

Director's Report  
February 1, 2022

**Overview:** The library's Annual Report for 2021 is due; programming resumes after two-week pause due to Omicron surge.

The first week of January was a challenge, as the omicron surge cause three staff people to be out sick. In the two years of the pandemic, this was the first time this happened. As a result of staff shortages and an effort to slow the spread, the library halted in-library programs for two weeks. As of January 19, programs resumed without further incident. I held an all staff meeting to review isolation and quarantine protocols. The library purchased some at-home antigen tests, as another part of the problem was the difficulty in obtaining tests. A two-test kit has been distributed to all staff. We also purchased N95 masks for staff and patrons.

After the amounts requested were approved at the January trustees meeting, I submitted revolving fund requests for the FY23 town meeting warrant.

I participated in the first of several antiracism workshops offered by the MA Library System. The focus of this workshop was White antiracist allyship. The next one I registered for is on stereotypes and implicit bias.

The website project is officially off the ground. The library website committee met with website design team for a kickoff meeting where they ran a number of exercises to gather information to use in developing an initial design. We are scheduled to meet this week to review the design.

We are making some progress with Historical Room project and the Hudson display. The furnishings have been ordered and the painting scheduled. The next step is to schedule the contractor to start work on modifying the shelving.

I am working with the Foundation to discuss the case statement for the endowment campaign and to coordinate our strategic planning.

At the most recent Minuteman Library Network (MLN) Membership meeting, the F23 budget was approved with, notably, \$1.3M allocated for ebooks through Overdrive. MLN is also working on a strategic plan and the membership went through an exercise to determine what the network goals should be.

Was interviewed by Selectboard member Dan Carty for his newsletter article about the library.

December	FY22 this month	FY22 last month	FY21 (closed to public)
Total circulation	23,823	26,272	13,024
Digital circulation	5,684	5,261	5,567
Traffic	7,776	7,552	N/A
New Cards	52	44	0
Programming	61/	62/1,032	35/1,612
Newsletter subscribers	2,932	2,895	2,785
Computer use (sessions)	509	516	N/A
Wi-Fi use	1,451	1,792	1,217