

Library Director Report May 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: The project continues to move forward. It is becoming more apparent with updates from RDC that we should not anticipate an earlier completion and that the given target of February 2019 will stand. With that in mind I will need to begin to explore our options for a possible lengthy gap between the expected occupancy balanced with a possible need to vacate our current building due to the anticipated development at that site.

Our primary project manager, Matt Gall, has taken another position within the city and will no longer be providing his oversight. Bryan Cooper who has been involved with the project will be taking over Matt's role at least for now.

Reindahl Project: The Urban Planner interviews have been scheduled and I hope to report our hire at the July board meeting.

Goodman South Madison Library Renovation: We have been finalizing the renovation plans for the Goodman South Madison Library. We recently brought back many of the youth who participated in the initial design discussions to review how their vision became reality with the designers. We also allowed them to submit their preference with a color palette and furniture designs. We hope to take those choices and determine our final budget so we can begin the remodel. It was also decided to use some of CIP maintenance funds to cover the cost of a completely new flooring system instead of just putting in new flooring in the remodel locations. All in all, it will totally renew the look of the space and how it will function better for the public and the staff.

MADISON REGION ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & DIVERSITY SUMMIT (CR)

This has been my third year to attend this summit and I continue to find great value in the reporting of the state of the WI economy and the presentation on the importance of diversity in the workforce. And as the name of the summit illustrates the two are not nor should they be separate issues. I will continue to seek continuous improvement for MPL in this area, as we reform our hiring and recruiting practices, and enhance the value of equity to our community and our organization. We have made advances in this area but we still have a long way to go. Programs like this conference will continue to provide that incentive to keep improvement on our radar.

MADISON GIVES (CR)

Madison Gives was the theme of the annual Madison Community Foundation celebration. With funding from the MPL Foundation, the Library was able to purchase a table and invite staff and community to share the accomplishments of being recognized by the Madison Community Foundation as one of their 12 special projects throughout the past year. It was quite an honor to be selected from over a 100 possible projects being considered. The funding from the MCF has allowed us to take Beyond the Bubbler an extension of our Making Spaces program to several community centers.

FATALITY AT CENTRAL LIBRARY

On May 6th at Central Library we experienced a fatality in our building due to an apparent overdose. As I reported to you at the time of the incident, our staff did all they could do to address this situation. I remain very proud of their actions during this very traumatic episode. This incident has renewed our discussions about whether the Library should have Narcan available for staff to administer as an additional option in addressing this form of emergency. We had a similar conversation over a year ago and it was decided at that time, not to have this option. I do have a meeting with City Legal and Risk Management on June 4th to receive their opinion. I have also sought input from other city departments about their position on the use of the drug by City staff, in addition to discussing the topic with our management team. From online discussions between other libraries there remain no consensus on the topic. Its use remains across the entire spectrum of options from not having Narcan available to having it available and mandating that all staff must receive

training in administering the drug. If we do arrive at the decision at MPL to have this option available, it has been made very clear by administration and management this will not be deployed without adequate training.

There was a follow-up article to this incident by Dylan Brogan in the Isthmus. He essentially asked me the same question we are currently trying to resolve, should the Library have Narcan available for staff to use in incidences like the one that occurred on May 6th.

<https://isthmus.com/news/news/overdose-incident-prompts-library-director-to-consider-stocking-narcan/>

PUERTO RICO VISIT (CR)

The Mayor of Tao Baja, Puerto Rico was visiting Madison in conjunction with a project to help with the recovery happening in Puerto Rico. Mayor Soglin paid a visit to Puerto Rico to develop the scope of the needs in this community and designed a tour of various city resources during their visit to Madison. The visit included a tour of Hawthorne Library and discussion about how libraries in Madison respond to the needs of the community. A major example that greatly impressed the Mayor was our community kitchen at Meadowridge Library. I had assistance from other MPL staff in conducting the tour. They included Krissy Wick, Jane Jorgenson, Supervisor of Hawthorne, and Yesianne Ramirez, a Library Assistant from Meadowridge Library. Yesianne is from Puerto Rico and still has family residing there. She did a fantastic job of communicating to the Mayor many of our services and programs and was able to make comparisons at times to Puerto Rico or how it could be applied in Puerto Rico. She did a stellar job and really impressed our visitors much more than we could have without her background and communication abilities. The group left with a very high regard for what we accomplish in Madison in our delivery of services.

STAFF NEWS (CR)

I cannot confirm at this time as I prepare this report but by the time of the June Board meeting I hope to be able to announce our hire for the Meadowridge Library Supervisor position. We had a tremendous response to this opportunity, and received applications from numerous states and other cities within WI as well as some internal candidates. We had excellent assistance from MPL staff in the vetting process as well as significant contribution from community members during the interview process. It was a lengthy process but an important one as we fill this vital component to our Meadowridge Library operations.

Business Meetings

- GSMB Renovation meeting
- Pinney Timetable Discussion
- Pinney Design presentation
- Rabble Conference Call
- Library Management Team
- Sunday Hours Discussion
- MEA Supervisor Interviews
- Library Planner Interviews
- Conference call with Andrew Chanse, Director of Spokane Library to discuss libraries in public park projects

City Business

- Dept/Division Head Meeting with Mayor
- Meeting with Tom Mosgaller
- Performance Excellence Leadership Team (Formerly SMOC)
- Mayor's Management Team
- Mayor's Human Services Committee
- Line of Sight Committee meetings (Weekly)
- Human Resource Check-in Meeting
- RESJI Committee

- Common Council presentation on Performance Excellence

Public/Media Appearance

- Alice Oakey's Retirement Party at Meadowridge Library
- Madison Spring Tech Kickoff
- Madison Region Economic Development & Diversity Summit
- Madison Gives, Madison Community Foundation Annual Dinner
- Latino Chamber of Commerce Enlace
- "Man dies at library from likely overdose: Incident prompts director to consider stocking the life-saving drug Narcan" Isthmus May 24, 2018
<https://isthmus.com/news/news/overdose-incident-prompts-library-director-to-consider-stocking-narcan/>
- Book Club Cafe
- Ed Van Gamert, Director of Memorial Library, Retirement Party
- City of Madison, Town Hall, Addiction, Hope and Recovery