

## **Library Director Report October 2015**

### **WISCONSIN BOOK FESTIVAL**

This the third year since Madison Public Library took over the festival. It continues to be a very successful marquee event for us. The new approach of the WBF to be a year-round program has increased its popularity in the community, but the 4 non-stop days of authors and artists is still very special. C-Span was once again at the WBF and expanded its coverage to an entire day of events. The direction of Conor Moran and Tana Elias coupled with many staff are at the source of the success of the WBF. It just continues to get better and better each year.

### **BUDGET 2016**

We are now in the awkward waiting period until the final Common Council approval process begins on Nov 10<sup>th</sup>. The Executive Operating Budget is positive for us with an increase that includes funding for additional positions as well as some fills to FTE status. The amended Capital Improvement Plan budget also meets the needs for the relocation of Pinney. If our budget is approved as we stand now we will be in good shape for 2016.

### **SOCIAL SERVICES AT CENTRAL**

We are very fortunate to have the support of Mayor Soglin and the Community Development Department for their continued funding for the caseworkers at Central Library. This resource has helped many individuals and families. The impact of this service really came to light recently. Staff coming to work at Central had been running into a single parent with 2 children who had been sleeping overnight on our loading dock. Library staff and Porchlight staff from the Central Library office made contact with the family and are working to find shelter for them. Unfortunately shelter for the family has been difficult to locate but this family now has someone working for her to help her provide this basic human need for her and her two children.

### **LIBRARY SITING AND ALLOCATION**

Mark Benno and city engineering have selected a design team for the Badger Building.

Catherine Duarte has started to compile the information that has been collected through the Tell Us program. We plan to use this information to begin to write an outline for our RFP for the design of Pinney Library.

### **VISIT FROM FRISCO, TEXAS & other info request**

Right on heels of Seattle Public Library touring our Central Library and meeting with staff we received a similar request from Frisco, TX. Their Library Director was joined by the City Manager, Library Board President, and other staff for a tour of Central Library and discussion of our programming agenda.

Mark Benno and I had a conference call with the Whitewater PL Library Board to provide input for a possible central library expansion in their community. This was a follow up to a recent tour of MPL's Central Library by their Library Director and City Manager.

## **RACIAL EQUITY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE**

Tori Pettaway, the new Equity Coordinator for the City of Madison, sent a link as part of her department's exciting opportunity to help move the Racial Equity and Social Justice Initiatives to the next level. They recently created the Madison's Equitable Future Video with the goal of generating discussions about the City's continued commitment to advancing racial equity. Catherine Duarte, MPL's Library Planner, represented the Library in the video and did a terrific job of sharing the RESJ work at MPL. RESJ is a factor that we take into consideration on many of our decisions in regard to our operations. Here is the link to the program. It is divided into chapters and Catherine's presentation begins at the second segment.

<http://media.cityofmadison.com/Mediasite/Play/871d741e57284fa5a9b7cdb60cc502051d>

## **STAFF RECOGNITION**

Chris Wagner a 20 year+ veteran librarian retired this month. Chris was the definition of an engaged employee with her many connections in the community around Goodman South Madison Library where she worked. Her dedication and hard work was clearly evident by the number of members of the community that attended her retirement celebrations to pay tribute to her many accomplishments and to share their personal thanks for her service. She will be greatly missed by MPL. We wish her well in her retirement.

## **WHAT'S NEXT FORUM**

For the third year in a row I have been invited to attend the What's Next Forum. The Forum brings together by invitation app. 20 Library Directors from across the country to discuss the future trends of libraries and examine current best practices. This year's assignment is to come with photos of the "best" project your library did in the last year. I discussed my assignment with the library's management staff and it is VERY difficult to select just one of our successes to share. There were so many terrific accomplishments this past year I could take an entire portfolio of photos and stories.

## **October Schedule**

### **Business Meetings**

Meeting with former Alder Clausius

Meeting with Dr. Anthony from Urban League

Meeting with City Real Estate about Pinney Project

Tour and meeting with Zendesk

MOST Coalition Meeting

Meeting Dr. Kiu Leung, Renaissance Executive Forums

Meeting with Enis Ragland

Conference call with Whitewater Library Board and Director

Tour of Central with Lon Dickerson, retired Library Director of Jefferson Parrish (Also the director I worked for at Omaha Public Library)

### **City Business**

Dept/Division Head Meeting with Mayor

Mayor's Management Team (2)

Common Council

Conference call to NYC on City IDs  
BOE  
Employee Relations Committee  
Mayor's Human Services Workgroup

**Public/Media Appearance**

Racial Justice Summit, 2 day program conducted by the YWCA  
Chris Wagner Retirement Party/ Central Library  
MPL Foundation Welcome Party for new board members  
Chris Wagner Retirement Party/ GSMB  
Lunch with the Chancellor  
Lussier Center event  
DMI Breakfast Talk  
UW Listening session with Ray Cross  
Presentation at WI Book Festival  
WBF Author Reception  
What's Next Forum (Anythink Library, Thornton, CO)