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PLAINEDGE PUBLIC LIBRARY

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

MAY 2015

Library Operating Budget 2015/2016

I have not received any comments on the 2015/2016 Library Operating Budget from our residents. However, I did receive a few comments about the April (Budget) Newsletter. It appears that our patrons do appreciate our newsletter in color. I, along with Mrs. Ryder, have been visiting the PTAs and talking generally about the new services offered at the library. I have also mentioned the library's fund balance as an established reserve for future capital projects. As always, I found the PTA members most cordial and do appreciate the services offered by the library to the community.

Closing of the Library

In honor of and in sympathy for the passing of Police Officer Brian Moore the Library adjusted the operating hours and closed early on Thursday May 7th and delayed opening on Friday during the funeral hours. Even though the Library was formally closed a large number of police officers attending the funeral did use our restroom facilities. The untimely passing of Police Officer Moore is a very sad and a most tragic incident. We will always remember him.

Library Appraisal

Industrial Appraisal Company completed and submitted the final appraisal report. Overall, it does appear to be accurate, even though some small items were overvalued and a few larger ones somewhat undervalued. The completion of this report is necessary to be in compliance with GASB 34 and also needed for insurance purposes.

New Book Shelves

The books and magazines for sale were simply placed on book trucks near the exit of the library. Patrons do enjoy scanning the book trucks for books and magazines and often leave with a bag of items. To make browsing for sale items easier while at the same time making the area neater in appearance, metal bookcases were purchased both for the magazines and the books. The appearance of the area certainly improved.

New York State Tax Cap Efficiency Plan

I have thoroughly reviewed the requirements of the Tax Cap and also spoke directly to the New York State Division of Budget, and the library attorney. I think we may be able to submit an efficiency plan that would be accepted by the state and not have to eliminate any existing services.

Children's Room Night of Reading

In celebration of National Library Week the Children's Room decided to sponsor a music program instead of just reading and acting out stories as we have done for the last eight years . Over thirty children listened to Lee Knight bring popular picture books to life through music and movement. Every child became a performer as they danced to picture book themes.

Library Statistics Reporting

Much time and effort has been expended by Michael Dietz, our Computer Specialist, in creating a special computer program that allows for easier collection of monthly statistics. The program as written is based on the information needed each year for the New York State Annual Report. I do think the monthly statistics will not only more accurate but also easier to collect and record for the New York State Annual Report.