

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

### **April 2015**

#### **NATIONAL MEDAL**

Unfortunately MPL did not receive a National Medal. It was quite an accomplishment to be nominated and make it to the finals. Even though we did not receive the medal it does reflect the dedication and hard work that MPL staff provide to our community.

#### **LIBRARY SITING AND ALLOCATION**

The Pinney Project is moving forward. Staff met with a designer to discuss possibilities of exploring our PlayLab concept.

Although not official it is expected we might be able to close on the Graybar property in May.

#### **STRATEGIC PLANNING**

I have been conducting individual interviews with the Management Team to begin to create a framework to start building a new strategic plan for MPL. We are just in the very beginning stages but the input I have received so far should really support a productive and effective plan.

#### **CATERER**

We have renewed our contract with Underground for 2015-16. In 2016 we are planning to add some additional catering options for our private parties.

#### **SHARING WITH STUDENTS**

I was invited to speak to library school classes at UW-Madison and UW-Milwaukee. It is always great to interact with students and answer their questions about our operations. Even they are surprised sometimes by the amount of services MPL provides and the focus on the delivery of those services.

#### **SPECIAL INVITATION**

MPL has accepted an invitation to participate in a national program for getting a library card in the hand of every student. The program has received the support of Mayor Soglin and Superintendent Cheatham.

#### **ALL THAT JAZZ**

As part of National Jazz Month, MPL hosted a number of jazz events at our libraries. In particular on every Thursday night in April at Central we had live performance by local and regional groups performing original music.

#### **UPCOMING HIGHLIGHTS IN MAY**

A couple of highlights I wanted to share coming up in May.

- Susan Crawford will be the keynote for the WiscNet conference. While in Madison she will be taking a tour of Central Library. Crawford's most recent books *Responsive City* and *Captive Audience* have a wide following. May 11<sup>th</sup>.
- I was invited to participate at an IMLS planning session in Kansas City. May 13-15.
- Marc Gartler was invited to speak at the program *Dodging the Memory Hole II* in Charlotte. May 11-12.

## **April Schedule**

### **Business Meetings**

Mary Carbine, Discussion about top of State St programming  
Meadowridge Library and Neighborhood Center meeting  
NEXT Library conference planning session  
ALA Conference session planning  
Space planning session at Ashman Library  
Community kitchen planning at Meadowridge Library  
Meeting with Abby Lerner to explore PlayLab design ideas  
Labor Management meeting  
White House Webcast on ConnectED

### **City Business**

Dept/Division Heads Meeting  
Meeting with City HR on hiring processes  
Mayor's Management Team meeting  
Mayor's Human Services work group  
Swearing in of Common Council and Mayor

### **Public/Media Appearances**

DMI Evening program at OPN Architects  
UW- Madison SLIS Management Class  
MPL Foundation Donor Thank you Event  
Wisconsin Book Festival Event at Hotel Red  
Swearing In Luncheon  
DMI Breakfast for Steve Schooler presentation  
Music in a Box: The Containment & Commodification of Paramount Records  
The Other Sides of Paramount Records  
Tamarack Spring Brunch  
UW-Milwaukee Class guest speaker  
Jazz at Central Library (3 performances)  
Pechakucha Featuring 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Nation Magazine

