

Meetings Attended / Events at the Library and in the Community

- February 2- Conference call with Anthony Iovino from 3-3:45 pm – Bill Brookover, Gene Kain, Bill Reynolds, and Susan Briant.
- Feb. 4- NJLA Public Policy and Funding Structure Taskforce meetings all day at Princeton Public Library (Briant)
- Feb. 7- Fifties group from 7-8:30 pm – 10 attended.
- Feb. 8- NJLA Elections Conference call 3:30-4:30 pm (Briant); People to People group from 6:30-8:30 pm – 10 attended.
- Feb. 9- Introduction to Word computer class from 10:30-11:30 am (Pure) - 4 attended. Briant presented to NJLA Emerging Leaders class of 2011-12 from 1:30-2:30 pm- Talking Book and Braille Center (TBBC) in Trenton, NJ. (as Past President of NJLA.)
- Feb. 10- Installation of NJ State Library TBBC Outspoken Library kiosk & training session at our library at 10 am – 11:15 am – (Alles, Langheim, Peppard, Pure, Reinking, J., Stairiker, and Briant); Introduction to the Computer and PC from 12-1 pm (Pure)- 1 attended. Rescheduled from snow cancellation.
- Feb. 15- NJLA Executive Board meeting at East Brunswick Library from 10-1 pm- Briant attended; Introduction to Word computer class from 6:30-7:30 pm (Pure) - 4 attended. Toby Zinman “Magic Realism” author program from 7-8:30 pm- 13 attended.
- Feb. 16- NJLA Elections Conference call from 10:30-11:00 am (Briant as chair); 2-3 pm Borough Safety Committee meeting from 2-3 pm (Briant); Haddonfield Friends of Library and Briant attended Bancroft Stakeholders meeting at Borough Hall from 7-9:35 pm – about 35 attended.
- Feb. 17- Friends of the Library meeting from 7-8:30 pm- Briant – 9 attended.
- Feb. 18- Allen Avenue Site Library Advisory Committee meeting from 12-3 pm at the library- 7 attended.
- Feb. 21- Library closed for President's Day as a furlough/ budget closing.
- Feb. 22- Snow – library opened at 11 am and Library Board meeting from 8-9 am was canceled.
- Feb. 23- NJLA Elections conference call from 10:30-11 am (Briant as chair).
- Feb. 24- South Jersey Audio Circuit meeting at Gloucester City Public Library from 10:30-11:30 am – Stairiker and Briant attended; NJ Library Network Review Board meeting from 1-3 pm at TBBC in Trenton (Briant); TAPs meeting from 7-8:30 pm – 15 attended.
- Feb. 28- E-Rate webinar from 10-12 pm – Alles and Briant participated.

Updates: As you know, we did not meet last month because of snow. Please look at my report from last month to get a better picture of activity.

Teen Services / Balcony Updates / Gaming/ New Collections/ National Library Week:

We are planning a dedication of the balcony or the Loft, as we are calling it for April 13, at 3:30 as part of Snapshot Day. Snapshot Day is being held during *National Library*

Week – April 10-17. It is a day to celebrate libraries and people using libraries. We take pictures of activities, count and record activities, and so forth. This has gone from a NJ event to one sponsored by the American Library Association. We plan to have activities that week including fine free, Food for fines, demonstrations of downloading e-books, celebration of our volunteers, and dedication of the balcony and the gaming area. This will be an opportunity to thank our Friends for all that they have done. Dot Peppard will give tours of the new teen spaces. Teen gaming will be a focus. Please hold that date – more information to follow.

Our teen gaming after school begins on March 18. Generally, teens will be able to play Wii games on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday afternoons from 3-5. Erica Braverman, our teen coordinator, planned 2 activities last week during Teen Tech Week. Unfortunately, we had sign ups but no attendance for March 8, cool presentations using technology, and March 9, the kick off of the Wii gaming service. We think that Word of Mouth will kick start it once it begins as a regular activity. The new DVD and Music CD collections for teens have been launched and they are already moving. We are looking at an Express DVD collection to move films faster. We are very grateful to our Friends for giving us the major means to really develop the teen areas and collections.

Budget: I am hopeful that the Borough will begin adoption of the budget in late March or early April. The Borough Administrator had a meeting last week of the department heads to go over the tentative budget and timeline for adoption. I am preparing information for the Board Budget Committee to meet to make recommendations for our budget for the full board. The Budget Committee will meet sometime in early April to hopefully have a recommendation ready for our April meeting.

E-Rate Funding.

We have applied for funding for the E-rate. This is reimbursement funding for schools and libraries for telecommunications bills for phone and Internet. Because of cancellation of our last meeting and deadlines, I ran this by John Burmaster and Gene Kain. They both agreed we should apply for it. The State Library was awarded a large federal BTOP grant that is allowing about 1/3 of the state's public libraries to upgrade and double bandwidth at a very reasonable rate. If we apply for the E-rate funding, it will greatly subsidize the increased cost for telecommunications. Our net increase would be \$1500 a year. Additionally, the State Library has a consultant helping libraries to apply for the E-rate so this was a win/ win.

Staff Development Day

As you will recall, the Friends of the Library have supported our Staff Development Days the last few years. Claire Stairiker has planned these events. This year she has planned a half day on Stress Reduction. In order to obtain a wonderful discount rate on the trainer's fee through LibraryLinkNJ, we need to have the event before June 30. We recommend June 10. We would like board permission to open the library at 2 pm so that staff development day and lunch can be held from 9:30-1:30 pm.

Allen Avenue Site Advisory Committee has had 2 productive meetings with Anthony Iovino on exploring the feasibility of the Allen Avenue site.

Miscellaneous

We are participating in a pilot program on counting statistics through the NJ State Library. This will help us to collect statistics more easily. Ken Ditmars, our auditor, has begun the audit. He will make his first report to you next month at the April meeting. We are finishing up the annual State Aid report and will file by the April deadline. Claire Stairiker and I attended a meeting of the South Jersey Audio Circuit. After careful evaluation, we have given notice to the Circuit that we are withdrawing for 2012. This is mostly necessary because of lack of use of the materials that come in and high maintenance of the rotating collection. My duty as past president of NJLA to chair the election committee has been met. We have a full slate and the election will be held in April.

Strategic Plan – as you will recall, I have encouraged the Board to consider allowing the library to develop a strategic plan. The State Library is offering workshops to libraries without strategic plans if a trustee and director attend together. Ann Kearney graciously agreed to attend the 1 ½ day event in April and May at the Mt. Laurel Library.

In the event of snow and the need to cancel a Library Board meeting, as occurred last month, please let me know if you would like to be called early in the morning. Generally we send an email to you, a blast email to all of our subscribers with email, put the message on our web page and telephone system. The staff gets called and we can call you, too, if you would like. Thankfully, this has not happened often.

Respectfully Submitted,

Susan Briant
Library Director