

Springfield Town Library  
**Library Director's Report for September 2023**  
Submitted for discussion at October 10, 2023 meeting  
Sue Dowdell

**Sustainable Libraries Initiative, Building, and/or Grants**

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

- Ordering more environmentally friendly cleaning products, those listed in the EPA's *Safer Choice* database
- ARSL grant funds (Sustainable and Resilient New England Libraries)
  - Little Library still waiting to be installed.
  - Volunteer cleaned out gardens. Jeff from Woodbury Florist will install pavers from the gate.
  - Funding pumpkin painting – family event on October 26<sup>th</sup>
  - Upcoming plans to install air dryer in patron restrooms and electrical needed for 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Maker Space area. Reached out via social media to get suggestions for Library of Things & Maker Space items – Much interest in using library's Cricut machine which will be installed on 2<sup>nd</sup> floor after electrical work is done.
  - Plastic collection in collaboration with Springfield Rotary Club: Over 2400 pounds have been collected.
- Treasury Grant – guidelines to be released in October – hopefully one of the following to be funded:
  - Rebidding for Roof proposals.
  - Reached out again to Air Conditioning companies to get quotes
- Preservation report: Included information as part of the 5-year plan capital projects.

**Patron Services:**

September Statistics:

- Patrons = 1318 total, including 55 non-residents (increase of 73 overall with 9 additional non-residents compared to last month)
- Visitors = 1764, compared to 1448 in September 2022.
- Reference questions answered = 76 questions
- Tech help: 17 people for individual help
- Website visits: 1832
- Computer users
  - 190 people used library computers, for over 128 hours in September
  - an average of 40 people per day logged into the Project Connect Wi-Fi (reduction due to 2 devices were not functioning correctly last month)
- Volunteer hours – 36.75 hours
- Circulation of physical/traditional library items = 1999
- Circulation of nontraditional library items (Library of Things, items received from grants or FOSTL) = 52 (includes 28 passes and 13 games/puzzles among others)
- Circulation of digital items
  - EBooks & EAudiobooks & Movies: 670
  - Database Usage: 147+ views (Newsbank totals will not be available until 15<sup>th</sup> of the following month)
- Interlibrary loan:
  - Items lent to those in other libraries: *info not available, staff member on vacation*
  - Items borrowed/received for our patrons: *info not available, staff member on vacation*

September: 15 events serving/interacting with 418 people

Adult:

- Paper Butterfly craft
- The Bronx: the way it was
- Harvesting Herbs
- Chamber Mixer
- Recycle it? Yes or No
- Visiting Nurse for VT and NH
- Home Deliveries
- 2 Book Club meetings & 2 Page Turners sessions
- Scribble Society writing group
- Individual Tech Help

Youth:

- Open house at Elm Hill and Union Street Schools

All Ages

- Community Puzzle
- Kindness Rocks