

LIBRARY DIRECTOR REPORT

Submitted by: Angela Zimmermann, Library Director

1. 2017 BUDGET

I reported back in June that the Bridges Library System would be reimbursing us for five new hotspots and one year of data for each. The grand total for this was \$660 and was received at the end of last month. It is reflected then in this month's financials. We also we're given the 'ok' from the Rotary Club to purchase another new 3D printer and the reimbursement for this is also reflected in this month's financials. Otherwise, 2017's budget is at a spending of 86.7%. There will be a savings in the salaries and wages line item. Keep in mind though, that for the salaries and wages, social security, retirement, and health line items this reflects financials received only through the end of November.

2. BUILDING AND GROUNDS

The Buildings and Grounds Committee met on December 14th to discuss security for the building going forward. I will be working with Mark Penzkover, chairperson of the committee, to work on a formal RFP to carry the project forward. Also discussed at the meeting was the status of the LED project. The Focus on Energy incentives were submitted as of November 22nd. I do not have the final total yet, but it does take a little over a month to receive the check. This will go back into the Gollmar Fund held at WCCF. Roman Electric is also replacing lights around the staff exit and entrance area (part of the original quote) as the new LED lights are quite dark.

3. CIRCULATION AND PROGRAMMING

Circulation was 24,758 in November, up 3.3% from 23,967 in 2016 with the whole year being ahead by 2%. 82 new library cards were added in November which was a 54.7% increase from last year.

The month of November saw 18 adult programs with particular interest being with the presentation by the Pabst Mansion and presentations held by Aurora Medical Center. Overall, programs were a little bit 'slower' during November because of the preparation for the grand opening of MetaSpace 511 (November 7th) and the immediate work that followed with the room. Roughly 125 people came to the Chamber of Commerce Business after Five at the library in November and for the opening of MetaSpace 511. The following day, we had 53 people return to use the space!

There were 29 children's programs in November with Wednesday's storytimes being led by local 'celebrities'. Kohl's Wild Theater visited in November, as well as The Science Alliance. There were also 24 outreach visits conducted by the Youth Services Department throughout the month of November. The teens saw a total of 6 programs, the galaxy painting being one of the most popular. The Teen Library Council is also busy working on a cultural showcase for February 10th, so they are meeting quite frequently (almost every week!).

MetaSpace 511 saw a plethora of programming from a 3D printing program teaching you to convert your photos to 3D print, LED origami, virtual reality, coding, etc. We also had the company Bricks 4 Kidz come in and conduct a program in which attendees could learn about building and robotics. Beginning in 2018, the board will begin to receive a separate statistical sheet within the packet detailing all of the various initiatives taking place in MetaSpace 511.

For further details on any of the aforementioned statistics and figures, please reference the charts immediately following this report.

4. CONTINUED SYSTEM INVOLVEMENT / AUTOMATION

The upgrade to the 100mbps bandwidth took place on the 12th of December. It was not a smooth process (to say the least) because of a misbehaving router, but the job is complete and we are on the new circuit!

It was also reported at APL this past Friday (the 15th) that e-commerce is finally happening! Bridges staff will be trained on the backend software and it's been discovered that the ability to make web payments has been live since last Thursday when the testing took place. In order for someone to make a web payment they must owe more than \$5 (minimum payment is \$5) and there is a \$.50 convenience fee. If a person owes more than \$5, they will find under fines and fees in their account a link to pay fines now. We were informed however to not promote this feature until the new year so as to monitor how its working and report any misbehaviors or issues. If people do find it online, they can use it.

5. FRIENDS OF MCL

The Friends hosted the cookie sale, beverage sale, and face painting during Midnight Magic on December 2nd, while the Library hosted the ornament making and a storytime around the Christmas tree. By 11:00 a.m. on Midnight Magic, they were already taking down tables and by 4:00 p.m., it was shut down! They raised \$1,686.66.

I attended with two of the Friends members on December 15th the finale for the Heart of Canal Street grant at Potawatomi Casino, as they were one of the random charities chosen in SE Wisconsin to receive a portion of the final amount raised. The amount that will be received to be used for the children's department will be \$35,255.

6. MEETINGS

November really could be nicknamed and go down in history as "The Month of MetaSpace 511". We all were quite occupied the entire time with ensuring we were set for November 7th when we hosted the Chamber of Commerce's monthly Business after Five. Since then, it's really been focused around the ins-and-outs of the MetaSpace 511 policy, agreement forms, programs, and people actually wanting to use the space now!

One meeting that I did have at the end of the month in November and is worth mentioning, was a meeting with Angela Meyers (Coordinator of Youth and Special Needs Services at Bridges Library System), representatives from the Alzheimer's Association, and the library directors of Eagle, Palmyra, and Big Bend to hopefully start a Memory Café. We are hoping by fall of 2018 this will come into play considering the training and schedules that have to be set-up.

7. METASPACE 511

Overall, the feedback that has been received on this project and room, has been phenomenal. From the use of the Memory Lab to 3D printing to robotics and coding. I think it's been a thrill for the staff to be able to share with patrons what all can be done in this room and the endless possibilities. There is SOOO much to share about this room that you'll just have to wait in sheer excitement until Thursday, because it's far too much to type. 😊

8. OPERATIONS

MCL is now circulating GoPro HERO Session 5 cameras and ukuleles! Also, we held a month long puzzle exchange and it was wildly popular with the patrons, so we will plan another for late winter / early spring.

9. UPCOMING EVENTS!!! (Before the next MCL Board Meeting)

Please keep in mind that MetaSpace 511 is now a separate category so the Board may gauge how the room is being used, so if a section looks sparse, be sure to check what's going on in MetaSpace 511.

Adults

Every Friday at 2:00 p.m.: *Friday Flicks*

Tuesday, January 2nd at 2:00 p.m.: *Bingo! For Adults*

Tuesday, January 2nd at 6:00 p.m.: *Bluegrass Jams*

Monday, January 15th at 6:00 p.m.: *'The Great War': Anti-German Hysteria and Conflict on the Home Front*

Beginning in January: *We will be beginning a donuts and documentary series.*

Children

Every Tuesday at 9:30 a.m.: *Shake, Rattle & Roll*

Every Wednesday at 10:00 a.m.: *Preschool Storytime*

Every Thursday at 10:00 a.m.: *Lapsit Storytime*

Every Friday at 10:00 a.m.: *Sensory Storytime (i.e. Budding Builders, Crazy for Crafts, Play with Words, etc.)*

Various days throughout the week with our four therapy dogs for *Paws to Read*

Tuesday, December 26th at 2:00 p.m.: *Family Film: Nut Job 2*

Friday, December 29th at 11:00 a.m.: *Happy Noon Year!*

Saturday, January 6th at 11:00 a.m.: *Teddy Bear Tea Party*

Monday, January 8th at 6:00 p.m.: *Family Film Night: Despicable Me 3*

Teens

Monday, January 8th and 22nd: *Teen Library Council*

Thursday, January 11th: *3D Snowflakes*

MetaSpace 511

Wednesday, December 27th from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.: *Slime Fest*

Various Date for *Experiencing Virtual Reality*

Wednesday, January 10th at 4:00 p.m.: *Drop-In Open Tech Time in MetaSpace 511*

Thursday, January 11th at 6:00 p.m.: *Basics of Sewing*

Monday, January 15th at 4:30 p.m.: *Code Your World*

Tuesday, January 16th at 2:00 p.m.: *Teen Tech Tutoring*

Wednesday, January 17th at 2:00 p.m.: *Kids Making Movies*

Wednesday, January 17th at 3:30 p.m.: *Girls Who Code Interest Group*

Wednesday, January 17th at 4:00 p.m.: *STEAM-tastic Wednesdays: Popsicle Stick Snowman*

Thursday, January 18th at 2:00 p.m.: *Adult Coloring*