

**Director's Report to Library Board
February 2014**

CENTRAL LIBRARY

We are beginning to order items on our Post Occupancy Project list. This includes some items that were missed in the original design and some that need to be supplemented. It appears we will finally be making some progress on the status of the 3rd floor floors and staircase landings. Findoff is bringing together all parties to determine what needs to be done. I am planning to meet with Bryan Cooper prior to the meeting to establish a position for the library in the discussion.

The Central Library was the selected site for a Valentine's Day pre-wedding photo shoot with the groom selecting the 3rd floor and the bride preferring the Youth Area.

Illustrations of Central Library were featured on the cover of the February 28th Isthmus and in an article about the use of computer renderings for developments.

LIBRARY SITING AND ALLOCATION

Mark Benno and I had a meeting with Katherine Cornwall to discuss the needs for our planning position. Mark has begun writing a position description that will meet the needs of the library. Katherine was extremely helpful and she also offered assistance from her department to support our new position once it is filled.

The second amendment to the agreement on the Grandview Commons project was forwarded to City Legal by a Veridian attorney. Anne Zellhoefer will be working on the request.

Library staff met with Carl and Jeff Ruedeusch about the Royster Corners project. We have some follow-up meetings scheduled for early March.

FINANCIAL SUMMARIES

We will be finalizing the 2013 budget and making revisions to the 2014 budget for your review.

MEADOWRIDGE EXPANSION

Kick off for the project will be March 5th at 10am. You are invited to join the Mayor and library staff to formally introduce the project to the community.

SUPERVISORY ACADEMY

Tana Elias and I both graduated from the City of Madison's Supervisory Academy. This was a training program that started on August 7, 2013 and 16 sessions later ended on February 13, 2014. We participated with 23 other city and county employees from many different areas of city/county operations.

LIBRARIES TRANSFORMING COMMUNITIES (LTC)

MPL has decided to apply for the LTC project. Only 10 libraries from across the U.S. will be accepted into this inaugural program. There will be a core team of 5 people to head up the project. The core team will include myself (required by the program), Sarah Lawton, who has extensive background in community engagement; Tariq Saqqaf, coordinator of the NRTs in Madison; Jody Lovaj, youth librarian at Meadowridge Library; and a member of the Meadowridge-area community still to be determined. We have decided to present the Community Kitchen to be installed at Meadowridge Library as the focus for our project. Sarah Lawton, Tana Elias and Michael Spelman are working on the submission.

A brief description of the program from the ALA website:

The American Library Association's *Libraries Transforming Communities (LTC)* is a groundbreaking libraries-as-change-agents initiative.

Through LTC, ALA will help the public library profession become more focused on and skilled at convening aspirational community conversations and more innovative in transforming internal practice to support fulfillment of community aspirations, and ALA will mirror that change internally, in its own processes. This work will help librarians become more reflective of and connected to their communities. It will help libraries to build stronger relationships with local civic agencies, non-profits, funders and corporations. It will yield greater community investment in civility, collaboration, education, health, and well-being.

ALA is working with the Harwood Institute for Public Innovation to develop and provide training opportunities and learning resources to support community engagement and innovation. The Harwood Institute has a vision of "turning outward" that emphasizes shifting the institutional and professional orientation of libraries and librarians from internal to external.

Libraries Transforming Communities is made possible through a grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

STAFF RECOGNITION

Tom Karls, who books the 3rd floor Community Rooms for staff and the public, received a very complimentary letter from the UW-Madison Retirement Association for his responsive service to their meeting needs. The group was also impressed by the central library tours they received from Carol Froistad, Tana Elias, and Molly Warren.

Tom has had his hands full with booking the Community Rooms with well over 2000 people using the rooms since we opened.

LITTLE FREE LIBRARIES

A group who is campaigning to raise funds for little free libraries in South Sudan filmed their Indiegogo video at Central Library. Link to the clip: <http://www.indiegogo.com/projects/little-free-libraries-in-south-sudan> (Contributions still accepted until March 7th)

FEBRUARY SCHEDULE

Business Meetings:

- MPL Foundation meeting
- Meeting with Jon Becker of Earth/Art Resources to discuss a possible Earth Day project at the library
- Meeting with Paula Kiely, Director of Milwaukee Public Library

- Meeting with Monroe Library staff (This was the last group in my rounds to meet with all staff across our system)
- Webinar on Libraries Transforming Communities grant project
- Meeting with City Legal regarding copyright for the Yahara project
- Review of a possible collaboration with Sandburg Elementary with Marc Gartler
- Meeting with Katherine Cornwall, City Planning Director, to discuss library planning position
- Wisconsin Book Festival planning meeting
- OrangeBoy Webex on MPL Statistic dashboard
- Developing Mind Webinar (will request that all Youth Services staff review the podcast http://wms.confedge.com/shared/02202014_ULC.wmv)
- Library Assistant and Librarian Labor Relation meetings
- Meeting with Ruedebusch on the Royster Corners development
- Meeting with Ruedebusch and MPL Foundation on the Royster Corners project

City Business:

- Department and Division Head meeting with the Mayor
- 2 Mayor's Management Team meetings
- HR Focus group on City Supervisor training
- Meeting with HR on Library Management meetings for represented library staff
- Meeting with Mayor liaison Sally Miley
- MEM Luncheon

Public/Media Appearances:

- Monona Terrace Reopening Celebration
- Madison Magazine March 2014 issue <http://www.madisonmagazine.com/Madison-Magazine/March-2014/Book-City/>
- Presentation and tour to the Madison Network of Black Professionals
- Attended Library Legislative Day sponsored by Wisconsin Library Association
- Tour given to Waukesha Public Library staff
- Ali movie at Central Library
- PechaKucha "Doing What You Love" at Monona Terrace
- Gypsie Swing Festival
- MLK Play at South Madison Library
- Madison Commons interview on Yahara with Tim Macafee
- Wisconsin Reporter article <http://watchdog.org/128236/wall-library-wisconsin/>
- Capital Times article (in response to the WI Reporter article) http://host.madison.com/ct/news/local/writers/steven_elbow/how-much-does-it-cost-to-light-the-madison-central/article_0a5b0153-f4ac-5985-b899-51f7e892b84a.html
- International Festival at the Overture Center

