

LIBRARY DIRECTOR REPORT

Submitted by Angela Zimmermann, Library Director

March 2020

BUDGET

We are on track of spending the 2020 budget at 17%. There are no expenses or line items that need to be called to attention at this point. There are some remaining expenses from the Cultural Showcase that can be found in the Donation Expenditures (5806) but these again, were funded by individual donations to the event.

BUILDING AND GROUNDS

Engberg Anderson will be with again this evening for the final presentation of the facilities/space needs study. From what I understand and what was conveyed to the Board in February, this will be their FINAL visit to MCL. We recently had a roofing leak within the children's area juvenile fiction section. You'll see the invoice from Waukesha Roofing within the invoice list as the Department of Public Works stated they were not able to fix it themselves. Waukesha Roofing stated the holes in the patches of the roof were caused by someone using the incorrect shovel whilst tackling the ice on the roof.

CIRCULATION AND PROGRAMMING

Circulation was 24,680 in February 2020, up 2.1 % from 24,181 in February of 2019. For the year, we are up 3.1%. There was a 200% increase in the use of the Memory Lab and MetaSpace 511. This is individual use of those areas and NOT library-led programs. As I most always report, I'm always elated when I see such a boost in the use of MetaSpace 511 and the Memory Lab in this manner. We also saw a nice increase in new library cards added during the month of February. Our Library Lovers' Raffle also saw 374 participants. The raffle encouraged patrons to check out five or more items to enter to win a book lovers' basket or a movie night basket. During the month of February, we held 111 programs with more than 4,100 attendees to these programs. Events like the Cultural Showcase brought more than 1,200 attendees and the Frozen party around 400 people. More than 13,200 people came through MCL's doors during the month of February. This is truly something that I feel the staff and Board should feel quite proud of. Aside from programs, engaging ways in which we are trying to connect with our patrons: book displays highlighting Women's History Month (March), displays highlighting and providing information on the 2020 census, providing updated book lists via NPR, New York Times, and Booklist, interactive white boards prompting patrons to respond to questions such as 'In what areas do you feel MCL could improve' or 'What resources/programs would you like to see MCL offer?'

For further details on any of the aforementioned statistics and figures, please reference the charts immediately following this report. As always, for a complete list of events, it's best to

check our Events calendar on our website! (March slows down quite a bit as compared to February!)

CONTINUED SYSTEM INVOLVEMENT / AUTOMATION

Jill Fuller, Coordinator of Marketing and Communications with Bridges Library System, is making routine visits to all of the libraries to discuss their marketing needs. Myself and Adult Services Librarian, Chris Stape will be meeting with Jill within the coming month to discuss marketing priorities/strategies, challenges and successes we've had at MCL, and a discussion on where the system fits in and how they can help as we go forward. The next APL (Bridges Library System directors) meeting will be on Friday, March 13th with a lunch for Connie Meyer's retirement to follow. There will also be one final celebration the evening of the 13th in Connie Meyer's honor. Hoopla is scheduled to go live April 1st. We'll be receiving necessary marketing materials from the system in mid-March.

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

The Friends of the Library will be having their Pi Day Sale one day early as March 14th is the Winter Farmers' Market. Consequently, the Friends have been given the Community Room the entire day of Friday, the 13th for the drop-off of the pies and the actual sale. All proceeds will benefit the library. I've also worked with them to set-up a weekend for the Annual Rummage Sale which will be held this year in September (typically was held in July but there are simply too many issues from the library's end because of the Summer Library Program).

MEETINGS/OUTREACH

MCL was in attendance at the Elkhorn Mini Maker Faire this year (same weekend as the Cultural Showcase). Many compliments on MetaSpace 511 were received as well as many questions in regards to our equipment and service. The Elkhorn Mini Maker Faire was obviously not as big as the Milwaukee Maker Faire but we still felt it was important and worthwhile that we were there. I presented before the Village Board on February 19th and provided them with an overview of the library (most recent statistics as well as 2019 end of year statistics, programs, shared library stories, etc.) and presented the latest 3D renderings and plan of the facilities study and answered any questions/concerns.

February 25th – 29th I attended the Public Library Association Conference in Nashville. A brief synopsis of sessions attended immediately follows this report.

I met with Anna Mack, the Library Media Specialist at Prairie View Elementary School to discuss ways in which MCL and the school can collaborate. We discussed options such as bussing the children over to MCL on a specific day (starting the next school year) and the students would work on a specific community project (reading to seniors, reading to younger kids, helping seniors with tech, etc.) and initiatives such as letting teachers know the specific resources we have at the public library for them. Adult Services Librarian, Chris and I have been working on a partnership with the Department of Workforce Development. This would be a wonderful opportunity (and the first library within Waukesha County to do so) as people that are impacted

with tough times usually turn to their public library for assistance. The library and DWD will provide no-fee services of individual topic matters to educate, coach and provide job seekers, unemployment insurance claimants, and businesses with employment strategies.

Youth Services Librarian, Jane and Youth Services Assistant, Michelle continue their weekly visits to the schools and daycares. Both were also part of the Clarendon Avenue Elementary One Book, One School initiative. Technology Supervisor, Craig and I have been invited and will be in attendance for the IT Academy Employability Workshop on Wednesday, March 11th. I'll be speaking with ProHealth Care soon (Ashley Rome, Education Specialist) to hopefully setup a partnership with them to create a new Senior Breakfast Club in Mukwonago and hosted at MCL.

I and several of the department heads will be attending a webinar about how libraries should respond to the coronavirus and other pandemics.