

Forest Lodge Library Report to Towns of Cable & Namakagon

Date: June 2024

Expansion Update:

The architect contract with Westlund Consultancy, who will be working through Royal Construction Management Firm, was signed by Forest Lodge Library Board president, Carl Lippert after board discussion and approval at the May board meeting.

A Community Input Survey went out via multiple platforms to the community members of Cable and Namakagon to give input on current use of the library and it's resources as well as what would the community would like to see happen in the new library expansion.

A meeting date is set for June 12th at 3pm with Westlund Consultancy and Royal Construction and the Forest Lodge Library board members who will be involved in the Design Development Committee to review data from this survey and possibly start initial conversation about design of expansion. The public is welcome to attend.

Notes from previous programs:

Jigsaw puzzle challenges at both the UCC and Namakagon Town Hall went well and participants enjoyed themselves. It was suggested to have this again in the fall and/or winter months.

Camp Read S'more was well attended. This was held on Saturday, June 8th. We had many that came to see Smokey Bear and the Ranger, read to Golden Girl Getty the therapy dog, do crafts, play games, and pick up summer reading challenges.

Exciting news!

I was recently made aware that our library was chosen to participate in the *2024-2025 Polar VR (virtual reality) Fellowship* program. I signed up for this after I learned about it from the WI public library conference in Stevens Point. Our library will be receiving a free Oculus Quest 3 VR headset (latest one) and I will receive training at Madison in mid-July. Training and travel expenses have been paid for through a stipend with this program. I, personally, have 2 VR headsets at home, so I'm familiar with using this equipment, but not this specific program. This program is geared specifically towards rural communities. I plan to implement this new technology and equipment into my 'Tweens & Teens' program that I am holding regularly throughout the summer.

Activities in June at the Library:

Books & Boards: Tweens and Teens – Tuesdays, June 11th & 25th from 6pm-9pm

- June 11th – at the Cable Community Center
- June 25th- at the Namakagon Town Hall
- Ages 9-15 come and play board games
- Dungeons & Dragons group (previously established) will be meeting during that time as well
 - If anyone is interested in learning how to learn to lead a D&D group, contact Director Westlund

Storytime & Creativebug Craft time: Thursdays, June 13th & 27th – at the library from 9am to 10am

- Summer themed stories and crafts

Library Meetings:

Special Working FLL Board meeting with Royal/Westlund: June 12th at 3pm at Cable Community Center

FLL Board meeting: June 12th at 5pm at library

Katie Flowers Endowment Board of directors meeting: June 19th at 5pm at library

Library Staff Changes:

Lynn Passow gave her resignation earlier this month. We are very thankful for her 3 years of service to the library and our community. She has graciously agreed to be willing to substitute on occasion, as needed.

Mark Parman has joined our staff in her place. He has started working the circulation desk and comes with a love and appreciation for reading and writing – having published several books of his own and written for other publications as well. We are happy to have him with us!

Deb Roedel has also given her resignation. We wish her well in her future endeavors.

Director Absence to note:

I will be away on a trip to Washington D.C. with my son and the School District of Drummond from June 17th to the 20th. The library will have coverage with our current aides and substitutes.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this director's report, please feel free to contact Director Amanda Westlund at awestlund@cable.wislib.org.

Thank you!

Director Westlund