

Director's report

October 2, 2020

1. Gratitude

- Thank you Cheli, Nancy, and everyone who helped to draft and deliver the letter in answer to concerns regarding the local history collection.
- Gratitude to Cheli and Nancy for uploading Board documentation to the library website. This helps to demonstrate our commitment to accountability and transparency.
- More gratitude to Kate, Betty, and Betsy for covering shifts in Chelsea's absence and keeping the library in ship-shape!
- Thanks to Betsy and Betty for setting up the new sign and creating a fun and eye-catching sign to display our current service hours!
- Thanks to Nancy for creating a fresh new graphic to accompany our Grow it, Colrain! promotional materials and videos:



- Our patron Charlie Busch refinished the entry way door, at no charge! He put another coat of varnish on the front door while he was at it.
- Thanks to Betty and Kate for making CFCE activity bags for local families!
- We're grateful to the Libraries in the Woods group for planning and facilitating two excellent, virtual programs this past month, "What does the Earth ask of us?" with Robin Wall Kimmerer, and an author event with Archer Mayor. We can't say how many people from our community participated, but know that for those who did attend, these programs were meaningful. I received one thank you email regarding the Robin Wall Kimmerer event.
- Jonathan Lagreze did a very good job as our Grow it, Colrain! virtual programming guinea pig. Here is a link for anyone who has not yet watched Jonathan's tips on seed saving:
<https://youtu.be/u6Voj1kPko8>

2. Administration/building and grounds

- As mentioned above, the severely sun-damaged rear door was refinished this month, and another coat of varnish was added to the front door. Charlie believes that we can easily power wash the grime and mold off of the building without doing any damage to the masonry. I let him know that I would bring this to the Board for consideration.
- We are expecting a bid to have the fence refinished.
- Aves Appraisal (Edward Kitson) performed his inspection of our art pieces, including the stained glass seal. A report is forthcoming.

- I've reached out to a mason, recommended to us by Ellen Weeks and Bill Ferentz, Barry Nye, who has worked on our building previously. I will share photos of the areas that need to be worked on, from our building inspection, and ask for a quote.
- There is no further information as of yet regarding the cost or time frame to repair the crumbling concrete walkways.
- The pop-up tent was damaged in the rain storms this week. This tent should probably be taken down before the month is over.
- We submitted our annual statistics to MBLC on September 30th. Please

3. Youth services

- Stories and Songs (online) resumed last month, with Kate producing one story time and Chelsea two. Each featured an activity related to the CFCE activity bags, and a story and songs. In total, there have been 40 views of these three videos to date. On the fourth week, we shared a video from another LITW library, Dickenson Memorial Library, in Northfield. We intend to follow this same formula in the months ahead.
- Kate met with the MTRS librarian, Emily Willis, regarding outreach and teen engagement. She will share feedback from this meeting with the Board on October 9th, as it relates to our discussions regarding strategic planning.
- New teen books were enthusiastically received by two sisters, who came to the library to get materials on crochet (they borrowed the crochet kit a few months ago), but left also with an armful of fiction.

4.