

Library Director Report May 2019

BP: Building Projects

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

EL: Early Literacy.

LIBRARY SITING AND ALLOCATION (BP) (CR) (EL)

Pinney Project:

Construction on the gray box is underway. At this point it is focused on the mechanical and plumbing portions of the build. The site has been made available for periodical tours presented by the MPL Foundation.

Imagination Center at Reindahl Park:

Cortico has agreed to allow us to use the Local Voices Network technology to capture some of the community conversations we have been having to inform our project. Cortico has still not completely resolved how to handle the recording of minors, so for now they have asked us to refrain from using their technology for this purpose.

Goodman South Madison Library Renovation:

The May 28th Celebration of the Renovation was a success. Mayor Satya spoke to the crowd and had very kind and appreciative words for the work being done at GSMB. Special thanks to the library board members who were able to attend. The project was directed by Mark Benno and his staff, plus the entire GSMB staff all pitched in to help coordinate and work around the project so we could remain open during the renovation. Ching did a terrific job of providing tours to the Mayor, donors, and the general public.

STAFF RECOGNITION (CR)

Annie Weatherby-Flowers, our Community Engagement Coordinator, is being recognized as one of the 2019 YWCA Women of Distinction.

The theme of this year's event is legacy, YWCA Madison CEO Vanessa McDowell said in a press release.

"We have built a rich legacy of Women of Distinction over these 45 years and want to honor that ... Legacy is about passing the baton to the next generation. We hope to continue to inspire the next generation with those generations that have come before."

We are very proud of the work that Annie has been able to accomplish at MPL, but this recognition reflects an entire career of engagement on so many different levels of giving back to the communities where she has lived and worked. Annie has definitely created a legacy that will continue to inspire future generations.

THE GAMBIA LIBRARY PROJECT (BP) (CR)

I have been meeting with the representatives of Madison's city sister Kanifing, The Gambia about the planning and build of a public library in Kanifing. We have developed sufficient scope of the project that we can begin to seek funding for the project. Kanifing will provide the land but the other costs associated with the library will be raised privately.



1st INTERNATIONAL TRUE PLAY CONFERENCE (CR) (EL)

I was joined by Carissa Christner, YS Librarian at Ashman, and Holly Storck-Post, YS Librarian at Pinney to attend the 1st International True Play Conference in Anji, China. The conference featured presentations by many renowned experts in early childhood education, and several of the practitioners of the Anji Play methodology of true play, including Carissa, who gave one of the best presentations at the conference on MPL's Wild Rumpus. In recognition of the Wild Rumpus program, MPL received two plaques from the conference.



The conference included many school visits to see Anji Play in action. It was particularly interesting to see so many children attending school on Sunday just for the conference attendees. And it was definitely pure joy to see the little children being so engaged and having so much fun playing and then later reflecting on what they had done during the play sessions.

We are currently working on a short presentation on our conference experience that we will bring back to the Library Board at a future meeting.

I was part of a formal acceptance of a scroll that passed the conference to the next host site for the 2020 2nd International True Play Conference in Madison, WI. The conference is expected to draw a larger crowd due to interest in the United States by several institutions that could not travel to China. Also pictured are members of One City School from Madison, WI.

Business Meetings

- Meeting with Alder Foster
- Meetings on The Gambia library project

City Business

- Dept/Division Head Meeting with Mayor
- Performance Excellence Leadership Team
- Mayor's Management Team
- Line of Sight Committee meetings (monthly)

Public/Media Appearance

- Pinney Public Art Presentation for inside work
- Congressional Art Competition reception with Rep. Pocan
- Pinney Public Art Presentation for outdoor work
- Goodman South Madison Library Renovation Celebration
- Interview with Christine Becker of ULC on AI
- Wisconsin Book Festival David Maraniss
- YWCA Women of Distinction Luncheon
- Screening of *No Small Matter* at Barrymore