

## Library Director Report February 2018

BP: Building Projects

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

EL: Early Literacy.

### **LIBRARY SITING AND ALLOCATION (BP) (CR)**

*Pinney Project:* WE HAVE A SIGNED PURCHASE AGREEMENT AND THE PERIOD OF DUE DILIGENCE IS OVER. RDC will need to pull their building permits by February 23, 2018 to avoid further delays toward construction but all that was required for that to happen was for RDC to pay their impact fees. RDC expects to break ground in early March.

OPN is finalizing its Design Development and will next begin the move to Construction Documents. During that time we will begin to finalize finishes.

*Reindahl Project:* I met with Alder Baldeh and the new Chief of Staff, Kwasi Obeng to familiarize Kwasi about the Reindahl project. It was great to learn that he had experience working with the Chicago Public Library on various projects and is very supportive of the work that libraries do in the community. We should be wrapping up our preparation for posting for the Urban Planner position very soon.

### **KNIGHT FOUNDATION LIBRARY DIRECTORS MEETING AND THE KNIGHT MEDIA FORUM (CR)**

I had the excellent opportunity to attend both of the meetings that brought together library, journalists, funders, and inspirational speakers.

Day 1 and Day 2, was spent with library leadership from around the country, various foundations that have worked on Knight funded library projects, and other Knight funded project leaders. The main objective of the program was centered on storytelling. John Trybus lead the group through various exercises to help us understand how to frame stories and how to develop an effective message through storytelling. John is from the Center for Social Impact and Innovation in Georgetown, and had the privilege to travel for 3 years with Jane Goodall, assisting on her tours and helping her share her message. There was also a panel discussion on how libraries and their foundations partner. (Francesca Rodriguez, from MPLF was on the panel and shared about our relationship here at MPL.) I was introduced to a couple of the current Knight funded projects that may be something that MPL will investigate as part of our services. In addition, I had the opportunity to visit with a representative from the MIT Media Lab, which may be able to partner with MPL on some of our work. I plan to follow up in the upcoming weeks to continue our conversation in that area.

The day ended with an evening showing of *The Post*, the current movie on the Washington Post's story of publishing the Pentagon Papers. The movie was followed by a panel discussion, including one of the attorneys that represented the New York Times at this pivotal time in newspaper reporting.

Day 3 and 4, The Media Forum has a large slate of various speakers and breakout groups on various topics, but there was an emphasis on fake news and trust in the press. Wisconsin's own, Charlie Sykes, was one of the panelists on the discussion of trust, media, and democracy. During the first breakout session, I was able to visit with Raney Aronson-Rath, executive producer of Frontline PBS. She presented on the use of Virtual Reality in creating news stories on a variety of topics including climate change. She had some questions about how to distribute their productions more effectively and so we discussed the possibility of how libraries might be an option.

The second breakout session I attended was by Craig Silverman of BuzzFeed, on *Battling Mis-Information: Fake News, Real News*. If you have any questions about the Russian trolling, or how all of those enticing stories about how 70's TV stars look today, he had the answers.

The final breakout session I attended was for a national program that started in Chicago and is now in 12 different cities across the US called *On the Table*. I see this program as having some potential here in Madison, at least at the library level for community conversations.

Other key speakers at the forum were:

Tim O'Reilly, who was the originator of the terms open source and Web 2.0, spoke on The Future and Why It's UP to Us.

Amy Webb, founder and CEO Future Today Institute

Bob Schieffer, Former CBS news anchor and host of "Face the Nation."

Jimmy Wales, co-founder of Wikipedia

### **MONROE ST. NEIGHBORHOOD LIBRARY HOURS**

I did forward a fact sheet to the Mayor and several Alders within and in the surrounding areas of Monroe St Library. I received one response back, from Alder Eskrich, who thanked me for the information.

### **LA FOLLETTE SCHOOL OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS (CR)**

I was recently interviewed by a group of students from the UW La Follette School of Public Affairs that were investigating the possibility of doing a class project based on a project from MPL. They were very enthusiastic about the work we are doing and they hope to take one of our projects and examine it from a management perspective. It looks like a win-win situation for their program and us.

#### **Business Meetings**

- Pinney Agreement meetings (several)
- MPL Foundation Board meeting
- MPLF and 2018 Budget Needs
- OPN design review meeting
- Meeting with LaFollette School of Public Affairs interview
- Meet with OPN on Pinney project (multiple times)
- Pinney Budget discussion
- OPN Finishes Update
- AnjiPlay partnership discussion

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

- Rove: Terrence Campagna & Tom Jones Opening Reception at Edgewood College
- Nightline at Central Library
- Farewell Party for Francesca Rodriguez
- Madison Public Library Foundation Thank You Luncheon for MPLF Volunteers
- Knight Foundation Library Directors Meeting and the Knight Media Forum

#### **City Business**

- Reindahl Project meeting with Alder Baldeh and Kwasi Obeng
- Dept/Division Head Meeting with Mayor
- Meeting with Tom Mosgaller
- Meeting with Enis Ragland
- Finance Committee
- Strategic Management Oversight Committee (SMOC)
- Municipal ID Committee
- Mayor's Management Team
- Mayor's Human Services Committee
- Line of Sight Committee meetings (SMOC) (Weekly)
- Human Resource Check-in Meeting
- RESJI Committee
- Human Services Committee
- NRT Retreat and Mayor's Placemaking Initiative