

Director's Report February 2023

Respectfully submitted by Chelsea Jordan-Makely on February 25, 2023

Joys and successes:

- Chelsea submitted GML's application for the LSTA Archives Arrangement and Description grant on February 23rd, with letters of support from the Select Board, Historical Society, and GML Trustees. Thank you to everyone for your help and support!
- The street listing was mailed last month, and donations are rolling in! Chelsea and Ellen worked out a new system for thank you cards, which seems to be working well. So far, the Hale Johnson fundraiser has brought in about \$1,200.00, and \$335 from the mailer.
- We connected with the Colrain Historical Society on February 20th to share updates about our respective organizations current undertakings and goals.

Building & Grounds:

- The Energy Committee conducted an energy audit with Advanced Energy Group on February 8th. Chelsea followed up to provide them with copies of the library's utility bills per their request.

Programs and services:

- The Carol Purington Poetry Collective met on Friday, February 3rd, with five people attending.
- The Colrain Reads book club met on Wednesday, February 8th to discuss *Demon Copperhead* by Barbara Kingsolver, with 11 people in attendance. One participant emailed to say, "Kingsolver does a great job bringing what we know from non-fiction into real lives. Thank you for bringing in the different perspectives of the strong women that were in the meeting."
- The B Pod book club at the Franklin County Jail met on February 21st to discuss *Where the Crawdads Sing*. Five women took part in the meeting, and Chelsea and Sarah also assisted with library card sign-up and check-outs beforehand. Services to D-Pod continued also this month, and we plan to offer another round of "Read to the Children" in time for Father's Day. On a related note, Chelsea drafted a Memorandum of Understanding to outline the scope of services offered and to formalize our partnership, expecting that it would take some time and further discussion before we could arrive at a final draft, but the Sheriff's office signed on already! A copy is attached for your review and discussion, and to sign if approved.
- Public Health Nurses continue to offer their services at the library on the 3rd Wednesday of every month from 4:00-6:00. On a related note, the library continues to serve as an access point for rapid test kits, which we get through the Town.
- The People's History of Colrain podcast will "soft launch" this month, meaning that participants will receive a welcome, research prompts, and a timeline of what to expect.

Administration:

- Chelsea presented the library budget to the finance committee on February 13th.
- Citizen's Security has quoted \$468.55 to replace the panic button with a hand-held device that staff could keep on their person or at the "front" desk.