

Director's Report to Library Board August 2013

RIP

Mary Burton, recently retired supervisor of our Pinney Branch passed away on August 3, 2013. She was greatly admired by her staff and highly respected by the library's administration and management. She was a tremendous contributor to MPL. Her straight forward approach, coupled with her humor, and passion for public service will always be remembered by those who were fortunate enough to have worked with Mary.

LIBRARY SITING AND ALLOCATION

I have had several discussions with a variety of Alders concerning our upcoming budget and their library wants and needs. Talks have been focused on a new northeast library, the relocation of Pinney, and the relocation or repurposing of Hawthorne.

GRAND OPENING

Staff are hard at work planning the Central Library's Grand Opening Weekend. We'll begin introducing the public to the building through a series of pre-events beginning with the Foundation's Foreword Grand Opening Gala on September 7 and culminating in the public Grand Opening Weekend on September 21-22. On Grand Opening Day, Mayor Soglin will join library and Foundation dignitaries for a ribbon cutting ceremony at 9 am followed by a full day of family friendly activities including multiple musicians and food carts on the blocked off street between the library and Overture, character appearances in the children's room, giveaways, scheduled programs, public tours, technology demonstrations, history programming, and drop-in activities highlighting the library's vision of being a place for all to learn, share and create. The library will be open special hours on Saturday evening to host internationally best-selling author Jojo Moyes for a Wisconsin Book Festival event, and the celebration will continue Sunday afternoon, with highlights including a hard hat tour for children and families (complete with hard hats!) and a program on the library's history featuring Ann Waidelich.

Staff from all nine libraries will have a chance to preview the building during our all-staff day on September 5. Information available online at <http://www.madisonpubliclibrary.org/central/grand-opening> I will request to have Tana Elias do a in-person follow up report at the board meeting.

FINANCIAL SUMMARIES

After review of our financial reports included in your board packet I do not have any major concerns.

STAFF RECOGNITION

Krissy Wick, youth services librarian at Central, has been selected to sit on the Special Collections and Bechtel Fellowship Committee for the American Library Association. This national appointment will allow Krissy to make important connections in the area of collections and youth services.

TRAINING

Tana Elias and I are participating in the city's Supervisor Academy. This is a 15 session program for leadership training. It involves attendance at an all-day program twice a month.

WYOU (Madison Public Access TV)

We have been working with WYOU to determine if Central Library would be able to host their service. There was some discussion about the library taking over the operation but we decided it would be better to partner with the existing organization to keep it viable for the community. City legal will be creating a MOU that will be presented to the library board when completed.

BOOK FESTIVAL

We have a website: <http://wisconsinbookfestival.org/>. Shortly it will become more interactive as the content for the site becomes available. The basic site was designed by Crickett, the same company to develop our current logo and brand appearance.

MEADOWRIDGE EXPANSION

We are in the process of finalizing the program and design for the project which will then move to construction documents. I will have a floor plan handout available at the board meeting.

ACA

Our libraries will be working with the Public Health Dept. to assist with the upcoming application process for the Affordable Care Act.

CONNECTIVITY

I met with City, UW and SCLS representatives to discuss the implementation of our connectivity to the MUFN network. It was also discussed whether the library would move the bulk of their internet services to the city's network instead of maintaining a separate connection to SCLS. If we are connected to the city's network we could provide voice-over IP phone service at all of our locations.

CENTRAL LIBRARY SPECIAL NOTES

- We are negotiating contracts with the selected food vendors.
- Art work installations are taking place throughout the library.
- I met with Homeless Advocates including Brenda Konkel and Sarah Gilman to tour and discuss library practice for the use of our library by the homeless population.
- The Underground, caterer selected for the library has initiated the liquor license application process.

SPECIAL NOTES

- As a member of a UW committee for the Library School I have been invited to the Lunch with the Chancellor program.
- The temporary central library on Hamilton St closed August 31st.

AUGUST SCHEDULE

Business Meetings:

- Meeting with Central Library Friends Group
- Visit to Ashman to discuss 2014 Supplemental Budget cut with staff
- Meeting with Mary Michaud, Public Health Department concerning ACA.
- Meeting with Roseann Sheridan, Children's Theater of Madison to discuss possible collaborations.

- Meeting with Jim O'Keefe and Sue Wallinger from Community Development Services.
- Two Supervisory Academy training sessions.
- New Supervisor training from HR.
- Book Festival meeting.
- Meeting with Rebecca Ryan concerning her Meet Your Future Workforce webinar. MPL received some positive mentions in the national broadcast.
- Community meeting about Union Corners.
- Meeting with Jeff Burhart, Executive Director of the Literacy Network.
- Grand Opening review meeting.
- Staff Day planning
- Caterer contract meetings.
- Foundation Board meeting.
- Meadowridge Program meetings. (Weekly while under development.)

Central Library

- Meeting with Bryan Cooper to review punchlist
- Lost track of the number of recent tours. Tour highlights this month included Madison Chamber of Commerce, Staff Day visits from Sun Prairie and Mt. Horeb, and tour by the Mayor's office.

City Business:

- Department Head meeting with the Mayor
- Common Council meeting (lasted forever)
- Board of Estimates Meeting
- MEM Lunch. (Hosted at the library.)
- Mayor's Management Team meeting
- Met with City IT to discuss the possibility of the library coming completely onto the city network.

Public/Media Appearances:

- Cap Times, 8-26-13 "Central Library Will Welcome Homeless, but Won't Serve as Day Shelter", http://host.madison.com/ct/news/local/writers/pat_schneider/madison-s-new-central-library-will-welcome-homeless-but-won/article_0e8d15a4-0c3c-11e3-aa98-001a4bcf887a.html
- Isthmus interview on the Pinney Library Relocation. Scheduled for publication 8-29-13.
- Triangle Festival.
- PechaKucha. Made connection with Jeff Burhart, Executive Director of the Literacy Network.
- Channel 3 News, Lighting of the "Question Mark."
- Dinner meeting with Rosario Marquardt, one of the creators of the "Question Mark."
- Meet and Greet at Chamber of Commerce event for city officials to meet the Chamber membership.

