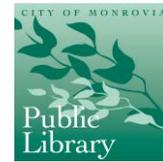




**CITY OF MONROVIA
LIBRARY BOARD
AGENDA REPORT**



DEPARTMENT: **Community Services, Library Division**

MEETING DATE: May 23, 2019

PREPARED BY: Rebecca Elder,
Adult and Literacy Services Supervisor
Linda Vera,
Youth Services Supervisor

AGENDA LOCATION: CC-2

ADULT SERVICES REPORT

Game of Thrones Trivia Night was held on Thursday, April 4 at the Copper Still Grill in Monrovia. Forty-eight participants played on teams and enjoyed an exciting evening of trivia. Since trivia night has been so popular, Copper Still Grill management moved trivia night to the main floor. The program meets the goals of the library's strategic plan, specifically, broadening patron experiences and building partnerships within the community.

On Saturday, April 6, staff hosted *Role Playing Game 101 (RPG)* which featured Dungeon Master Jason Lee, who provided an introductory RPG game for 10 gamers. This program is a part of broadening patron experiences, a goal of the library's strategic plan.

Game Night was on held on Wednesday, April 10, and seven participants played a variety of different board games and a variety of Wii games. This fun-filled evening is a great opportunity to socialize with fellow gamers. Snacks and beverages were included. Game Night is a wonderful way for emerging adults in their 20's and 30's to experience new opportunities for learning and team building, as well as seeing the library as a gathering place for the entire community.

On Saturday, April 13, staff partnered with the City's Hillside Wilderness Preserve Team and offered tips for beginning and seasoned hikers on equipment, safety and the top local hiking destinations. Supporting lifelong learning and partnering with other City departments are both goals of the library's strategic plan.

On April 16 and 26, staff hosted a creative activity at local senior residences, Heritage Park and Regency Court. Staff demonstrated a spring art activity using buttons for 18 attendees. Supporting lifelong learning and Active Mind, Active Life programming for seniors is a goal of the library's strategic plan.

On Thursday, April 18, Veterans Resource Center staff and volunteers attended a *Veteran's Connect @ the Library* training workshop. The workshop was a networking opportunity for area sites to get updates from CalVet and receive additional training.

YOUTH SERVICES REPORT

On Saturday, April 13 the library hosted a *Lego Club* program. We had four teens volunteer assist with the program. A total of 37 participants attending the event. There were children between the ages of 1 and 13, along with a number of parents and caregivers. We continue to have a very positive response to

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this program that provides an opportunity for children to exercise their engineering skills, in accordance with our strategic goal of providing programming rooted in 21st century learning skills.

On Saturday, April 27, we had our second *Storytime Time*. Children between the ages of 8 months and 6 years old attended. There were 32 children and adults present at the animal themed event. Staff read stories about ducks, bears, animal feet and a collection of animal themed haikus. We also sang songs with shaker eggs. Attendees expressed their appreciation for an alternative to the weekday morning based storytimes. This early literacy program supports our strategic goal of supporting lifelong learning and providing access to all members of the community

During the first week of April, the library held a *SciLab Spring Break* for elementary-school students. The library offered a new learning opportunity each day through a partnership with Oak Crest Institute of Science and the NASA Solar System Ambassador program. Students isolated strawberry DNA, used microscopes to examine pond water life, and observed the sun through a solar telescope. Oak Crest provided professional lab equipment, and students learned about grams staining, or creating slides by adding dye to bacteria. Approximately 250 children participated. Many attendees expressed their gratitude for the partnerships that allow the library to offer high-quality science programming for Monrovia kids. This satisfies our strategic goal of strengthening and maintaining community partnerships and providing STEM opportunities to all ages.

On April 20th, Teen Advisory Board (TAB) participated in the Monrovia *Spring Egg Hunt*. The teens created crafts and games for children attending the event. They also held several planning sessions through March and April to brainstorm the activities, then met to prepare the materials. A total of 23 teens staffed the library booth at the *Egg Hunt*, and helped in other areas such as the toddler egg hunt, and picnic areas. Teens enjoyed the opportunity to create activities for children. They learned about the program planning process and were encouraged to use their creativity, problem solving, and organizational skills. This experience supports our strategic goal of providing opportunities to exercise 21st century learning skills.

The Library partnered with the Friends of the Monrovia Public Library (FMPL) again this year to offer a *Bookmark Contest* to patrons. Open to all ages, this artistic competition allows people to creatively express themselves and design a bookmark that promotes the *2019 Summer Reading Program* and literacy. This year we had double the number of participants, 207, and the FMPL Board Members chose twelve winners who ranged in age from 5 to 16 years old. Winners are awarded with 50 of their own professionally printed bookmarks to give to family and friends, \$20 to spend in the Library Bookstore, and honored at a City Council meeting with a special certificate. This program generates enthusiasm and support for literacy at all ages.

To celebrate *Earth Day* in April, the Library had a special scavenger hunt. A total of 46 participants of all ages were encouraged to look for items in Library Park that were on a list. Patrons were encouraged to leave nature as is and only take a photo of their finds with a phone. If a participant did not own a smart phone the Library provided iPads and a teen volunteer to search for objects with the kids. The list included: two different kinds of leaves, something bent, and something they thought was beautiful, among others. The families came back from the adventure excited to have spent some time together in the outdoors and appreciated the many things in the park they normally walk hurriedly past.