

Director's Report January 2023

Respectfully submitted by Chelsea Jordan-Makely on January 18, 2022

Joys and successes:

- Happy New Year! Please see our 2022 Annual Report for an overview of all that we accomplished last year!
- The Annual Town Reports that we earmarked to be digitized have reached the Boston Public Library, where they will be scanned and uploaded to the Digital Commonwealth. Chelsea met with the Town Clerk to confirm that the Town also has copies of all of the Annual Town Reports to date, meaning that we will be able to deaccession the physical copies that are here in the library, and regain the shelf space where they were being kept.
- We had a very fun Winter Solstice Celebration, with 12 people in attendance to see local puppeteer Tom Knight. Thank you to everyone who contributed cookies, popcorn, and wassail!

Building & Grounds:

- Heartwood Window Restoration followed through with energy-efficient window insert project, as promised, using fans and dehumidifiers to mitigate the moisture and condensation that collect in the library windows. They will submit two proposals for repairing the cracked window panes, one for tape/repair, and the other to show the costs of replacing these panels. This will be important to address as we have observed that moisture is leeching into the window frames from outside. For the time being, we will continue running one dehumidifier upstairs, since it is clearly doing a good job of collecting water! Jade recommends that we also run fans upstairs to help.

Programs and services:

- We re-introduced our technology programming this month, with a resume-writing workshop and "technology basics" class, in addition to our one-on-one tech help appointments. We'll continue to offer tech classes like these every-other month, leap-frogging with book club . . .
- The Colrain Reads book club will meet on Wednesday, February 8th at 6:00 p.m. by Zoom to discuss *Demon Copperhead* by Barbara Kingsolver.
- The Carol Purington Poetry Collective met on January 6th, with six poetry-lovers in attendance.

Administration:

- Chelsea met with Miranda Cook, a program officer with Mass Cultural Council, about applying for the [Mass Cultural Council's Cultural Facilities Fund offers Capital Grants](#), and also with our Town Administrator, Kevin Fox, in regards to the one-to-one match and logistics about our application. Chelsea is working on writing our application, and will present to the Select Board on January 24th to speak about this project, and a request for \$17,500 from the library's stabilization fund, towards these ends. Applications are due February 2nd.

- Further to the conversations we had about safety and security earlier this year, Chelsea is reviewing a quote from Citizens Security for a handheld (portable) panic alarm.