

Director's Report December 2024

Overheard from my office: "This place is lively! Libraries are a joyous place!"

- AC upgrades will begin this month, after saving for them over several years.
- Several staff have taken webinars on managing stress and improving communication.
- I attended the Select Board meeting on December 9th about the final budget and corrected a few line items that had incorrect numbers carried over from last year.
- Working with a couple of patrons, we have created some new programs that are based on Patron requests. We will begin offering a class for 8-10 years olds to learn how to crochet. We have a couple of volunteers who I will be working with. We are also starting a drop-in game time on every other Monday morning. We will have games set up like mah jongg, cribbage, scrabble, chess, and the Wii.
- Bridge club has returned on every other Monday afternoon, from 1-4 pm. (On opposite Mondays from the game time.)
- We had to get a locksmith to help us fix a side door lock so it works properly.
- There was more maintenance needed for our sprinkler system to prevent leaks.
- We had 63 participants across 2 sessions in our kids' and teens gingerbread house decorating event last week
- I have regretfully accepted the resignation of Jennifer MacLeod, our Youth Services Librarian, effective January 3, 2025, as she has found a job much closer to her home. We are all sad to lose her amazing energy and tireless support of Hampstead's young people and families. There will be a chance for families to say farewell on Saturday Dec 21 from 12-2PM. I am working on who will cover some of the programs she has already set up and how to continue story times. Folks should watch our online calendar for updates or call us to find out more.
- Merrily and I have met with a couple vendors that can help us minimize sound escape from our study rooms. So many more patrons are using our study rooms, and for more than just quiet study. Often these meetings are medical in nature so we need to try to dampen the sound.
- I plan to meet with our bookkeeper this week to determine how much we have remaining in our budget for 2024.