

2021 April and May director's report

1. The is receiving a Summer learning grant from NDLC. The grant is \$1500 and will be used to pay for the Page Turner Adventures virtual program, program materials, supplies for the kickoff, and \$340 worth of books from MidAmerica Books, relating to this years' theme.
2. Since we are still at reduced capacity for computers, director decided to only renewed licenses for four workstations. The reduced cost is \$796. When social distancing rules are relaxed, we can add stations back at a prorated rate.
3. Quickbooks is requiring an upgrade. Director purchased the upgrade through Techsoup for \$60, which is a great deal. However, Quickbooks usually tacks on additional so that will probably change.
4. We received the bill for the audit. The cost has gone up, so we'll need to budget a bit more moving forward. Apparently Harold forgot to bill us for the prior audit so that was a bit of a shock when the envelope arrived.
5. We currently have three teens who have volunteered to help with Summer Learning. Jacob Kruger will be leading three learn to juggle programs in July.
6. Library received a \$1500 grant from the VCBC Library Foundation to purchase gift cards from local businesses for SLP prizes. Normally, the library requests donations from area businesses. The director and assistant director did not feel it was right to ask struggling businesses to make a donation at this time. They made a proposal to the foundation, who liked the idea, and approved the grant at their meeting the beginning of May. Melissa has started contacting local businesses and several were very pleased with our small offer of support.
7. Good news on the budget income front. The library will be receiving the county portion of State Aid, totaling \$11,822. Director had misunderstood/misinterpreted the change in the funding formula and his target number projection was off by a year. In the 2022 county budget request form due May 14th, the library asked for \$148,000. This exceeds the previous three year average of \$147,664 so we are good for state aid next year as well unless the county commission makes a cut.
8. To help capture better audio for our virtual programs the library purchased a dual channel digital wireless microphone system that includes two transmitter units with microphones and a camera mounted receiver. The current camera mounted shotgun microphone is effective in some situations however since we are planning on recording the outdoor activities this summer staff was concerned about wind noise and hope this is the solution.
9. We will be hosting two author talks as part of our adult summer programs. Local author Sandra Leitte will be discussing her new book *Tiny Houses* and the writing process. VC native Jill Kandel will be giving a sneak preview of her new book *The Clean Daughter: A Cross-Cultural Memoir* and will also be discussing the writing process. Jill's new book is being published by NDSU press and has a January 2022 release date. Jill has agreed to visit again after the book comes

for a reading and signing event. The library hosted a similar event for Jill's previous book *So many Africas: six years in a Zambian village*, which was the best attended adult program we had in the past either years.

10. The Chamber Ambassadors visited last week. Melissa and Sara gave them the abbreviated SLP presentation. Several members expressed that they did not know the library did so many children's activities during the summer. The director talked with member and asked them to help get the word out that the library is open and doing great things. Additionally, there was a nice write up in the TR a couple days later and the SLP flyer was prominent in the weekly email blast.
11. Staff have been taking an inordinate amount of pleasure tagging parking violators and watching them try to remove the stickers. We thought we going to have to tow a repeat offender last week. Director delayed calling the tow company because he did not want to deal with the inevitable complaints. The student moved his truck within an hour and saved himself the tow.
12. Tuya will be leaving effective June 14th. She has been offered and accepted the Library Director's position at University of Jamestown. We'll be sorry to see her go. She's been a bit help the past several months. We are also very excited for this next step in her career and wish her nothing but success.
13. Director and assistant director are discussing how we need to address the soon to be open social media position. We have two current employees who may be interested. We think is will be easier to find someone for a part time library associate position versus someone with the skills to do social media and video editing and willing to work very part time.