

Solon Public Library Project - 2023

The Solon Public Library project has been a non-core project since approximately 2018. In October of 2023, it was approved as a Core project.

In review of 2023, we established a meeting/work schedule on alternating Monday evenings. We removed bushes in the front of the Library and replaced them with a perennial garden, with many native plants. We also removed several scrub trees growing along the hillside and in the rocks. We've had on-going discussions regarding what we can safely plant on the hillside as it is very high, uneven and rocky. We previously had a lot of vinca spreading there, but with the drought this summer, a lot of it died out. With some help from the city, we assisted with watering the flower beds.

The City provided a cement landing base for the large outdoor storybook that has been in storage for several years, and installed the storybook for us. We plan to start a garden next year surrounding the book.

We talked about establishing a butterfly garden, which has been put on hold until the Library Committee comes to an agreement on where to place it. It is our hope to have a presentation on butterflies and butterfly gardens once the garden is in place. We also anticipate that the Library staff will plan and execute children's programs that incorporate the butterfly gardens, maybe on a yearly basis.

We took an inventory of all plants for our plant labeling project and researched costs on plant markers and labels. We discussed using QR codes to provide more information about selected plants. That effort is still in the investigative stage.

We made contact with Megan Garrells and Liz King the Solon Librarian, regarding setting up a series of educational presentations for both the community and Master Gardeners. Liz has put in a request for the types of presentations they are interested in. We'd like to schedule these during the winter months.

Submitted by Kathy Erenberger and Jan Dallas