

Library Director Report June 2019

BP: Building Projects

CR: Collaborations including representing MPL in Local, State, National, and International roles

EL: Early Literacy.

LIBRARY SITING AND ALLOCATION (BP) (CR) (EL)

Pinney Project:

Construction on the gray box continues. There have been a few issues but all have been resolvable. We have completed the selection process for the addition of public art to the project. Since we now have a decision, we have shared that selection with the Condo Association. We are still waiting for a required response from the association on the addition of public art to the outdoor area.

Imagination Center at Reindahl Park:

Kevin continues to move forward with more community conversations to further the development of the scope of the project. We are hoping with the addition of our access to the LVN technology we can expand on the range of conversations we are currently conducting. Kevin also has an intern now that will be assisting with the project.

CONDITION OF MIFFLIN ST SIDEWALK (CR)

I have had several communications with the Mayor's office, Parks Dept., MPD, and MPL staff concerning the issue of individuals storing personal belongings on the bike racks along Central Library. As we have experienced an increase in individuals sleeping overnight along our Central Library there has also been a significant increase of items accumulating on the sidewalk. We have received several complaints from the public and it is directly interfering with our ability to provide services to the public. Patrons have directly told us they no longer will bring their family with the amount of "trash" that is on our sidewalks. A recent wedding party complained that they had wanted to take pictures in front of our marquee sign but could not due to the conditions.

Unfortunately Central Library is not part of the mall district that is monitored by Parks for the removal of personal belongings from right of ways and our request for assistance was met with a lack of capacity to address our issue. We have also contacted MPD about assistance and they tried working with Parks as well with no success. I have submitted a request to the Mayor's office for permission for us to perform the same function as Parks with our facility staff.

In the meantime, I have requested Mark Benno to determine a set of guidelines for maintenance staff that will allow us at the very least to remove the trash (food containers, discarded clothing, and soiled materials) that are separated from the collections of personal items. On the very first application of this new procedure we have seen a major improvement but I will still pursue further action. Allowing individuals to store personal items on our sidewalks is not a solution.

These conditions have also been extremely demoralizing to library and maintenance staff who have to deal with the complaints and their own personal pride in how we are being perceived by the public as not caring about the appearance of our building.

THE GAMBIA LIBRARY PROJECT (BP) (CR)

I have been meeting with the representatives of Madison's city sister Kanifing, The Gambia about the planning and build of a public library in Kanifing. We have developed sufficient scope of the project that we can begin to seek funding for the project. Kanifing will provide the land but the other costs associated with the library will be

raised privately. We recently met with Tom Linfield from the Madison Community Foundation, so he could provide guidance to the group on fundraising.

BUDGET UPDATES

I will be presenting July 1 to the Mayor Satya and her evaluation team on our CIP. It is a slightly different format under her leadership. We present a memo with our priorities, along with purpose behind those requests, and the equity and sustainability consequences connected to the requests. We are working on a similar document for our operational budget justification that needs to include reduction, cost to continue, and supplemental request scenarios.

1st INTERNATIONAL TRUE PLAY CONFERENCE (CR) (EL)

I gave my first presentation on our experience at the conference to Mayor Satya and the Human Services committee. I shared that much of what we learned and experienced will help inform MPL's use of true play at the new Pinney Library in addition to our continued successful partnership with Parks and the Wild Rumpus programming. I offered that this concept might be considered as the City continues to expand services to youth and consider how this might inform the way we program housing projects.

Business Meetings

- True Play Conference debriefing meeting
- Meetings on The Gambia library project
- Meeting with consultant on workplace security and safety
- WBF Steering Committee
- Meeting with Kristen Eschenfelder, director of UW-Madison iSchool
- Budget discussion for Capital and Operating
- Pinney Furniture Meeting
- Meeting with Tracy Harold concerning Dane County formula for county funds
- Meeting with Mayor's Chief of Staff and MPL's Deputy Mayor liaison, Linda Vakunta

City Business

- Operational Budget Kick-off
- Dept/Division Head Meeting with Mayor
- Performance Excellence Leadership Team
- Mayor's Management Team
- Line of Sight Committee meetings (monthly)

Public/Media Appearance

- Greater Madison Jazz Consortium Community Celebration
- Pride Flag raising at the MMB
- PreTrail Justice: National & Local Perspective presentation and panel discussion at Central Library
- Reception for Nicole Stevens
- Jeffrey Gibson presentation at MMOCA
- Kim Phuc and Nick Ut Celebration of Peace and Mindfulness (MPL was listed as a co-sponsor of the event)
- Interview with Abby Becker of the Cap Times on the Imagination Center and Anji Play
- Interview with Dean Mosiman about the challenges at the top of State St and how it might be impacting Central Library
- Art Party at Overture
- Make Music Madison performance by former MPL Music Academy "graduates"
- WBF author presentation with Dick Wagner's *We've Been Here All Along*, a book on Wisconsin's gay history
- DMI Arts Cohort