

## **Director's Report to Library Board March 2014**

### **CENTRAL LIBRARY**

The 3<sup>rd</sup> floor condition has been corrected. We are now waiting to have the grout replaced and the landings addressed. We also had a visit from the company that provides the product used for our stairs. We will be waiting to hear back from them with a resolution to the condition of our stairs.

The Central Library was featured on WKOW about being available for weddings. Tom Karls did a great job of representing the library and the couple featured in the story were very happy about their selection of Central for their wedding.

<http://www.wkow.com/story/25056834/2014/03/24/first-weddings-held-at-madison-central-library>

### **LIBRARY SITING AND ALLOCATION**

Mark Benno and I had a meeting with Katherine Cornwall to discuss a possible location for our Facilities Maintenance shop.

Don Marx, from city real estate, is talking to Carl and Jeff Ruedebusch about possible terms for the library siting at Royster Corners.

Mark Benno has been finalizing the Planner position description and we plan to have a requisition in the first week of April.

The second amendment to the agreement on the Grandview Commons project went to the Plan Commission.

### **FINANCIAL SUMMARIES**

After review of our financial reports included in your board packet I do not have any major concerns. Deb will be pointing out some budget realignments at the Board meeting.

### **MEADOWRIDGE EXPANSION**

Initial Construction meetings have been scheduled. Contract with the selected contractor are being finalized with the city. Tentative completion date for the Library part of the project is August 15<sup>th</sup>.

Alice Oakey, Joe Schlesing and I met with a representative from Madison College about possible programming at the new facilities. We discussed several opportunities with the community kitchen but also visited other career promoting avenues.

### **YAHARA MUSIC LIBRARY**

On March 28, 2014 I signed the service contract with Murfie to officially develop the programming to make the Yahara Library Project a reality.

### **INTERNATIONAL CONNECTIONS**

Carol Froistad and I met with Marie Lionos, who is working on the creation of the Gabriela Mistral Community Center in Chile. Marie was in Madison and was impressed with a number of services the library was doing especially the social services office hours. She wanted to take some of the program

ideas home to Chile and propose them for the Center. She asked if Carol and I would be a resource for her to make your case for including these programs in her community center plans. We agreed and also offered to travel onsite to consult.

## STAFF RECOGNITION

1. I was at Meadowridge Library for the kickoff of the new building project. It was a very well attended event with several members of the community present. After the speeches I was approached by Sheray Wallace, a resident of Meadowood, who literally took me by the arm and lead me across the room to Kathy Wolkoff.

Sheray began how she will be graduating soon with a BS in Social Work and she also shared that without the help of Kathy and staff at Meadowridge Library she never would have been able to achieve that goal. She could not say enough how Kathy was so patient to explain how school and classes worked. How she helped with her research. How she was just there when she needed support. She extended her thanks to the library and what she was able to achieve with our help. Furthermore she has been able to make her schooling count and will be beginning a new job with the Domestic Abuse Intervention Service.

Congratulations to Kathy and the staff at Meadowridge Library. Libraries can change lives and MPL has the staff that can make that happen. Sheray was also invited to be part of our core team for the Libraries Transforming Communities proposal.

2. Congratulations to Erinn Batykefer, who is a Library Assistant at the Ashman Library. She was recently recognized by Library Journal as a 2014 Mover and Shaker.

<http://li.libraryjournal.com/2014/03/people/movers-shakers-2014/laura-damon-moore-erinn-batykefer-movers-shakers-2014-change-agents/>

It is quite an honor to receive this level of recognition. MPL is very proud to have one of our staff on this list of achievers.

3. Nate Clark in our Media Lab works with many different groups. Among them is a group of young people from a Shelter program. This group comes to Central every other week for a Bubbler project. Their MMSD teacher, Britt, recently shared this after one of the sessions. On their way back after attending one of Nate's workshops on 3D World Building, one of the attendees proclaimed, **"Man, I'm never buying Call of Duty again! I'm makin' my own!"**

4. Retirement of Jim Egglar. Jim was a veteran MPL staff member with over 30 years of service. He was a terrific on desk person with library customers and excellent selector for our movie collections.

## SPECIAL STORY

I had to share this story after learning about it from Tom Karls. Tom recently received a call asking about using the library for a wedding. Not unusual these days except this man went on to explain that he met his future wife for the first time at the Grand Opening of the Central Library. He had planned to meet an online acquaintance by the sculpture on the 3rd floor terrace. She never showed up but in the meantime he had met another woman. Now 6 months later they are making wedding plans and would like to be married on the library terrace where they first met on our opening day.

## **MARCH SCHEDULE**

### **Business Meetings:**

- Meeting with Tom Linfield from Madison Community Foundation.
- Meeting with Murfie to sign contract for the Yahara Music Library project.
- Meet with Sandburg Elementary School principal and school librarian to discuss possible collaboration between the school and MPL.
- Meeting with Katherine Cornwall, City Planning Director, to discuss Library Maintenance facility.
- Meeting with Hoopla representative to review their online products.
- Meadowridge preconstruction meeting.
- Meeting with Marie Lionos from Chile.
- Library Assistant and Librarian Labor Relation meetings
- Meeting with Ruedebusch on the Royster Corners development
- Meeting with Hovde representative about possibility doing some programming in the storefront buildings across from Central.
- Meeting with WYOU about housing their archive and participating in a project that documents the State Capital protests.
- Meeting with Ted Dedee about the Overture's 10th anniversary plans.
- Meeting on the proposed WI History Museum/WI Veterans Museum project.
- Meeting the MPL Foundation grant review team.
- Meeting with Madison College to discuss collaborative projects at Meadowridge Library.
- Meeting with Steve Schooler to discuss social services programming.

### **City Business:**

- Department and Division Head meeting with the Mayor
- Mayor's Management Team meeting
- HR Focus group on City Supervisor training
- Meeting with HR on organizational alignment of library management.
- Library Management meetings with HR for represented library staff

### **Public/Media Appearances:**

- Meadowridge construction project kickoff.
- Reading Between the Wines. Benefit for the Literacy Network.
- Attendance at Public Library Association conference. Gave presentation with Trent Miller on the new Central Library.
- Attended my first meeting with the PLA Nomination Committee.
- Attended the Attorney General Town Hall meeting at Central Library.
- Invited to the WYOU board meeting.
- DMI breakfast program with Dr. Jen Cheatham.

