

Director's Report to the Library Commission
August 21, 2023

Budget News:

- Update for the donation button for the website – we need to figure out which bank account/fund we want the donations going into.
- All revenue from printing, copying, faxing etc. has transitioned to the Town of Ledyard. The Town has also agreed to pay the lease and maintenance agreement for the new photocopiers. The new machines are working extremely well and we have received several compliments from the public.
- FY23 will officially be coming to a close in the next few weeks.

Library News:

- I confirmed the Libraries Transforming Communities grant funds have been received. Now that we held our Community Conversations and heard directly from the public and members of our community, we can begin to spend the funds. Here is a breakdown of how the funding will be allocated based on what we confirmed through our conversations:
 - Installing an automatic door opener at Gales Ferry Library
 - Strengthening our collection offerings
 - Upgrading technology to aid with programming and events
 - Funding programs for all ages to meet local disability needs
- Hold slips are now printed with the names at the top of the receipt which is working out very well. We are discussing the possibility of implementing patron self-pick up for holds in the future.
- To follow the goals listed in our strategic plan about branding our library, we have created a new template for “date due” receipts. These receipts are now easier to read and include our logo, tag line, website, phone number, email etc.
- Summer Reading has been going well. We have seen record breaking program attendance for Children and Adults!

Building News:

- The meeting room at the Bill Library is set up and ready for the annual book sale which runs from Friday, August 18 through Sunday, August 27. Sarah Desormier, Friends of the Library President, has put in a lot of time getting everything set up and ready for the sale. She reported that donations have been down this year meaning there are not as many items to sell.

Town News:

- On August 30, the library will join forces with the Town of Ledyard Community Relations Committee at the Farmer's Market. Promotional library materials will be available along with the ability to sign up residents for library cards. Visitors to the table will also be encouraged to head up to the Bill Library for an open house and opportunity to complete a fun scavenger hunt. Incentives include free books and a free 3D print.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jennifer Smith
Library Director