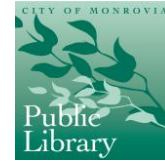




**CITY OF MONROVIA
LIBRARY BOARD
AGENDA REPORT**



DEPARTMENT: **Community Services, Library Division**

MEETING DATE: June 26, 2020

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

AGENDA LOCATION: CC-2

ADULT SERVICES REPORT

On May 11, Veterans Resource Center staff connected with all volunteer veteran benefit coaches and updated veteran benefit resources from calVet and VA and LA County. Staff provided training and tech support for Zoom for monthly online meetings.

On May 14 & 28 Adult and Circulation Services staff hosted virtual *Game Nights*. Participants played *Jackbox* e-games and used their phone or tablets as controllers. The program is a part of broadening patron experiences, a goal of the library's strategic plan.

On May 21, Veterans Resource Center staff served on a panel for Veterans Connect @ the Library Workshop. Staff presented tips on engaging veteran volunteers via zoom and teleconferencing. Staff and volunteers connect both via phone and online throughout the month.

On May 26, Adult Services staff hosted the Novel T's Book Club virtually using Zoom. Staff provided training and tech support to group members. Eleven members participated in the discussion of *There There* by Tommy Orange.

On May 26, Literacy Center staff served on a panel hosted by the California State Library. The topic was *Conversation Groups for English Language Learners*. Ninety (90) participants were in attendance and LiteracyCenter staff presented information on conversation groups, book clubs, and writing clubs.

On May 28, Literacy Center staff hosted the California Library Literacy Services (CLLS) online professional development meeting. *Writing for Learners* was the topic. Ongoing staff development provides Literacy Coordinators, staff and tutors with best practices for adult literacy services.

YOUTH SERVICES REPORT

The virtual programs continue to be the library's connection to the community as the library remains closed. *Storytime*, *Craft* and *Scilab* content have maintained popularity with the community, garnering a total of 2,787 views for those content areas during the last month.

Storytimes continued with reading books, singing songs and using materials around the house to engage young children, such as bandanas and socks. Stories read included a book about three young dragons

taking care of the old wizard's kittens while he is away on vacation. The Good Knight helps the dragons learn responsibility as well as how to read. Using everyday objects as props keeps children engaged and models ways parents can incorporate literacy based activities into their days, and contributes to the library's goal of contributing to a community of lifelong learning.

Craft Corner videos introduced activities to families that could be completed at home using minimal materials. The activities were directed towards pre-school through school-aged children and their families. Children and their families watched videos that presented craft activities such as making flowers from paper plates, making paper bag monster puppets, and more. These programs supported 21st century learning skills in accordance with our strategic plan, including fine motor skills and critical thinking skills.

This month's SciLab was exploring leaves of different textures under a microscope. Wordless and set to soft music, the video examines each leaf at different magnification levels. This is a wonderful way for children to engage in self-guided observation. Producing science content is a way for staff to continue meeting the strategic goal of providing STEM content to the community.

Youth Services put together a video to reach out and say hello to the community. It was one of our most well-received posts, with 232 views. This video was a way for staff to let the community know that we miss them and value the relationships we have fostered.

After 11 years of being used in the Youth Services area by children and their families, the Library's Big Cozy Book furniture was refurbished. With the support of the Monrovia Public Library Foundation and Rotary Club of Monrovia, library staff coordinated with a local upholsterer and the original company for fabric to refresh the benches and chairs with new colors and book titles. Now the book themed furniture can be enjoyed by the public for another decade.

June TAB meeting took place via Zoom on June 8, and was attended by 15 TAB members. Teens enjoyed this opportunity to connect with their peers, and used the meeting hour to share their current hobbies, talk about their summer plans, and share challenges they are facing. Many teens shared that they miss the library and their friends, but they have been enjoying other things such as drawing, K-pop fandom, and video games. They expressed their desire to be able to help the library in any way they can. It is especially important for teens to be able to find a sense of community in TAB, which they have been finding because of the bonds they've built over this year in part due to their time volunteering and spending time together at the TAB Game Lounge program. TAB member engagement has been even stronger in Zoom meetings, as teens feel more comfortable talking to each other through the chat feature in Zoom.