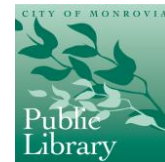




**CITY OF MONROVIA
LIBRARY BOARD
AGENDA REPORT**



DEPARTMENT: Community Services,
Library Division

MEETING DATE: October 28, 2021

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

AGENDA LOCATION: CC-2

ADULT SERVICES REPORT

Literacy Services

During the month of September, a total of 36 learners and tutors participated in five programs. Staff also distributed 20 family literacy kits to families in celebration of *Adult Education* and *Family Literacy Week* and *International Literacy Day*. The kits consisted of a book, fun activity, and literacy guide to encourage families to enjoy reading together. During this month, staff attended the California Library Literacy Services (CLLS)' Literacy Initiatives Statewide webinar, which provided tips and tools for celebrating tutor and learner accomplishments in library literacy programs.

Veterans Services

During the month of September, the Veterans Resource Center reached 102 veterans. This total includes 50 from the County Veterans Service Officer (CVSO), 13 from the Veteran Peer Access Network (VPAN), and 39 from VRC staff.

Veterans Services

On September 14, Veterans Resource Center staff presented an overview of the Monrovia Public Library's *Veterans Connect @ the Library* program for the virtual *National Veteran's Forum* at Texas A&M University. Staff had an opportunity to highlight program successes and promote the unique resources that Monrovia Public Library offers to veterans and their family members in the community.

Veterans Services

On September 21, Veterans Resource Center staff welcomed Matthew Castillo, to the Veterans Resource Center. Matthew is the newest Veteran Peer Access Network (VPAN) representative providing in person assistance to veterans and their families. Matthew is on-site Tuesdays 10am-5pm.

Novel T's Book Club

On September 28, Adult Services staff hosted the virtual Novel T's Book Club. A total of 12 members participated in the monthly group discussion of *The Henna Artist* by Alka Joshi.

YOUTH SERVICES REPORT

STORYTIME

Library Staff resumed weekday storytimes in Library Park. On Wednesdays and Saturdays in September, families gathered on blankets and chairs to hear stories, sing songs, experience sensory activities, enjoy bubble play, and make crafts. Storytime provides opportunities for children and their families to practice a variety of literacy and early education skills, including the development of motor skills and social skills. Virtual storytime continues as a way to continue literacy services to families who are unable to attend our in-person events. This month staff read about a very bored Barnacle who wished he had something to do. Reading books about feelings, supports emotional growth as well as literacy by providing language for children to talk about their feelings, and learning about the outcomes of character's actions and attitudes. A total of 323 attended the storytimes this month.

CRAFTS

Loose Parts – On Thursday, September 23 after school, over 30 students and family members joined Library Staff to create art. There were no rules, only lots of supplies. Children were encouraged to make anything their hearts desired. From dinosaurs with toilet paper legs to beaded necklaces, an array of creative projects have been made. This program supports 21st century learning skills such as fine motor skills and creativity, a key component of critical thinking and problem solving.

BOOK TALKS

The library is producing videos that feature ten new books per recording for different ages and interests. The purpose of the videos is to showcase the range of topics and genres available at the library and provide reading recommendations. On September 4, a video of ten picture books was posted, and on September 18, a video of ten chapter books was shared. The two videos had a total of 26 views. These videos are on the Monrovia Public Library's YouTube channel and can be viewed by anyone seeking inspiration on what to read next.

OUTREACH

Canyon Park Campout – September 18 and 25 – Library Staff partnered with Monrovia Park Rangers and visited Canyon Park to entertain campers around the campfire. With interactive songs and stories, people of all ages participated until the sun went down. Approximately 120 people over two nights attended.

TEEN PROGRAMS

The September Teen Advisory Board (TAB) meeting took place in the library, and was led by the TAB officer board. Members received feedback on the change to the meeting day and time in order to accommodate more members. A total of 15 members participated and received updates about fall programs, and signed up to volunteer for Lego Derby, Storytime in the Park, and Laser Tag. They also shared ideas for winter teen programs. Members will be planning a Murder Mystery Program for teens. Teens have had more of a role in organizing TAB activities, giving them an opportunity to develop their leadership skills and be more engaged in library services.

Laser Tag was the first in-person teen program of the year, which was held on September 17. A total of 25 teens gathered at the library after closing to play a game with laser taggers from the library. The Board played an important role in running the program, as they organized the games, set up the taggers, and greeted participants as they arrived. Many teens not currently in TAB attended the program and got to learn about the TAB program. Active group activities like this are a great way for teens to connect and be engaged in the library. When not playing, teens appreciated having the library to themselves to browse books and talk to their friends, which helps them feel welcome at the library.