

## Director's Report April 2024

Eclipse viewing party attendees made a point to come in to the library to thank us for hosting a place to gather for this! We had 75 folks come to join us, and most stayed for the whole eclipse.

In March, a patron posted a little kudos to us on the Hampstead Happenings Facebook page that generated over 40 very positive compliments and feedback!

Several wonderful appreciation Facebook posts during National Library Week last week.

- Study room usage continues to be very high. Some of our strategic plan action items about meeting our patrons' needs include investigating ways to make more quiet, smaller meeting spaces, so I've been getting quotes and space planning help from a couple companies. We still have to provide lots of details so I don't have much solid information. Some pricing I've seen has been surprisingly high, so I keep looking at different things, with input from all the staff.
- The 275<sup>th</sup> Hampstead celebration banners will be installed on the light poles around town very soon.
- Bob and I registered for the NHLTA conference on June 5<sup>th</sup>.
- Friends have sponsored Grant Station subscription so Nick and I can work together on finding grants that we can partner on.
- New collection of Read Along books donated by the friends have seen so much circulation already. Before we even announced it, 6 or 7 books got checked out. Of particular interest is the student who came in from the middle school who has vision difficulties, and she found one of the read aloud books with large print and was so excited we had something for her! Jenn particularly wanted to share that story.
- I met with an accessibility consultant Lilly Hamlin. Since we may be doing updates to layout of shelves or placement of materials, I wanted to be sure we would be making changes that will be accessible universally. Lilly will give us some training for how to ensure our building signage and our digital outreach efforts meet the needs of as many people as possible.
- The SNHLC directors have been kind enough to allow me to attend their meetings. It's good to hear what our neighbors are doing, and I still think it would be a good thing for our patrons if we could begin to investigate joining their consortium.
- I attended Select Board meeting on 4/8 and am happy to report Joe Guthrie remains our liaison.
- In the summer in July, we will partner with the Hampstead Garden Club and help sell tickets to their Garden Walk, as we have in the past. It will be cash only, so it won't touch our finances.