

Library Director Report July 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 building is going well with a second story (aka our ceiling) already being built. We have toured a possible interim site that will work well to cover the gap in services. A letter of intent has been sent to the landlord, a tech plan has been developed, and we are waiting on an city inspection to give us an assessment of the space and the code requirements for our operations. At this point, we do not know how long of a transition period we will have to be closed to make the move from the existing Pinney Library to the interim site, but we are anticipating a minimum of 3 weeks.

Adjustments to the Pinney Project CIP: As I reported to the board at the June meeting, City Finance had removed the \$1.5M in-kind figure from the Pinney CIP budget. This did not change the total amount approved for the project since adjustments were made when the in-kind amount was removed. In addition, with the anticipated need for an interim location, an amendment was added to the budget. Basic breakout of the project budget:

REVENUE

9,210,000	CITY
<u>1,000,000</u>	PRIVATE
10,210,000	PREVIOUS PROJECT TOTAL
<u>550,000</u>	AMENDMENT
10,760,000	TOTAL

EXPENSES

4,800,000	CONSTRUCTION
760,000	PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
3,400,000	DEVELOPMENT & SOFT COSTS (includes purchase of gray box)
1,580,000	FFE
<u>220,000</u>	INTERIM COSTS
10,760,000	TOTAL

Reindahl Project: Although the hiring of a library planner was not exclusive to the Reindahl Project, it will be the first major project for this position. I am proud to announce that we have an accepted offer from Kevin Englebert. Kevin had been the principle planner for the city of Menasha. Most recently, he has been working for Johnson County, in Iowa City, IA while enrolled in the University of Iowa, Masters of Urban & Regional Planning program. He did share in his cover letter that despite being in the middle of his graduate program he saw this opportunity as a one of a kind and too good to not apply. That statement demonstrates the level of enthusiasm Kevin brought to the interview process and his

excitement about taking his extensive skill sets and applying them in a library setting. We are looking forward to his start in mid-August.

Goodman South Madison Library Renovation: We are in the process of securing bids for the materials and work to begin on the project. The closure dates may need to be adjusted depending on the availability of materials and labor.

HIP HOP ARCHITECTURE CAMP (CR)

Madison Public Library hosted its second Hip Hop Architecture camp with Michael Ford. It was again met by a group of very enthusiastic youth applying the principles of hip hop to the science and art of architecture. I continue to be amazed by the talent and the curiosity of the young people in the camp. This year the camp was visited by a representative group from the American Institute of Architects, who happened to be meeting in Madison at the same time as the camp. They were extremely interested in the camp and how it engaged the young people. In addition, I gave a brief tour of Central Library and addressed the entire group about MPL's current projects and how we collaborate on a number of projects like the Hip Hop Architecture camp to capitalize on the local expertise here in Madison. The AIA has a Workforce and Education division and their Senior Director was very interested in the work that MPL is doing within our school system. I did offer to assist him with their initial planning as they wanted to make similar connections.

Another highlight of the camp was a 10 year-old "Oprah", who completely dominated the microphone and made on the spot interviews of our visitors.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS AT MPL (CR)

We have so many special MPL programs that I rarely call out any particular programs. In this case I wanted to make an exception about three programs during July that reflects MPL's commitment to racial equity and creating a platform to share a perspective that might not otherwise have that opportunity in Madison.

The first was a one-woman performance at Goodman South Madison Library. *The Lynching* is a story of black struggle and the fight of a mother and daughter for justice. Jackie Walker, the author and performer was visiting Madison from the UK. She contacted the library and offered to share her performance with the community. You can learn more about the project here:

<https://www.madisonpubliclibrary.org/events/lynching-jackie-walkers-one-woman-show-1191206>

The second program was the Wisconsin Film Festival Pop Up: *THE BLOOD IS AT THE DOORSTEP*.* Synopsis of the film: On April 30, 2014, Dontre Hamilton, a black, unarmed man diagnosed with schizophrenia, was shot 14 times and killed by a Milwaukee police officer responding to a non-emergency wellness check in a popular downtown park.

Filmed over the course of three years in the direct aftermath of Dontre's death, this intimate verite documentary follows his family as they struggle to find answers and challenge a criminal justice system stacked against them. Offering a painfully realistic glimpse inside a movement born out of tragedy, this explosive documentary takes a behind the scenes look at one of America's most pressing social issues.

The film was followed by a panel discussion with Maria Hamilton, mother of Dontre, Nate Hamilton, brother of Dontre, WI State Representative Chris Taylor, WI State Senator LaTonya Johnson, and Wisconsin Film Festival Outreach & Community Engagement Manager Ben Reiser.

* This event was offered in partnership with the Wisconsin Film Festival and was funded by a generous grant from the Madison Public Library Foundation.

The third program was *Like an Animal in a Cage: Voices from Solitary Confinement***, a performance that featured the words of men and women locked in solitary confinement. It included being able to meet and talk with survivors of solitary confinement, and a discussion on what is needed to put an end to the overuse of solitary confinement in our jails and prisons.

**This event was co-hosted by Madison Organizing in Strength, Equality, and Solidarity (MOSES), WISDOM Solitary Confinement Task Force, EX-Incarcerated People Organizing (EXPO), and the Madison Public Library.

STAFF NEWS (CR)

Annie Weatherby-Flowers, our Community Engagement Coordinator, is featured in the July 2018 issue of Brava magazine. The article "Making an Impact: Women who thrive by lifting others up" features Annie's background and her many contributions including her most recent position with MPL. Follow this link and scroll to page 31 to read the article: https://bravamagazine.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/BRAVA_LR_July18.pdf

FAREWELL AND BEST WISHES

Although we knew that this day was going to come, it is still difficult to have to say goodbye to Theresa Bengtson, MPL's accountant. Theresa came to us from Australia when her husband entered a PhD program at UW. She brought a tremendous amount of experience and kept us moving forward in our transition to MUNIS. She made an immediate hit with her monthly narrative reports to the Library Board, and she was indispensable to me in providing clear and concise reports on our budget. She has an uncanny skill to be able to make a complex set of numbers make sense in order for us to focus on making sure we have the appropriate resources. One of her most valuable assets to MPL was her passion and understanding of the importance of what public libraries mean to our community. Her dedication to this was always evident. And she could always do it with a witty Australian expression. Theresa's last day will be August 8, 2018. I wish her well on her new journey and offer her my sincerest thanks for her many contributions. Hooroo, Theresa. You will be missed.

Business Meetings

- GSMB Renovation meeting
- Pinney Timetable Discussion
- Fitness and Reading Program with Aaron Perry
- Pinney Interim Site meeting
- Budget Review
- Library Planner Interviews
- Library Management Team
- Pinney Interim Site walk through
- Meeting with Alder Ahrens on Pinney Project
- SCLS Director's Meeting
- Meeting with Milwaukee PL Director
- Meeting with SCLS Director
- Meeting with Gregg McManners
- Pinney Interim Space planning

- PLSR Strategy meeting
- Meeting with Terrance Newell and Foundation director
- Tour of MMB project

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

Public/Media Appearance

- The Lynching @ Goodman South Madison Library
- WestFest @ Elver Park
- The Blood is at The Doorstep, movie and panel discussion
- Opera in the Park
- One City Schools presentation @ Mt Zion Baptist Church
- Like an Animal in a Cage: Voices from Solitary Confinement