

## **Library Director Report February 2017**

### **LIBRARY SITING AND ALLOCATION**

RDC responded to the City's response on the LOI. At the time of this report RDC legal was meeting with City legal to iron out final details. There has been a final determination made on the TIF request by the City that was to be communicated to RDC.

### **ABSENTEE VOTING**

The City Clerk has reported that Madison experienced a new record in early voting for a primary. I greatly suspect that MPL's participation as early voting sites has made this possible. It was very common to hear a report from one of our libraries that individuals were not even aware of the election until they saw the Vote Here signage at our libraries.

I have not received a complete debrief from the City Clerk yet but it appears it ran smoothly and there were no major issues. We have already been asked and I have approved to provide this option for the upcoming general election.

### **STRATEGIC LENS**

I was anticipating that we would have a document for the Library Board to approve at the March meeting. As a result of the input from the focus groups we are making some changes that will require some additional time. I wanted to make sure that we applied the fine tuning to the document before we submitted it to the Board instead of asking for a partial approval of some of the parts at this time. Since our strategic lens will be instrumental in our decision making and development of programming I did want to incorporate the input shared by the staff and the community. We are anticipating that we will have a final document for your approval at the April meeting.

### **STORY CORPS**

We had a very successful experience with Story Corps despite having to scramble to fill a couple of last minutes cancellations. The Story Corps team was very impressed with Tana's organization of the program and gave us high marks for how smooth it was for them to do their work. Some of the participants stopped by my office on their way out and shared their appreciation for being asked and also the enjoyment they experienced doing the program. Each participant received a copy of their conversation. Story Corps will be making a master of all of the conversations and will provide a copy to MPL. We plan to make a video using some of the content and the documentation of the event that we recorded, plus utilize some sound bites and quotes for a National Library Week release April 9-15<sup>th</sup>. On a side note, The Story Corps team even attended our Access Denied program as part of the Library Takeover project and was very impressed by the quality of our programming.

### **RECOMMISSIONING PROPOSAL**

I met with an energy expert who is providing a recommissioning service to city agencies. The Library was identified as an agency that could greatly benefit from this energy audit. In a nutshell the company will review all of our HVAC systems and more to determine how to operate more efficiently to save energy and operating costs. It is at no cost to the Library although the results of the audit may result in investment of changes to our current systems.

### **GARE WEBINAR**

MPL was planning to provide a Government Alliance on Race and Equity (GARE) webinar for library staff. The topic was "Actions Local Jurisdictions Can Take to Protect Immigrants and Refugees." I decided to invite

other city staff that may be interested in the topic and it soon bloomed to become a city-wide offering to local elected and government officials, the public, and the Common Council. In addition there was a brief discussion with attendees planned after the webinar.

### **MANAGEMENT POSITION**

Krissy and I have been conducting preliminary interviews with candidates for our newest management position, the Community Engagement Coordinator. We hope to complete the hiring process in early March. We have over a year in developing this new position and I am excited about the potential of growing and improving our existing engagement agenda.

### **INVITATION FROM THE KETTERING FOUNDATION**

I was invited to take part in a round table discussion along with Mayor Soglin at the Kettering Foundation in Dayton OH from March 29-30. Madison will be one of five US cities invited to share with five cities from Russia on the topic of the library's role in our civic engagement with our communities.

### **DIRECTOR OUT OF TOWN**

I will be taking some vacation time to travel out of town from March 13-17.

#### **Business Meetings**

- Foundation Board meeting
- Review of Foundation Grant process and requests
- Collection Management meeting
- MPLF grant proposal meeting with Grant Committee members
- GARE Webinar
- Review of Social Services at Central
- Recommissioning Proposal meeting
- Strategic Planning Focus Group at Meadowridge
- Meeting with Monroe St. Staff

#### **Public/Media Appearance**

- Leading Locally- Education group
- Hip Hop Architecture Camp
- Access Denied: Library Takeover Event
- Yardbird opera
- MPLF Volunteer reception
- PechaKucha, "Myth Busting"
- Library Legislation Day
- United We Stand at Central Library
- Supervisory Academy Reunion Art Show at Artisan Gallery
- Community Meal At Good Shepherd Church

#### **City Business**

- Dept/Division Head Meeting with Mayor
- Common Council
- Mayor's Management Team
- Meeting with Dept. of Civil Rights on library services to immigrants
- RESJI Strategic Planning committee (2)
- Mayor's Human Services Committee
- Meeting on Mayor's Retreat with Tom Mosgaller
- Mayor Retreat Prep meeting