

Director's Report to Library Board December 2013

ANNUAL REVIEW

I would like to thank the Library Board for their support and encouragement throughout 2013. It was a pleasure working with you and sharing the many accomplishments in the past year. The obvious milestone is the completion of the Central Library which is just an exceptional accomplishment. A major reason for that project's success is your leadership and involvement in the process. There were some budget challenges at the start of 2013 but we are beginning to regain some lost ground. We have a new vision and mission for the organization and an exciting future.

FINANCIAL SUMMARIES

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

CENTRAL LIBRARY

We continue to tweak the building and resolve issues. For only 3 months after opening, the performance of the building has remained relatively very positive.

LIBRARY SITING AND ALLOCATION

I am planning to meet with Mark Benno and start the process of hiring the Library Planner position in early 2014. I have also received renewed contact from Gorman concerning Union Corners.

DESIGN LIKE MAD

On December 7th, Central Library was host to the Design Like Mad event. This was a first of its kind for Madison where some 60 designers, 14 web developers and 3 architects came together for 12 hours to work on designs for 20 different non-profits. The results were fantastic. We hope to be the host for this program for years to come.

RECOGNITION

MPL was contacted by Library Journal for a report on our partnership with WYOU-TV. The Urban Library Council has requested a report on the Design Like Mad program held at Central Library. In addition since we have opened we have fielded several requests for information on our Bubbler program but this December I received a request for information from Melbourne, Australia. So I guess we could claim that the national recognition of this program has become international.

MEADOWRIDGE EXPANSION

RFPs on the project will be opened in early January.

STAFF MEETINGS

Based on input from staff I wanted to try and visit with all staff by the end of the year. I appreciate the opportunity when I can meet directly with staff and have a dialogue about our operations and future direction for MPL. I received a lot of great ideas during my visits and I hope we can implement some of those ideas into our operation. There were a few concerns that we plan to resolve if possible. These visits also allow me to personally recognize and say thanks for the exceptional work our staff performs on a daily basis.

LIBRARY STAFF ENGAGEMENT

The City's HR department has been working on a staff engagement program and presented the program to our staff at the all staff day this fall. As part of the presentation staff members were asked to take a survey to determine their engagement levels with the library. MPL scored very well which shouldn't be a surprise knowing the creative and dedicated work performed by our staff. There will be a follow up to the program and two library staff members have been assigned to the City's engagement team. They in turn will be working directly with library staff to find ways where we can continue to improve on our performance. I have attached a copy of the survey.

DECEMBER SCHEDULE

Business Meetings:

- Meeting with Debbie Gilpin from Children's Museum.
- Meeting with Jennifer Lord regarding MOST.
- Staff meeting at Ashman Branch.
- Staff meeting at Central TS.
- Staff meeting at Sequoya Library.
- Staff meeting at Hawthorne.
- ULC Webinar on Creating Engaged and Motivated Staff.
- Staff meeting at Lakeview.
- Staff meeting at Goodman South Madison.
- 2 Supervisory Academy programs.
- Meetings with Murfie regarding MPL self-publication of local music content
- Labor Relations meetings.
- Staff meeting with Web Services.
- ULC Webinar Youth-Powered Learning: Measuring the Impact.
- Staff meeting at Lower Stacks,
- Staff meeting at Meadowridge.

City Business:

- Department and Division Head meeting with the Mayor
- Common Council meeting.
- Mayor's Management Team meeting
- Homeless Issues Meeting with the Mayor
- Teen Employment Meeting with the Mayor
- MOST (Madison Out-Of-School Time) organizational meeting between City, Schools, and other local businesses and organizations.

Public/Media Appearances:

- Design Like Mad
- Public Market Input Meeting.
- MPL Foundation Holiday party.
- Common Council Holiday party.