



**CITY OF MONROVIA  
LIBRARY BOARD  
AGENDA REPORT**



**DEPARTMENT:** Community Services, Library Division

**MEETING DATE:** August 25, 2022

**PREPARED BY:** Rebecca Elder,  
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Youth Services Supervisor

**AGENDA LOCATION:** CC-2

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**ADULT SERVICES REPORT**

***Literacy Services***

In July, a total of 57 learners and tutors participated in 5 programs. During this month, staff attended the Southern California Library Literacy Network (SCLLN) General Meeting on July 12th and *Engaging Adults with Low Literacy Scores* presented by California Libraries Learn (CALL) and Katharine Ware, Writing and Education Consultant, which explored the characteristics of adults with low literacy levels and provided strategies for library staff to support reading literacy in adults.

***Veterans Services***

During the month of July, the Veterans Resource Center (VRC) served a total of 89 veterans. County Veterans Service Officer (CVSO) 15; Veteran Peer Access Network (VPAN) 30; and VRC staff 44. In July, staff attended a California Transition Assistance Program (CalTAP) workshop, Benefits and Resources to Assist Veterans in Retirement, which included presentations from California Department of Veterans Affairs (CalVet)'s Yountville Veteran's Home Veteran Service Officer discussing VA pensions, survivor benefits, and VA Healthcare, while CalVet's Cemeteries and Burials representative provided information on requirements, eligibility, and cemetery locations.

***Novel T's Book Club***

On July 26, Adult Services staff hosted the hybrid (in person and virtual) Novel T's Book Club. A total of 8 members (five in person, three virtual) participated in the monthly group discussion of *Gulliver's Travels* by Johnathan Swift.

**YOUTH SERVICES REPORT**

***Storytimes***

Library staff hosted Storytime in the Park on Wednesdays and Saturdays. Families gathered on blankets and chairs to hear stories, sing songs, dance, move, enjoy sensory activities, and make a craft. Themes highlighted were food, summer, art, and Community Helpers. During the art themed storytime, families gathered to create chalk art on the concrete apron behind the library. As a summer finale, the Community Helpers themed storytime had the library collaborating with the Monrovia Police and Monrovia Fire Departments, which brought vehicles for children to see up close and opportunities for families to interact with police officers and fire fighters. In addition, new author and Monrovia Police Officer, Carlos Nolasco, read his new book *Mr. Officer* to the crowd. Storytimes help young children with language skills, use their

imagination, develop social skills, and expand their world by hearing about a variety of cultures, people, and experiences.

Storytime in the Park on Saturdays, engaged young listeners with manipulatives, like parachutes and beanbags, which assist in the development of children's fine and gross motor skills. Staff continue to laud the benefits of talking, reading, singing, writing and playing for young developing minds while also offering assorted opportunities to talk, read, sing, write and play at storytimes.

On Saturday July 9, library staff partnered with staff the Recreation Division to present a very special storytime at Station Square Park. The 80+ attendees enjoyed the stories, songs and rhymes shared, along with an entertaining and informative presentation by park naturalists about animal senses. Participants made snake crafts, and enjoyed a storywalk. Once again, the highlight of the event had to be an appearance by Oreo, a California Kingsnake, brought by Canyon Park staff. The children were all very excited to get an opportunity to feel/touch Oreo. Traveling storytimes with the Park Naturalists will continue in the fall.

A total of 692 caregivers and children attended storytimes in July.

### **Programs**

#### *Max Lee Music Concert*

On Saturday, July 16, a local Monrovia band came to introduce folk songs and instruments to families at the Library. Max Lee Music had a group of four talented musicians that played a variety of songs while families were encouraged to dance and learn how each musical instrument is made and played from the ukulele to the cello. A total of 35 attended the concert.

#### *LEGO Science*

On the afternoon of July 21st, the LEGOs, LEGOs, LEGOs program drew an excited assortment of children between the ages of 6 and 11. Staff presented the attendees with seven different STEM-related challenges to assist in the development of their critical thinking, problem solving and ability to concentrate. Attendees, also, had the opportunity to enter a raffle for a LEGO STEM book by completing five of the seven tasks. A number of the parents and caregivers of the children attending the program expressed their continued gratitude for the library and asked for more LEGO and/or science-related programming for school aged children. A total of 31 caregivers and children attended the LEGO program.

#### *Loose Parts*

Children of all ages and their families were encouraged to attend this creative arts program on Thursday, July 28 from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. Library staff offered a large selection of supplies and everyone in attendance used their imaginations as they made projects such as Thor's Hammer, bead fusion ornaments, hats, and jewelry. Participants were able to create to their hearts content and make whatever came to their minds. A total of 60 people attended the Loose Parts Program.

### **Teens**

The July Teen Advisory Board (TAB) meeting took place in the library and was led by the TAB officer board. 30 TAB members attended the meeting. The TAB officers began the meeting by leading the group in an ice breaker activity. During the meeting, TAB members received updates on volunteering in July. They signed up to help at the *Family Music Concert*, Ms. Annette's *Art Storytime*, the *Loose Parts Craft Program*, and the *Community Helpers Storytime*. TAB members were very excited about volunteering and helping at the library this summer.

13 teens stayed after the TAB meeting on the 11th to participate in a craft program. Attendees made charms out of air dry clay and turned them into keychains. They also created pom poms and tassels out of

yarn to add to their keychains. The teens worked in groups at table and shared supplies and tutorial packets with each other. This program gave teens the opportunity to develop communication skills, critical thinking, and social skills.

### ***Virtual Programming***

On Monday, July 11, a new video Storytime was posted. The book highlighted was *So You Want to Build a Library* by Lindsey Leslie. This story feeds the imaginations of children as they dream of a library they would create if they could. The reader is the architect of a fantastical library which celebrates all things fun and the joy of reading. The video received a total of 16 views.

### ***Outreach***

Mayflower Summer School – On July 7 and 8, Library staff and YES Intern went to this summer school location to promote literacy and the *Summer Reading Program*. Playing a fun and interactive game, students were tested on their knowledge about literature, the library, and summer. 340 students attended six assemblies and two Special Education Classes (SPEC classroom) visits over two days.