MONTHLY REPORT

By: John Lolis

Dept.   Library Systems

Subject: Monthly Activity Report - October 2013

- Purchased with some of the remaining DASNY grant funds, we have received the media server to be used in the Auditorium AV rack. It will be used to play audio, video, streaming content, PowerPoint presentations, etc., in addition to being able to serve as a digital audio recording system for programs. Also received is a server to be used for web development programs, primarily by teens. It was purchased with funds from an Allstate Foundation grant. Both are currently being installed and configured.

- Much technology planning and coordination has been devoted to The Edge. This includes the specification of a new electronic access control system and new security cameras, something normally handled by DPW. It was necessary to identify a new access control system due to the outdated system currently being used by the City.and due to be be replaced by DPW at some point. We have also been identifying the specific technology we will make available in The Edge, and how to best have that technology serve the needs of teens. For example, we expect there to be a great deal of multimedia network traffic–both wired and wireless--in The Edge, and we will therefore segregate that network traffic from the rest of the Library's network. Doing so will also allow us to secure project files that teens may need to access over the course of weeks or months. We are considering a number of ways in which to accomplish this, including the possibility of registering teen accounts (if even anonymously) for the purpose of file ownership on The Edge's server, and for possibly posting to a forum devoted to The Edge.

- We are investigating various print and scan solutions to offer to patrons. Ideally, print jobs could be submitted from any device and from any internet location, and scanning would be offered as a free service, allowing patrons to scan documents to a USB flash drive or to send as an email attachment.

- Following the success of our experimental catalog terminal using the low cost APC single board computer, we have ordered a much more powerful single board computer that holds promise to serve not only as a faster catalog terminal, but also for digital signage. The device, an ODROID X2, costs $89, yet features a quad core processor and it can run both Android and Ubuntu Linux operating systems.