

TANEYHILLS LIBRARY MEMBERSHIP MEETING
PRESIDENT'S REPORT
December 14, 2020

Our year of success at the library should be entitled "Despite the pandemic".

We normally have 100+ volunteers who provide additional staffing at the circulation desk, enable the retail stores to be open, serve on committees assisting staff with planning and implementation of services and programs, and providing back office administrative duties. Unfortunately, due to the pandemic and life's challenges, many of our volunteers have not been volunteering. This has been felt throughout the library and our retail stores downstairs, resulting in fewer days to be open. That of course makes a big impact on our overall income and services we can provide. Our heartfelt thanks go to those volunteers and staff who have continued to come and work! We are only able to stay open due to their passion for the library.

The good news is that all our paid staff are now fully trained and enabling us to serve the needs of our patrons more efficiently. The Library has become a more finely tuned operation due to our friendly and capable staff and volunteers.

The Personnel Committee completed all the job descriptions. Their commitment to the details in making these descriptions complete, enable training of new staff and volunteers a more consistent and streamlined process. The two customer services policies and the 22 staff and volunteer job descriptions have become the policy statement noted in the bylaws.

The Membership committee created a successful funding campaign. By creating the Champion level, that revenue stream increased that revenue stream over 2019, despite the pandemic. Our thanks to our 25 charter Champions!

With approval of the bylaws amendments, the governance of the Library should enable the Board of Directors to be more nimble. We anticipate many decisions needed as we work towards the tax initiative to publicly fund the Library. Preparation for passing the initiative in 2022 will be the primary focus for the Board throughout 2021.

Doug Manz became the Library's Treasurer in October. Under his short term, his leadership as Treasurer and chair of Budget & Finance, the 2021 budget has been completed and approved. We are grateful to Doug for tackling the documentation of the Perpetual Trust Fund. His expert financial advice has been invaluable in guiding us towards a third-party manager for the investment account. This will reduce one of the tasks for the committee and remove the liability of managing the account. A great accomplishment!

Jim Justus, one of our Member-at-Large directors is in contract with the City of Branson to clear the cloud on the Library's real estate title. A title search revealed a legal description error was made years ago by the City of Branson to vacate an alley.

The Operations Committee has worked tirelessly in providing our children's programs. Their creativity has enabled us to continue providing these fun learning programs—despite the pandemic.

Steve Kneeshaw, Director of Grants, has provided another successful year for the Library with the grants he has procured. These grants, including \$26,000 from the Stanley and Elaine Ball Foundation, enable us to keep the collections updated in both the adult and children's libraries and provide great children's programs.

Few in our community would know of the great things happening at Taneyhills Library without the efforts of our Publicity and Marketing Committee. Whether it is in the library or in the retail stores, the managers or committees tell Adele what they have planned, hand her a photo or a flyer draft and say, “Make it Happen”, and she does—with great enthusiasm. Whether it is print media or Facebook, she is a great promoter of the Library.

The Bookstore has had two successful book bag sales. Revenue for over 5,000 books has been added to our coffers. This has also freed space for the enormous amount of continual donations that come in and enabled freshening of the collection for sale in the Bookstore.

Although we have so many terrific volunteers who give so much of their time and energy, our volunteer of the year is Mary Lynne Grimes. Although she always volunteers more of her time than any other volunteer, we can never give her all the appreciation and recognition she deserves. Not only does she manage the Thrift Store, but she also volunteers her time on committees and the Board of Directors.

Marcia Schemper-Carlock, continues to be an excellent Director for the Library. We hate to think where the Library would be without her at the helm. The Executive Committee had given her marching orders at the beginning of the year to focus her attention on funding. She has taken begging to a fine art, even successfully procuring a grant from the City of Branson. A major accomplishment!

Although Marcia has been laser focused on funding, she has stayed on top of the daily grind of overseeing a business. Updating our technology has been a major accomplishment thanks to donations from two private donors, and the community partnership with VanderNet Technologies. The upgrading to a public printer, changing to cellular internet, updating computer and phone hardware and software has been a blessing in 2020—despite the pandemic.

Thanks go to the Board of Directors who read reams of paper, attend the monthly meetings, and make decisions—despite the pandemic.

May 2021 be our best year ever!