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CLERKS OFFICE



AGENCY REPORT

(Due 11 Days Prior to the Meeting)

(There is 7 minutes allotted for your presentation to the Assembly)

OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Date Received: 4/18/22

Meeting Date: 5/3/22

Clerk Approved:

Meeting Date Requested: 5-03-2022

Name of Speaker: Marci Hawkins

Organization/Board Name: Mat-Su Library Board

Contact Number: 907-746-9699

Please check one of the following that applies:

Governmental Agency: Have Received a Grant from the Borough:

Borough Board: Recognized Community Council: None Apply:

Subject Matter:

Board annual report to the Assembly

Requested Action by the Assembly (if applicable): None

Documentation is attached for inclusion in the Assembly Packet.

Twenty-five copies of prepared statement or other pertinent documentation will be provided to the Clerk's Office by noon the day of the Assembly meeting.

BOROUGH CLERK'S OFFICE

350 East Dahlia Avenue • Palmer, AK 99645

Phone (907) 861-8683 • Fax (907) 861-7845

Assembly Presentation 2022

Hello, I'm Diane Holl-Rambo, chair of the Mat-Su Borough Library Board, and we would like to invite you to our libraries. (First slide).

As we slowly return to "normal" we would like to tell you how important our libraries are to our communities. When you visit each of our communities especially those outside the core area, folks will tell you the libraries are central to the community. They are a driver for the economic engines and attract business. Often our libraries are the gathering places in an emergency. Earlier this year when the borough was hit by high winds and prolonged electrical outages our libraries opened their doors for people to get warm and charge electrical devices.

In an article written by Kelly Jensen and published on BookRiot (<https://bookriot.com/libraries-are-more-popular-than-ever/>) she states libraries are not dying but they are changing. E-books and video, physical, and digital audio are roughly 60% of many library's collections. And this data was from before the pandemic. (2nd slide)

Further information from the same article states "Libraries are filling significant technology needs in their communities, including wifi.

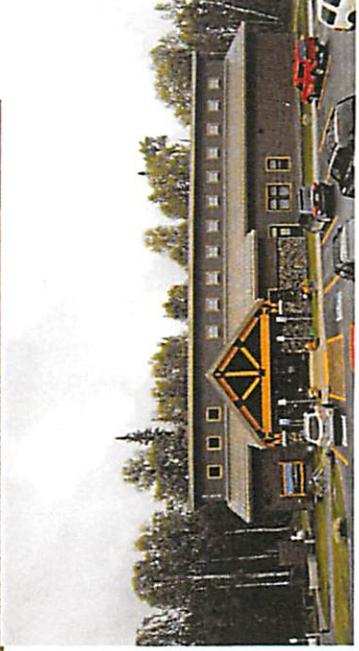
Our Library staff are one of the most valuable components of our libraries (3rd slide) A review of the mission statements for our seven libraries reveals the importance of staff and libraries. This includes teaching people how to read, providing programming for the children and youth of our communities, providing social support contacts, and generally changing lives and building communities.

Our facilities are equally important. Some are very small and cramped while others are much newer and more spacious with room for community activities. (4th slide)

In Conclusion we would like to say thank you for your past support and look forward to your continuing support of our borough libraries. (5th slide)

Report to the Assembly

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Mat-Su Borough Public Libraries multifaceted and responsive to their communities

Support a love of reading, personal growth and lifelong learning

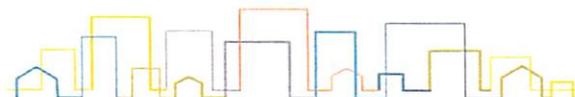
Serve as focal points and resource hubs for the Borough and their communities



Play a central role in education for adults and children

Maintain collections and present programming that meet community needs

LIBRARIES = STRONG COMMUNITIES



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F

knowledgeable
accepting . kind

helpful **caring**

multitasking

friendly

dedicated

efficient smiles

committed

understanding

patient

community meeting small
safe code unsafe
FACILITIES
meet light warm
crowded emergency
beautiful cramped



CONCLUSION

Borough Public Libraries programs and services:

- Vibrant and strong
- Responsive to community needs and more

Borough Public Library staff:

- Exceptional

Borough Public Library facilities:

- Newer ones are providing more needed resources

- Aging ones need to be improved as soon as possible