

HO-HO-KUS Community & Library

Borough Presentation - June 11, 2024

Timeline

1924- Established by the Women's Club & housed in an unused jailcell

1925- Municipalized to receive government funding and develop a Board of Trustees

1930- Borough purchased an unoccupied real estate office on Franklin Tpk. for the library

1933-1956- Building underwent multiple updates and renovations, including adding a bathroom and heat, then two additional wings

1988- Mildreth Worth Pinkham bequeathed her house to be used as the town library, where it stands today

How is the Library funded?

NJ State Law mandates that municipalities allocate according to the one-third mill formula. Libraries receive 33 cents for every \$1,000 of assessed property value.

The average HHK resident contributes **\$51**

Contemporary Services

Borrowing- We loan out books, ebooks, audiobooks, media, museum passes, and special items. Our library card provides you with access to 77 other libraries in the BCCLS consortium.

Events- We organize events for all ages ranging from story times and crafts to book clubs and Mah Jongg lessons. In 2023, we hosted 125 programs with 1,785 participants.

Technology- We have Wi-Fi, public computers, a scanner, copier, and printer.

Lifelong Learning- We provide free access to vetted online tools for family history, career help, college prep, business and consumer data, and research.

Preservation- We have a repository of local history items and artifacts which are currently being inventoried and preserved with the intention of providing improved access.

Personalized Service- Everything we do is driven by humans. Our items are hand-selected. We make displays, provide recommendations, and do our best to serve the people in our community.

Collection & Circulation

You have access to:

20,000 HHK items

1.6M audiobooks + ebooks

5.5M BCCLS items

Physical book circulation is higher now than pre-2020

Including digital borrowing, circulation is up **36.5%**

STRATEGIC GOALS

Facility- The Library will upgrade its facility in order to meet the diverse needs of the Ho-Ho-Kus community and maintain a welcoming, comfortable physical environment for all users.

Technology- The Library will offer cutting edge technological resources that will enhance services and provide equal access to digital information sources, with a focus on furthering users' skills for the 21st century.

Community Involvement- The Library will serve as a hub of the Ho-Ho-Kus community through collaboration with local organizations in order to strengthen its awareness of the community's needs and appeal to those who are not yet engaged with the Library's services.

Current Barriers

Accessibility-
Hard to get to and maneuver around

Maintenance-
There are many necessary repairs to be made

Space-
Not enough room to accommodate community needs

Anticipated Results

With an accessible space in the heart of downtown Ho-Ho-Kus, the Library can provide improved services that reach all residents and act as a bridge for the community.

- Community gathering space
- Walking distance from schools
- Fully accessible
- Parking
- Room for library events and community groups
- Space to preserve local history
- Better technology resources
- Facility with improved sustainability