

Director's Report

Wednesday, October 26th, 2022

Juneteenth – I spoke with Tracy Cook at the Montana State Library and she advised that I check in with Missoula County to make sure they are aware that the MPL Board of Trustees may vote to observe the Federal holiday. MSL and the Tamarack Foundation issue State funds to libraries as long as they are in compliance with Public Library Standards (we are). Other libraries, like Lincoln County, have done the same. I spoke to Chris Lounsbury and he told me to work with County HR and the Bargaining Unit to come up with an MOU describing how staff will enter their time for closure. Specifically,

1. The Employer and Bargaining Unit recognize that Juneteenth is not considered a State holiday, therefore, library employees are not able to use holiday pay for this business closure date. However, in recognition of the Board's requested closure, the Employer and Bargaining Unit agree to add an additional eight (8) hours of Personal Leave time to each Bargaining Unit member's bank of time for FY2023 to be used either for this holiday or for any other reason per Personal Leave use policies. Personal Leave added will be prorated for part-time staff.

Afterhours Events – We are working on a page for the website so interested parties can fill out a form and learn more about what is available. With no marketing, there has been significant interest and there are a few events booked for 2023, which will generate \$7,700. If there was a dedicated position for events management, I project that we could generate at least \$40,000-\$50,000 per year in revenue. Selya and I met with Debbie Dantic from Blackfoot Communications and Lynne from LA Design and they provided great insight about rates, event planning, and working with community stakeholders.

Community Engagement – I have had many conversations with individual stakeholders through the strategic planning process and various other meetings. I attended the YWCA Luncheon, Home Resource Auction, and have been invited to join the Missoula Food Bank Board of Directors.

Composting – We started composting! I've been working with Soil Cycle and have put a composting bin in the staff lounge and Jem has one in the Trapper Peak kitchen now. This has been very popular with staff and we continue to look for ways to be more sustainable.