eVideo, Database usage).

April Programs:

451 people/organizations participated/served

*Organized by/for Adult Services:*

- Spring Gnomes craft
- Jeff Snow – Softer Side of Celtic
- Frederick Law Olmsted program
- Edible Perennials program
- 3 book clubs & 2 sessions of Page Turners
- 2 separate sets of deliveries to home-bound patrons (every two weeks)
- Scribble Society Writing group
- Puzzle table – passive activity

*Organized by Youth Services:*

- Legos and Laughs for school age children
- Parent Grief and Loss Group
- Participation at SAPCC Family Festival
- Visit from Union St. 5<sup>th</sup> grade
- Richard Blanco / VT Humanities program
- Visit to All for One
- Story Time at SAPCC play group
- 3 book backpack deliveries to Day Care centers
- Golden Dome Book Award club
- Teen Advisory Board & Dungeons and Dragons group