

Director's Report February 2022

Submitted by Chelsea Jordan-Makely on February 23, 2022.

Joys and successes:

- The February/Valentine's "Count the Ways" display was a fun way to showcase what we mean to people in our community—just in time for budget season!



- Nancy created some beautiful new graphics for us this month! These included a new Ms. Betty poster, Stories and Songs, and William Apess Day "save the date". Plus, did you see the new Feedback/Suggestions form?

Building & Grounds:

- Peter Brooks measured the library windows, on behalf of the Colrain Energy Committee, for the sake of investigating more energy-efficient solutions. This may be a chance for us to "kill two birds with one stone," and install UV-deflecting screens or material to also protect our collections from sun damage.

Programs and services:

- We are excited to reintroduce Stories and Songs this coming month, thanks to CFCE! Introducing, “Stories and Songs with Julie Stepanek!” This is scheduled on Wednesdays at 11:00 through March. The recordings will be available online for a short while thereafter.



Wednesdays at 11:00 a.m. by Zoom

Email griswold@colrain-ma.gov or call 413-624-3619 to register

Funded by a grant through the MA Department of Early Education and Care in collaboration with the CFCE Program- Mohawk Trail and Hawlemoor Regional School Districts

- The Carol Purington Poetry Collective met on February 4th, with ten people in attendance. After each meeting, we share an email with the names of the poems that were shared. It is another way for the group to connect, outside of our regular meeting. As we have now been meeting for more than a year, we’ve now created quite a list of poems!
- The Kindness Reading Project met on February 16th to discuss *Parable of the Sower* by Octavia Butler. Six people attended, two of which were there for their first time!

Administration:

- Chelsea submitted the library’s annual report, [linked here](#), to the Town of Colrain.
- Chelsea met with Belden and Prentice from the Colrain Historical Society in regards to the inventory of local history items that Liz created for us last year ([linked here](#)). In particular, we discussed the items that were noted as candidates to deaccession (see column A). Chelsea will convene a meeting to discuss some of these items, for example, the framed Griswold Ancestry and Arms of Griswold, but others could be gifted to the Historical Society without delay: a 1961 Colrain Bicentennial poster, and framed “Colrain Act for Incorporation.” If the trustees agree with this assessment, then Chelsea can draw up a gift form to record their transfer to the historical society.

- We completed our initiative to make print copies of our Director's Reports, agendas, etc. available in the library!
- Chelsea submitted two LSTA grant proposals to the MBLC. The first is for a "Go Local" grant, with GML as the principal applicant, to research, collect, and preserve "a people's history" of Colrain, in partnership with Ohketeau Cultural Center and Piti Theatre Company. The second grant is in partnership with Belding Memorial Library in Ashfield, Franklin County Jail, and GCTV to launch "Read to the Children," and book discussion groups in the Franklin County Jail. Both grants are for FY23-24. The final grant materials are due in April.
- Chelsea presented the proposed FY23 budget to the finance committee on February 15th.