



Oelwein Public Library

2021 Annual Report

Library Board of Trustees

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Submitted by Susan Macken
January 25, 2022

Year in Review

At the beginning of the year, a few restrictions were in place due to COVID-19.

- At the end of February, the meeting room opened back up.
- By May, services resumed to a normal level. Story Time and Book Club, once again, met in person.
- Summer Reading Program participants attended a number of programs. Thirty-one kids, 13 teens, and 15 adults registered. The most popular programs were making a kaleidoscope and the stained glass demonstration.
- By November, LEGO Club met with a few variations including a Challenge theme and some safety guidelines.



- A Hush Study Pod was installed.
- The 1000 Books before Kindergarten program was launched.
- After publication ceased, some of the Dr. Seuss books were temporarily removed from the shelves until the re-sale market softened.
- ARPA grant funds were used to purchase an outdoor solar powered device charging bench.
- Acquired a lighted, wooden display case.
- Staff participated at Party in the Park in promoting library programs and services.
- A new Story Time Cart was purchased.
- Staff conducted a comprehensive salary study.
- New teacher packets containing library marketing materials were distributed.
- The library collaborated with Dollar Fresh to offer a walk-in Flu Shot Clinic.
- A grant from the State Historical Society was used to microfilm and digitize the Oelwein Daily Register from 2017-2020.



- By patron request, the library resumed ordering audiobooks on CD.
- The Cemetery Walk program was held at the Old Catholic Cemetery.
- ISU Extension taught a fall wreath making workshop.
- The Genealogy Society hosted a program on converting VHS tapes and old photos to digital archives.
- A Cook Book Club was started.



Condition of the Building and Grounds

- Over winter, the roof leaked in the children's closet, the public men's restroom, and the south west corner of the fiction area. The City Administrator hired a representative from Shive-Hattery to investigate and resolve the roof leaks.
- The exterior building sconce lights were repaired as well as the sign light.
- The emergency EXIT sign batteries were replaced.
- The reversing valve in the HVAC system was repaired. The leaked Freon was replaced.
- The TXV on the HVAC circuit was repaired.
- The sewer backed up from the floor drains in the staff area. This occurred twice over a number of months.
- The trees on the library grounds were trimmed and invasive species were removed.

Oelwein Public Library Foundation

The Library Foundation sponsored the Dolly Parton Imagination Library. One hundred twelve children (112), from age 0-5, are enrolled in this program with an additional 22 children graduating from the program. Each month, the children receive their own, age appropriate book mailed directly to their home.



Friends of the Library Contributions to the Library

Speakers and Programs

- ✓ “Remembering the Apron”
- ✓ “Straight Laced Girls, Uptight Ladies”
Appreciation Tea
- ✓ Curbside Pick-up Annual Chocolate Festival
- ✓ Book and Bake Sale



Library Enhancements

- ✓ Button maker
- ✓ Poinsettias at Christmas Time

Community Outreach

- ✓ Book Page Book Review Magazine
- ✓ Memorial books in honor of Friend’s Members who have passed away
- ✓ Keychains for new library patron’s library card



Library Statistics

	2021	2020
Attendance	19,290	17,722
Program Attendance	991	571
Circulation	51,019	50,933