

Report to the Library Board October, 2009

South Madison Branch Library Update

Tri-North Construction was the low bidder for the new SMB build-out, at \$1,010,000 million. This bid includes three alternates – additional photo-sensor lights; sustainable wood (not laminate) for furniture and shelving; and the addition of a fireplace. Construction on the Urban League building shell is nearing completion, and Tri-North will now work with City staff to complete the Library's build out. The communication between Tri-North and the City/Library has been a good one so far, with discussions back and forth and mutual trouble shooting during the shell construction; this bodes well for a smooth condo build-out. Timing for the City's actual purchase of the condo space is still not nailed down, but should happen by the end of October.

Neighbors and Supporters Celebrate "Re-opening" of the Monroe Street Branch

Mayor Dave and Monroe Street Library League president Carol "Orange" Schroeder helped the Monroe Street neighborhood celebrate a beautiful "new" Monroe Street library last Sunday, as part of Monroe Street Festival activities. The completely re-designed and refurbished branch offers additional computers, more seating, and new furnishings in an open, welcoming and attractive space. Thanks to Alder Julia Kerr for helping to organize this event and to Library and School Board member Maya Cole for representing the Library Board at this gathering. (And, by the way, the Mayor's remarks provoked an unexpected minor outburst from Library staffers when he announced that his 2010 Operating Budget contains no reductions to the Library operating budget next year!)

Madison Arts Commission designates MPL for Kohler Foundation gift of art.

The Kohler Foundation just recently completed a major gift of art to Madison Public Library. The gift consists of paintings by Wisconsin artists, Schomer Lichtner and Ruth Grotenrath. The couple began their prolific careers as WPA muralists. Lichtner may be best remembered for the whimsical ballerinas and cows that fascinated him in his later years, while Grotenrath luminously depicted items found in her home or garden. Karin Wolf, Madison Arts Program Administrator, assisted with the acquisition, and the Madison Arts Commission generously funded museum/archival framing of the twenty three paintings. The collection will premiere in Madison with a reception at the Central Library on May 7, 2010.

Items for Approval at this meeting:

- Approval of the Dane County Library Tax Exemption Resolution.
Each year libraries in Dane County must request of the Dane County Board of Supervisors that the City of Madison be exempted from the payment of any tax for the support of the County Library Service. Since Madison meets the minimum standards of operation and expends an amount for library services exceeding the minimum, we request exemption from the Dane County Library Board tax. (Resolution in your packet.)
- Approval of South Central Library Service Agreements with MPL
The Statutory and Supplementary Services Agreements for 2010 formalize the relationship between the South Central Library System and MPL in terms of services offered and benefits received. SCLS will reimburse MPL for continuing to oversee Materials in Demand for library users in the entire SCLS service area, as well as providing materials for youth and specialized materials and services for MPL as a resource library for the System. MPL is also paid by SCLS to provide interlibrary loan and backup reference services on behalf of the System. (Contracts in your packet.)

