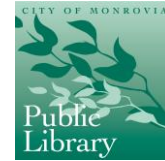




**CITY OF MONROVIA  
LIBRARY BOARD  
AGENDA REPORT**



**DEPARTMENT:** Community Services, Library Division

**MEETING DATE:** August 22, 2019

**PREPARED BY:** Rebecca Elder,  
Adult and Literacy Services Supervisor  
Linda Vera,  
Youth Services Supervisor

**AGENDA LOCATION:** CC-2

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**ADULT SERVICES REPORT**

On July 1, Chris Harris, County Veterans Service Officer (CVSO) began assisting veterans with their claims for military benefits from 10 am to 4 pm each Monday. CVSO's assist with the following benefits:

- Service Connected Disability Compensation
- Non-Service Connected Disability Pension/Aid Education benefits
- Veteran Designation on California Driver License and ID Card
- Life Insurance
- Healthcare benefits
- CalVet Home loans and VA loan guarantee benefits
- California College tuition fee waivers
- Burial benefits
- Upgrading discharges that are less than Honorable

*90's Music Trivia Night* was held on July 2 at the Copper Still Grill in Old Town Monrovia. Forty-eight participants played on teams and enjoyed an exciting evening of trivia. The program is part of broadening patron experiences and building partnerships to bring library services out into the community, all goals of the Library's Strategic Plan.

On July 10, Michelle Ohm, artist and crafter hosted *Gather and Make: Felt Crafting*. Twenty participants learned how to create felt succulents. Supporting lifelong learning and providing enhanced experiences are goals of the Library's Strategic Plan.

On July 9 and July 26, staff hosted a creative activity for a total of 24 attendees at local senior residences, Heritage Park and Regency Court. Supporting lifelong learning and Active Mind, Active Life programming for seniors is a goal of the Library's Strategic Plan. This type of outreach also allows staff to provide expanded access to library services for those unable to visit the building.

*Peace Point Meditation* presented the second session of introduction to meditation for life balance and self-care on July 11. Participants learned techniques to relieve stress and anxiety to feel more at ease in their daily lives. The program is part of the library's strategic goal of broadening patron experiences.

On Saturday, July 13, staff hosted the movie, *Crazy Rich Asians*, as part of *Silver Screen*, the Cinematic Heritage Series for adults. Attendees enjoyed the contemporary romantic comedy, based on the 2013 novel of the same name by Kevin Kwan.

On July 24, Christy Jones, Holistic Health Coach, shared how dietary and lifestyle changes improve the brain-gut connection. Twenty-one attendees enjoyed healthy soup and smoothies. This program not only offered community members an enhanced experience, it also emphasized wellness and healthy choices for all ages.

On July 27, a breakfast for the Veterans Resource Center volunteers was held. Library Board Members and staff came together to celebrate the volunteers and their efforts working with service members and their family members in the community.

## **YOUTH SERVICES REPORT**

On Saturday, July 7 the library hosted a Lego Club program. There were six teen volunteers who assisted with the program. A total of 42 participants attended the event, with children between the ages of 3 and 11 and their parents and caregivers. Staff continue to receive very positive responses to the program. Child-directed building is a great opportunity for kids to explore engineering fundamentals while sharpening their problem solving skills, thus developing their *STEM* and 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning Skills.

On Thursday, July 11, the library welcomed 65 children and their families to the robotics club presentations that combined engineering and technology skills. Participants had hands-on learning experience and discovered the science behind building a robot. They also had an opportunity to meet Monrovia High School's award-winning *Robotics Club* students and learn how engineering has taken the team all over the world. This program supports *STEM* learning, a key component of our programming focus under the Library's Strategic Plan.

On Saturday, July 13, a total of 80 participants, including children and their families, came to the library for a *Dance Party*, where they got to dance to do some of their favorites such as Baby Shark, and learn new to them dance moves such the Macarena with bubbles under a disco light. Musical activities such as singing and dancing strengthen the bond between parents and children, and require children to listen attentively and hold patterns in their memory. This improves memory and attention, supporting learning at all ages.

On Monday, July 15, the library partnered with local art studio *Art Time* to offer a drawing program for children. Using charcoal and pastels, participants learned to build a drawing through the use of simple shapes. Over the course of the program, children created colorful, 3-dimensional effects, resulting in a lifelike take home work of art. Distilling objects into basic shapes is great visual analytical practice, and drawing is a wonderful form of expressing creativity. Supporting creativity and analytical skills are important to meeting our strategic goals for diverse programming that supports 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning Skills.

On Thursday, July 18, the library hosted the *Laser Reader Show*, presented by Prismatic Magic, a visual learning presentation that combines science, technology, art, and popular children's music. After learning about the science of lasers, the audience was treated to a show featuring literary places, characters, and ideas. Over 250 attendees attended the event. The combination of explanation, question and answer and demonstration of lasers was a wonderful way to educate and entertain the audience with a *STEM* topic.

On Friday, July 26, Teen Summer Reading programming concluded with *Laser Tag After Hours*. The program attracted 80 teens, many of whom heard about the program from friends in Teen Advisory Board (TAB). TAB members played an integral role in organizing teams and answering questions about the equipment. Teens enjoyed playing in the library after hours, and appreciated the opportunity to use the library space for an active game. The annual *Laser Tag* event is not only famous for being "super fun" in the words of one teen, but also helps teens be active and build teamwork and leadership skills.