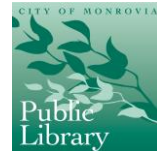




**CITY OF MONROVIA  
LIBRARY BOARD  
AGENDA REPORT**



**DEPARTMENT:** Public Services, Library Division

**MEETING DATE:** March 24, 2016

**PREPARED BY:** Elizabeth Schneider,  
Youth Services Supervisor

**AGENDA LOCATION:** AR- 2

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**TITLE:** 2016 Summer Reading Development Report

**OBJECTIVE:** To provide the Library Board with an update on the upcoming 2016 Summer Reading Program and request feedback related to the program development.

**BACKGROUND:** The 2015 Summer Reading Club was designed to engage everyone; infants through adults. Participants were asked to read every day, either through independent reading or having someone read to them. The intent was to encourage all ages to read for 42 days and make reading a part of their daily activities, thereby establishing a habit that would continue the literacy growth and development. When participants logged in their reading progress using Evanced online summer reading program, they qualified to receive an incentive for every seven days of completion. Staff developed bookmarks with suggested reading activities to further encourage participants to make reading a daily activity. Participants were encouraged to share comments about their favorite reading activity.

**ANALYSIS:** The Summer Reading Club has created great value for thousands of adults and children over the years. Staff would like to continue that tradition and enhance the program to reach more people and connect patrons with more resources. The name of the reading program has changed to Summer Reading Program instead of the Club. The terminology of 'club' refers to the exclusivity and staff wants to work toward the inclusion of all members of the community. Youth Services, Adult Services and Circulation Services continue to work together and collaborate in the creation and development of the Summer Reading Program.

Staff is currently developing programs for all ages at the Library. Programs range from Music & Motion Storytime at Station Square, Toddler Olympics, literacy and science programs for elementary age children, reader's theater for teens, and sensory movie night for special needs. Adult Services is working on a series called Adulting 101 focusing on New Adults, cooking classes, brain challenges for seniors, and a Veterans physical challenge which would involve a game or competition against branches of service.

- Is there a community group as a population we are missing in the program plans??

Last summer staff brought the summer reading program to 1,310 children by visiting groups that could not make it into the Library. These groups included the YMCA, the City summer camp Summer Extravaganza, the Tzu Chi Summer School, the Monrovia Unified School District Village Extended School Program, and the Boys & Girls Club. Staff were able to support against the academic summer slide, and encourage a focus on literacy at these outside programs. Monrovia has focused on enhancing

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organizational capacity by bringing staffing levels up, allowing staff to have more time to go out into the community.

- Are there any children's groups staff may be missing that are unable to come to the Library?
- Is there a way to bring the program to Adults who cannot come to the physical library?

Library staff is interested in bringing programs out to the community as well as the summer reading program. Programming is currently under development to bring to Station Square to offer opportunities for learning and engagement. This is also a form of publicity for the Library, showing resources that are available that the public may not know about.

- Are there other locations staff could bring programs where those communities might benefit?

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT:** There is no environmental impact associated with this report.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** With the changes in the software used for the Summer Reading Program, Library Staff will spend less money on logistics and be able to spend that money on programming or paperback books for reading incentives.

As in the past, the Library will continue to rely on donor support to fund the Summer Reading Program. All contributions will help purchase paperback books, reading incentives, and support the Summer Reading Program as well as literacy programs throughout the year for children through adults.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Staff is requesting feedback from the Board related to the development of the Summer Reading Program outlined in the report and recommends the Library Board move to receive and file AR-1 2016 Summer Reading Development Report.

**LIBRARY BOARD ACTION REQUIRED:** If the Library Board concurs, the appropriate action would be a motion: Receive and file report AR-1 2016 Summer Reading Development Report.