

Solomon Wright Public Library

Director's Report

August 25, 2025

Goal for the fourth quarter: Planning for the future. How do we expand our offerings strategically to have greater appeal to the community, especially to our youngest and oldest patrons?

Good News/Miscellaneous

- The fourth of my four core classes for certification has been completed. I have about 30 credits to fulfill.
- We have hired a new cleaner, 3 hours/month, \$40/hour.
- Attendance is on track with 2024, although engagement with programs is down.
- Events at 30 + for the year, compared to 26 last year. I focused on storytimes this summer to showcase our new furniture, water table, and new books. The largest attended program/event was Ray and Susan's opening.

Events that we hosted from late May through August:

Opening for quilters

Mindful Moment Cafés (monthly)

Opening for Ray and Susan

Opening for Melanie Mowinski

Storytimes (4)

Master Gardeners

Outreach events:

Celebrate Pownal Day

Upcoming:

8/29 Summer Block Party

We will be celebrating the end of the summer by showing the movie *Flow* and ordering pizza – the two things that were voted on by summer readers. Faith Church has a great set up for movies, so that will happen over there. Bennington Multicultural Center will be joining us with their produce stand and taste testing of veggies and herbs.

9/5 Homeschool Open House

10/18 Library Fall Fundraiser

10/24 Visit and presentation from CCV

10/24 Reception for September/October artists Sarah Pike and Liz Howe

11/14 Book event by author David Crews with HOORWA (all book sales go to the organization)

What I'm Working On:

- Updating policies/mission statement/developing a method for collecting info for strategic plan
- Still moving books and furniture around to make our space welcoming, accessible, etc. – would like to create an older kid/teen area for fall. Also need a better way to display adult books than the pedestal shelf currently holding new fiction.
- Acquiring books for our collection (new and holes in existing), trying to update and modernize kid's nonfiction selections
- Weeding kid's section in preparation for moving books and toys around, mini renovation
- Working more closely with the town and hosting discussions of town issues – Tara and I have scheduled quarterly meetings
- Scheduling more monthly meetings, groups – homeschoolers will be a part of this for fall

For board discussion

- Painting the book drop as a community activity? September 19th with storytime
- Town committee focusing on Old Town Hall – I talked to Tara about hosting discussions here, she would like for me or someone associated with the library to be on the committee
- Policy revisions
- Fundraising event for fall?
- Board help with thank you notes, donation receipts