

Director's Report May 2023

Turning Outward: Allie, Sarah and I visited the Mid-Hudson Library Association in Poughkeepsie to learn more about Turning Outward and how to hold community conversations. We are using a previously created list of people and with the help of Gil and Allie we have over a hundred people who we will be reaching out to. We were given a deadline of May 26th to have the list ready, create a press release, figure out the times and dates of the conversations and I am happy to report we have made a lot of progress.

New York State Library Funding: according to Rebbekah at Mid-Hudson library funding that was in danger of being cut was not reduced but stayed the same as last year. With the rise in costs of everything it is not great news.

Exterior painting: I spoke to Tino on Thursday May 11th, he told me his crew is not comfortable with applying for jobs at the library, they work for him and like it that way so he has declined to further pursue this idea. He will provide a quote for doing the job and pay his employees prevailing wage, and said he has availability in mid-August. That being said I decided to do a formal bid process and am reaching out to Dimensions North to ask them to do a consultation about the scope of work.

Cleaning person: our current cleaning person has had an injury and is unable to work for the foreseeable future. I am working on finding a temporary replacement, and have yet to find someone.

Prometheus Bound: A college professor asked us for a digital copy of Prometheus Bound, and I was unable to find one. I contact Amanda Malmstrom from Thomas Cole and she sent us a high-resolution version that I have saved on the library board google drive.

Lawn update: I met with Arielle from In the Weeds for a consultation on our property and about changing to ground cover instead of grass. She said we have a lot of options, but suggested we start out small and I am inclined to agree. We will start out by looking at the garden bed at the front of the library planting a few things she suggested such as Allium, Butterfly weed (asclepias tuberosa).

I am also coordinating with Alice to have the clients from ARC help with the plantings and some light yard work.

Respectfully submitted,
Caroline Ford