

## Director's Report to Library Board October 2013

### CENTRAL LIBRARY

Mark Benno, Tom Karls and I have been working with Underground to define their role for private functions at the library. They have been very cooperative with modifying menus and making it more accessible to patrons. Latest update on Chocolaterian is that since they were able to start offering coffee, they have been doing well. At the BookFest I frequently saw lines at their café.

I'm still working on getting numbers for our first month but I'm optimistic that the numbers will be impressive.

We continue to have a number of visitors for tours including a trustee from Atlanta, GA and the mayor of Appleton bought a group through to gain ideas for a central library project in their city.

I also wanted to give you an idea of the scope of programs and events that are taking place at the new Central. These are only some of the highlights, there were several more Library and community events. Thanks to Tom Karls for preparing this list.

- October 1 YWCA Dinner and a movie program.
- October 2 Madison Community Foundation Board  
Capital Neighborhoods-Mifflin meeting  
Madison Camaguey Sister City meeting
- October 3 City Affirmative Action-Equity and Diversity program  
Madison Art Guild  
Central Cinema series starts
- October 4 Gallery night
- October 6 Poetry reading
- October 8 Womenade/Literacy Network program
- October 9 Chamber of Commerce meet and greet program
- October 10 WI Council on Children and Families
- October 14 Downtown Madison State of the Downtown program  
Madison Police and Fire Commission –search for new police chief hearing
- October 15 Madison Gas and Electric Corporate Breakfast  
Capital Area Planning Conference workshops  
Madison Area Reading Council program
- October 16 Judge Doyle Square presentation
- October 17-20 WI Book Festival
- October 21 Channel 3 Town Hall program on Affordable Care Act  
Forward Theater
- October 22 Big Data Meetup
- October 23 Screening of "Bully" held in conjunction with Channel 3
- October 24 WI Forum on Animal Research Ethics
- October 25-26 Hackathon/City Camp

## **LIBRARY SITING AND ALLOCATION**

Alders Palm and Subeck are sponsoring a new position for MPL using CIP funds. The position, Library Planning and Construction Coordinator would be a cross between a City Planner position and our Library Program Coordinator. The position would be responsible for gathering public input, providing analysis of community data, and work with other city departments to assist in our siting program and building programs. The position would be supervised by Mark Benno.

I also met with Kevin Briski about a potential library site in NE Madison.

## **FINANCIAL SUMMARIES**

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

## **PRESENTATION AT WLA**

Innovate This! Leadership in "Interesting Times"

*Michele Besant*, Associate Director, UW-Madison SLIS

*Kristin Eschenfelder*, Professor and Director, UW-Madison SLIS

*Greg Mickells*, Director, Madison Public Library

*Stef Morrill*, Director, WiLS

Challenge and opportunity often come together. What do you do in these interesting times? How do you lead rather than react? How do you keep passion alive? How do you bring staff along? Panelists describe recent innovations in their organizations and how they navigate the challenge-opportunity landscape as a backdrop to a discussion among all session participants about best practices for not only surviving but thriving in what can feel like a maelstrom of change.

## **BOOK FESTIVAL**

After much anticipation the Wisconsin Book Festival went very well. Many of the sessions were standing room only and many attendees commented on the quality of the programs. There were many first time visitors to the Central Library so despite the concerns of holding this large event just after we opened it really did pay dividends. Many of the presenters were also impressed with the new library. I gave a tour to Jonathan Atlers after his presentation so he could take back ideas to his east coast home. Personally I was very impressed with the quality of the presenters and very much enjoyed the performances by the UW First Wave group and the other performers from throughout the Midwest.

If you have the opportunity please extend your thanks to the Foundation for their support of the Festival. In addition, Conor Moran and Tana Elias need to be commended on the excellent program they put together. Several other MPL staff also contributed to the success. It was a team effort and the results were truly appreciated by the community. I am confident that we established ownership of this event and I am looking forward to next year.

## **MEADOWRIDGE EXPANSION**

We had our final public meeting on the current set of drawings for the project. It was well attended and we received some good feedback. The community is really excited about the new library. The RFP for construction will be going out early November. In addition we have received tentative approval to increase the teen librarian position from 80% to a 100% position. We realized that our best chances for the type of teen services we were seeking was to make it a full time position.

## **PINNEY PROJECT**

The proposed Pinney relocation project has been selected as a featured project at the Library Design Institute in St. Louis. OPN is the architectural group that will be working on the project at the Institute. OPN did make a visit to Pinney and also toured several of our other libraries. OPN and a library group also met with the Royster Corners developers.

## **HOMELESS AND PEOPLE IN NEED AT CENTRAL**

I have met with several individuals regarding our plans and program to provide services to the homeless and people in need at Central.

- Carol Froistad and I met with Sarah Gilmore who was the director of the Dane County Day Center last Year. She has received county funds to provide services at Central.
- Carol and I met with Lynn Green from Dane County Human Services. She was interested in our services and she shared plans from her department.
- Carol and I met with Mary Kolar, Dane County Board of Supervisors, and Melissa Sargent, State Representative from Dist. 48 regarding our programs and possible future collaboration with the county

## **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 have an upcoming meeting with SCLS and City IT to finalize plans on our connections to the MUFN network. It was determined that we would maintain 2 pairs to connect for separate connections to the City and SCLS. Our first priority is to get connections at Goodman South and Hawthorne.

## **OCTOBER SCHEDULE**

### **Business Meetings:**

- YWCA Racial Justice Summit
- Supervisory Academy.
- Meeting with Marty Van Pelt, Director of SCLS
- Meeting with Sandy Swanson from OrangeBoy.
- Meeting with Kevin Briski about NE Madison site.
- Meeting to develop plan for the Library Design Institute.
- Meeting with OPN in regard to the Library Design Institute.
- Meetings with Labor Relations.
- Attended presentation on Treehouse, an online teaching service for coding and web design.
- Visit to Sun Prairie Public Library
- Meet with SCLS technology director to discuss MUFN connections.
- Royster Corners developers meeting.
- Caterer contract meetings.
- Library Board meeting.
- Foundation Board meeting.
- Tour of Madison YWCA and visit with Director Rachel Kinsky.

**Central Library**

- Tours to the City of Appleton and Library Board trustee from Atlanta, GA.
- Meeting with Mark Wolfe and Roger Allen regarding the application of the liquor license at Central.

**City Business:**

- Department and Division Head meeting with the Mayor
- Budget meeting at BOE.
- Two Common Council meetings.
- Two Board of Estimates Meetings
- Mayor's Management Team meeting
- City of Madison Equity and Diversity Discussion

**Public/Media Appearances:**

- YWCA Youth Event
- Madison Chamber of Commerce at Central Library
- Lunch with the UW Chancellor
- Downtown Madison Inc. attended the State of the Downtown presentation
- Open Gallery Night
- Police Chief hiring input session.
- MG&G Breakfast meeting and tour of Central.
- Interview with Seth Jovaag.
- Interview with Laura Jones of Madison Magazine.
- Book Festival. Was able to attend events all 4 days.
- Attended Wisconsin Library Association annual conference, included giving a presentation.
- Presentation to Attic Angels.
- Go Big Read, Chancellor Reception for Ruth Ozeki
- Madison Public Market open house.