



## Director's Report

October 2022

Respectfully submitted by Chelsea Jordan-Makely on October 17, 2022

### Joys and successes:

- Robert Olson donated to the library a framed print of the library in the summer:



- Friends of Carol Purington gathered to celebrate her life on October 1st, and several friends were placed in charge of Carol's personal collection. They in turn have offered the collection—8 boxes in total—to the library, provided that we could accept them all and keep them together. Tom Yeomans writes, " I can see it now, a series of readings in the rotunda with this collection as a backdrop as well as the once a month online readings. Colrain as Poetry hub in Carol's name!"
- Kudos to everyone on the massive progress that has been made in reorganizing the basement this year! The damaged card catalog was removed and repurposed; the northwest wall has been cleared; the items that we use for events were reorganized, in large bins on the west wall; and, craft materials from the "maker table" that were put downstairs during the pandemic were reorganized and brought back up to the old "circulation desk"! Thank you to EVERYONE who has played such a large part in this complicated and "Agile" process!
- We can't say enough good stuff about the team! Did you know that Dominique has been taking library school classes, and creating great content for Instagram, besides also spearheading the Clarion?

- Thanks to local businesses, especially Pine Hill Orchards, Hager's Farm Market, and Catamount Country Store for all of their support!

### **Building & Grounds:**

- The neighbors to the right of the library will be putting up black wind fencing in follow up to their hearing with the Colrain Select Board and the Animal Control Officer. They stopped at the transfer station pop-up (!) to share this information, in follow to the incident that was documented in previous reports.
- The Conway School has been collecting information and paying us site visits towards the ends of the project needs that we have outlined; these include but are not limited to, improving drainage, increasing and improving parking, improved access, improved security, mitigating our impact on the neighbors, and creating a community space for gathering and library events that is covered but open for community members to use as meeting space.
- Aaron Foster (who has been helping with our maintenance) advises that refinishing the door will require removing the door for more than a day—hence, it will be necessary to hang a temporary door in the interim. This, in turn, requires permission from the building inspector, and navigating this bureaucracy will take a little time. Therefore, refinishing the door is not likely to happen this year and will need to wait until the spring when we can manage these logistics. This month, Aaron will be disassembling the stage, and it will be stored at Pine Hill for the winter, and he will also be re-hanging the grates on the windows. The patron who had commented on previous occasions about how dirty our windows were was pleased to see that they were cleaned.

### **Programs and services:**

- Outreach at the transfer station this month resulted in 43 connections, two new library cards, and a number of very interesting conversations. On October 8th, we promoted the Libby app for eBooks and audiobooks, and on October 15th, we told people about the Halloween programs on October 29th and 31st.
- Seven people attended “Dye-ing to wear it” on October 15th at GML. This program was the output of a cultural council grant that we applied for before the pandemic!
- The LSTA “Go Local” grant is underway! Chelsea met this month with Rhonda and Jonathan, and is meeting this week with the MBLC grant administrator from the MBLC on Wednesday of this week. Our next steps are to recruit participants and to purchase equipment.

### **Administration:**

- GML put in for a grant from the Colrain Cultural Council (via the Mass Cultural Council) to support programming through this time next year, including a Winter Solstice Party, StoryWalk, Summer Reading Club launch party, William Apess Day, Earth Day party, entertainment for Fix-It Day, and six dance classes with Kathy Steinem plus two performances by the Colrain Dancers at the Earth Day party and Fix-It Day 2023. Besides these requests, we supported David Greenberg's application for “Two for Jazz,” and suggested that Memorial Day weekend might be a good fit for their performance. Betty traditionally applies for funding for Summer Reading Club crafts through the LCC also. It was another library director in the area who suggested that the library apply directly, rather than asking each performer/contributor to apply on their own. The total amount that we requested was \$1,600.
- Amazon plans to discontinue the Amazon Business Line of Credit program as of January 10, 2023.
- We filed our annual financial report with MBLC.