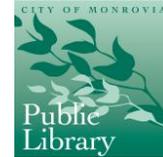




**CITY OF MONROVIA  
LIBRARY BOARD  
AGENDA REPORT**



DEPARTMENT: Community Services, Library Division

MEETING DATE: May 28, 2020

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

AGENDA LOCATION: CC-2

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**ADULT SERVICES REPORT**

In March and April, Adult and Circulation Services staff hosted virtual *Game Nights* for a total of 30 attendees. Participants played *Jackbox* e-games and used their phone or tablets as controllers. The program helps broaden patron experiences as well as provide expanded access to library services, both of which are goals of the library's strategic plan.

In April, Adult and Youth Services staff hosted a virtual *Gather and Make* craft program for adults via social media with a total of 250 views across Facebook and Instagram. Participants learned how to make DIY decorative journals out of found materials at home, such as greeting cards, snack and cereal boxes.

On April 23, Adult Services staff introduced the *California Center for the Book* grant funded *Book to Action* book selection, *The Hidden Life of Trees* by Peter Wohlleben. Staff read an introduction to the book online via social media with a total of 385 views across Facebook and Instagram. Staff is working with community partners to bring virtual patron engagement activities and service projects to the community.

On April 24, Adult Services staff hosted an online storygathering workshop in partnership with StoryCenter. Four participants were given a writing prompt and were given a chance to share their story. The gathering was led by one of StoryCenter's experienced facilitators. StoryCenter creates safe and supportive spaces for helping people tell their stories.

On April 28, Adult Services staff hosted the Novel T's Book Club virtually using Zoom. Staff provided training and tech support to group members. After a successful book discussion, members enthusiastically agreed to continue meeting virtually each month.

In March and April, Veterans Resource Center staff connected with all volunteer veteran benefit coaches and updated veteran benefit resources from CalVet, the VA, and LA County. Staff provided training and tech support for Zoom for monthly online meetings.

In March and April, Literacy Center staff connected with all tutors and learner and transitioned to virtual tutoring services. Staff provided Zoom meeting trainings and tech support for all participants. In addition, staff transitioned the Book Club, Write Club, Speak Easy and Conversation and Culture groups to virtual meetings via Zoom with a total of 120 participants.

## **YOUTH SERVICES REPORT**

### **Teen Advisory Board (TAB) Meeting**

Teen Advisory Board (TAB) meetings took place virtually in April and May, using the teleconferencing platform Zoom. A total of 31 teens attended the April meeting, and 22 teens attended the May meeting. At the May meeting, teens brainstormed ideas for virtual programs and watched movies and shows together virtually. Teens shared the challenges they face with virtual school, as well as exciting things such as practicing driving to get their driver's licenses. Many teens said they missed the library and wished they could go back soon. It is especially important now to help teens feel connected and maintain a sense of community in the coming months.

### **Teen Website**

The new TAB website created in March gives teens an opportunity to create and submit content such as book reviews, crafts, recipes, and music playlists. Teens can receive volunteer hours for submitting website content. During the April TAB meeting, staff went over the website with teens and gave instructions on submitting content.

### **Teen Just Dance Party**

This was a program requested by teens at the May TAB meeting, and it took place on May 8. Three teens attended the program. The dancing game allows teens to use an app on their phone that turns their phone into a game controller. Holding their phone in their right hand, they mirror the movements of dancers on the screen and get points for accuracy of movements. The game was a great way to move and have fun. There are some technology issues to be resolved in order to provide virtual teen programming, but it continues the precedent of teen-led programming, empowering teens to create and lead programs for themselves.

### **Virtual Craft Programming**

Twice a week *Craft Corner* videos were posted to social media. These videos introduce activities to families that could be made or completed at home using minimal materials. The activities were directed towards pre-school through school-aged children and their families. Children and their families watched videos that presented craft activities such as paper folding, making playdough, creating sensory bottles, and more. In April, 8 videos were posted, and they were engaged with 2,006 times. This program supported 21st century learning skills including fine motor skills and critical thinking skills.

### **Storytime Videos**

Staff used video recording and editing to highlight and share books that children love and stories they can relate to. As with in-person storytimes, staff have used a variety of techniques and mediums to bring books to life for our community, including flannel stories, songs and bilingual Spanish/English components. Continuing storytime on social media platforms ensures that we are helping children and their families with a variety of literacy and early education skills, including letter, color and number recognition, memorization and vocabulary. During the months of March and April, virtual storytimes were viewed 3,665 times across Facebook and Instagram.