



FY20 Board Annual Reports: Technology Committee

The Technology Committee met several times this past year to assist in progressing technology-related initiatives, with Jim Knutson supporting from New Mexico remotely and with trips to Highwood. Andy Hamilton, Friends board member, joined the committee toward the end of FY20.

An urgent need identified at the beginning of FY20 was an upgrade of the existing 20-year-old security camera system, to address concerns with drugs and vandalism. An 8 camera system was rapidly researched and implemented in September and, as unbudgeted, funded through the new Friends of the Library group.

For hardware and software updates: a new bidirectional door counter was implemented; wired internet access was added to the Meeting Room and increased in staff office; MailChimp began for patron communications and newsletters; Quickbooks was upgraded; and Windows 10 operating system and Office 2019 were installed on all computers. Improvement suggestions from staff were also addressed, adding a dual monitor to the circulation computer, and setting it up to be a staff workstation, and expanding OCLC access.

There was progress on policies and setup for patron use of Kindle Fire devices, but these have not yet been rolled out to the public.

Accommodations were designed for public health and the library closure. WiFi hours and strength were extended. A long-range technology plan still needs to be completed, but near-term needs were discussed. Technology improvements planned for next FY include faster WiFi, a new website, new computer hardware, and new STEAM-supportive technology for planned renovation YA space thanks to a Grainger grant.

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