



**CITY OF MONROVIA
LIBRARY BOARD
AGENDA REPORT**



DEPARTMENT: Community Services, Library Division

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MEETING DATE: February 25, 2021

AGENDA LOCATION: CC-2

ADULT SERVICES REPORT

On January 8, Literacy Services staff attended the California Library Literacy Services (CLLS) online virtual workshop. The topic was *Adult Theory and Education*, and the workshop provided adult educators and literacy tutors with best practices, methodologies, and resources for research on Adult Education.

On January 12, Literacy Services staff attended the Southern California Library Literacy Network (SCLLN) virtual meeting. The facilitator's focus was professional development on *Mindfulness Techniques*, for getting learners into the best mindset for reading and writing.

On January 13, Veterans Resource Center staff attended the virtual meeting of the USC Los Angeles Veterans Collaborative. The Collaborative meets to improve veterans' access to services and reduce barriers to care. This month's topic was *Assisting Service Members Transition to Civilian Life and the Post-military Community of their Choice*.

On January 19, Literacy Center's Voxy grant program, *Herstory*, went live with 5 participants. Voxy is an innovative virtual learning platform for adult learners designed to help with reading, writing, vocabulary and pronunciation. Literacy staff applied for and received the grant, which focuses on supporting women learners reach their individual learning goals.

On January 21, Veterans Resource Center staff attended the USC Suzanne Dworak-Peck School of Social Work virtual webinar. The topic was *The Health and Well-Being of U.S. Veterans During the COVID-19 Pandemic* in support of those who served.

On January 23, Adult Services staff hosted a virtual *Gather and Make* craft program for teens and adults. Three participants gathered over Zoom with fellow DIY enthusiasts and created maker projects. This month's project was *Dot Grid Planning* for notebooks, calligraphy, and bullet journaling.

On January 26, Adult Services staff hosted the virtual Novel T's Book Club. A total of 16 members participated in the January discussion of *The Last Policeman* by Ben H. Winters.

On January 26, Veterans Resource Center Staff attended a virtual webinar, *I Didn't Know I Was a Veteran*, hosted by *Veterans Connect @ the Library*. Army Veteran/Librarian Kristen Mulvihill presented tips and tools on how to be an inclusive, welcoming hub for those who have served in the military and their family members. Additional information included an overview of *Brainfuse's VetNow*, an online resource to

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support veterans with job and resume coaching, veteran benefits, and education. *VetNow* is available at Veteran Resource Centers throughout the State including Monrovia Public Library.

On January 28, Veterans Resource Center staff attended a webinar and town hall hosted by CalVet Women Veterans. The webinar introduced Acting Deputy Secretary for Women Veterans Affairs and Deputy Secretary for Minority Veterans Affairs, Xóchitl Rodríguez Murillo and included plans for 2021 along with an opportunity to ask questions of CalVet Women Veterans Affairs.

YOUTH SERVICES REPORT

Craft Corner

In January, DIY Craft Kits were introduced. The kits contained freeform crafting materials and were directed towards school age children. In addition to the kits a special Craft Corner video was produced for YouTube that promoted the kits and showed kids how they could use their imagination with the materials provided. Forty kits were provided to families through curbside pick-up. This program supported 21st century learning skills in accordance with our strategic plan, including fine motor and STEAM skills.

Teen Advisory Board (TAB)

The January Teen Advisory Board (TAB) meeting was attended by 20 teens. During the meeting teens brainstormed ideas for future programs and encouraged each other to host programs, such as streaming movies, playing games, and doing crafts. Members have been active in taking a leadership role when planning programs, which is a great opportunity for them to contribute and learn from each other. The meeting was followed by testing movie streaming through Discord to plan future movie nights. Teens ran into some technical difficulties while testing it but thought about ways they could resolve the issues. During this process teens exercised their problem-solving skills and worked together to find solutions to the problems they encountered.

Storytimes

This month storytimes included special celebrations of Lunar New Year and a recognition of Martin Luther King Jr. For Lunar New Year, staff created a video that shares the traditions of the holiday and a wonderful story about how every animal earned its place in the Chinese zodiac by taking part in the Great Race. In recognition of Martin Luther King Jr., staff shared an award-winning book that highlighted some of Mr. King's powerful quotes and depicted his life's journey. It offers young readers an accessible yet profound introduction to his legacy.

Zoom Club

This new program was created to allow 1st through 5th graders to have fun and socialize with one another in a relaxed atmosphere. Participants played a book knowledge challenge, as well as a game where they had to name three things that fit a category. This time together was interactive and helped kids with dialog and teamwork. It allowed students that do not attend the same class or school, an opportunity to get to know one another and share similar interests. There were two in attendance at the first program and staff plan on holding *Zoom Club* in the spring. This will allow staff more time to promote the new program series.

STEM-Science at Home

Staff presented a catapult craft that allows kids to observe force and projectiles, and the effect of alterations to the catapult design on the height and distance their projectiles can achieve. By providing content across multiple scientific fields, including geology, technology and physics, library staff have created opportunities for the community to develop and explore a wide array of scientific topics.