

Director's Report to Library Board March 2015

NATIONAL MEDAL

MPL did have its "National Medal" Day on March 17th and we shared a lot of information about our finalist status on a variety of social media. We will find out if we have won one of the five medals on April 8th. The award and public announcement of the winners will be made in the first week of May.

LIBRARY SITING AND ALLOCATION

The Pinney Project is moving forward. Mark Benno and staff have met to review the geothermal aspect of the project. We will be able to start sharing more detailed timetables soon.

The latest I have heard on the completion of the Meadowridge Library project is May 15th.

We are in the vetting process on the Graybar property. So far there have been a couple of concerns but nothing major enough to derail the project. All-in-all it is looking good so far.

SPECIAL VISITORS AND VISITS

- I recently shared information about a workshop for board members that was being conducted by Pat Wagner. Pat is a library consultant and trainer for many library related topics and is nationally recognized for her programs. She is based in Denver and I got to know her while I was in Colorado attending her workshops. So when I saw she was in the Madison area I invited her to tour Central and talk shop. She was very impressed with the building and was very impressed with the programming and direction that MPL has taken. She shared that she will be holding MPL up as an example of a library doing great things in her library workshops.
- As part of our IMLS grant with UW Madison there were several outside advisors to provide their expertise on our project. We recently convened a site visit and strategy meeting in Madison with Meg Backus, Anchorage Public Libraries (formerly at Chattanooga Public Library), Lisa Brahms, Children's Museum of Pittsburgh, Michelle Gorman, Houston Public Libraries (formerly Charlotte Mecklenburg Public Library), Yasmin Kafai, University of Pennsylvania, and Kurt Kiefer, Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction.
- Andrew Conley, co-founder of 100 State, met with Trent Miller and myself including a tour of Central's Media Lab. We discussed several possible collaborations between 100 State and MPL. It was great to increase awareness of the resources that we can provide to their operation in particular since they are just 1 block away from our offices.
- Krissy Wick, Youth Services Supervisor, Jenni Collins and Lau Christensen, from the MPL Foundation, and I met with Jack Salzwedel, CEO American Family to discuss MPL's early literacy initiatives.

ONE MILLION CUPS

The Madison chapter of One Million Cups has decided to move their weekly meetings to our Central Library. The national program carries the tagline, "Building Communities one cup at a time." The local chapter was organized by four entrepreneurial women who advance the doctrine of the national organization to educate, promote, and support fellow entrepreneurs and local startups. You can learn more at <http://madison.sites.1millioncups.com/>

STAFF RECOGNITION

Congratulations to Trent Miller. Trent was selected as a 2015 Mover and Shaker by Library Journal magazine. It is quite an achievement to be recognized nationally for your contributions but it was no secret at MPL how terrific of a contributor Trent has been to our success. His leadership with the Bubbler has enabled that program to make a real difference in our community and has also been an inspiration to other libraries across the nation. Very much a well deserved recognition of his dedication to making a difference for MPL and Madison. And I think if you asked, he is having a blast doing it.

March Schedule

Business Meetings

Pat Wagner, Library Consultant for Pattern Research, tour of Central
ULC Webinar: Libraries Improve Health
IMLS Project meeting
Presentation to CEO of American Family and their Foundation director
Andrew Conley, co-founder 100 State, meeting and tour
SLIS Advisory Council, UW-Madison
Labor Management meeting
IMLS grant meeting
IMLS project (Wash. DC)

City Business

Dept/Division Heads Meeting
Meeting with City HR on hiring processes
Mayor's Management Team meeting
Appliance Sticker meeting

Public/Media Appearances

Mayoral Debate at Central Library
Literacy Network Fundraiser
Gilda House Benefit
Philosopher's Grove Public Meeting on plan proposals
DMI at 100 Block
Forward Festival, Spring Tech Kickoff