

TRUSTEES MEETING

TUESDAY, AUGUST 19, 2014

REPORT PRESENTED BY MARGARET MORRISSEY, DIRECTOR

Technology

The Envisionware time and print management software was upgraded. A system wide update was conducted during the month and 10 new computers and a server were installed.

Building/Capital Projects

A L Purinton has been here to work on the exterior door lock, Children's Room door closer mechanism and to install a new plunger in the janitorial office lock. The DPW worked on the landscaping: trimming shrubs, removing weeds, tidying the flower beds etc and the facility looks sharp as a result!

Collections

The evaluation of the collection continues – Science Fiction and Fantasy just completed. Evaluation of the Paperbacks section continues.

Children's Department

- *Lego Club* attendance is growing. Introducing themes for each meeting has improved the experience for the participants. More books are on order that support the Lego theme to provide additional stimulation for the young builders.
- *Animal World Experience* sponsored by a grant from the Southbridge Cultural Council, with a number of exotic animals, including a chinchilla, a giant frog, a cockroach, and my favorite, Hammy the hedgehog. 114 people attended, making it a busy night in the Children's Room! Audience members were given the opportunity to pet and feed many of the animals, and at the end of the program everybody who was interested was able to hold the snake.
- *Jungle Jim* 52 people really enjoyed *Jungle Jim's* high energy, science-based presentation using balloons.
- *Craft programs* - one with the YMCA Daycare kids who did a free form craft. They were supplied with computer packaging (recycled from our recent purchase), markers, tissue paper, and other crafting supplies, and used their imaginations to make castles, swimming pools and dogs. The Tiki Mask craft was also very popular; 45 people participated. The weekly drop-in craft continues to be popular.
- The Southbridge Cultural Council sponsored the program with Mary Jo Maichack, a minstrel and storyteller.
- On Tuesday thanks to funding from Project Bread/Southbridge School District we had a presentation of reptiles by the Ecotarium that attracted over sixty participants.
- Our special visitor was Charlie from the organization *American Poodles at Work*. It was a great educational program about training service dogs, and it was targeted towards older children. Sponsored by the Borgatti Fund.

Programs

- Dr. Jean Borgatti presented a lecture titled “*Anonymous Doesn’t Live Here Anymore: African Artists Past & Present*” on Thursday, August 7th at 6:30 p.m.
- Greg Page of Merrimack Analysis Group and colleague Ed Bayiates returned to present a discussion on “*Big Data*” and how companies are using your digital footprint. The audience was very involved in the discussion of consequences this trend has on consumer privacy vs. benefits offered.
- As part of a state-wide initiative, we hosted one leg of the multi-library teen book discussion group, “*The Perks of Being a Wandering Book Club.*” Pizza and snacks were offered for this discussion of Neil Gaiman’s *The Graveyard Book*, and despite the wide promotion the event received, no teens attended this event.
- Adam & Ben Piche offered a chess program for teens and tweens, which was coordinated with a group from the YMCA.
- The September artist, Mario Quiroz-Servellón was here to take some photographs for inclusion of his exhibit *Aging Minorities in Massachusetts*.
- Poet Jared Demick presented a well-attended reading of poems from his recently published *The Hunger in Our Eyes* on Thursday, 7/24 and presented a signed complimentary copy to the library.
- CJ Music performed “Give My Regards to Broadway” as part of the 100th Anniversary Celebration, to a full house on Thursday, July 17th. Coverage received in the *Southbridge Evening News*.

Summer Reading

Summer reading ended on August 14, 2014. Prizes have been drawn and there was a lot of fun at the annual pizza party for those who completed the program, on the 15th.

Project Bread

Project Bread food service finished on Friday August 15th, completing our fourth year participating. Thanks to all the folks at the School Food Service Department for their cooperation and to the Students and Job Coach at Southern Worcester County Educational Collaborative for staffing the service.

Media and Social Media

Staff from the Southbridge Cable TV station taped the Dr. Jean Borgatti lecture titled “*Anonymous Doesn’t Live Here Anymore: African Artists Past & Present*”. The Southbridge Evening News has moved to being a weekly paper. As we were always featured regularly in the daily (Monday through Friday) edition, we are waiting to see how the week’s news will be condensed and the effect this will have on coverage of the JEL programs.

Meetings/Outreach

I attended the WRTA Steering Committee in Worcester. Met with area directors to discuss topics of mutual interest. Central MA Tobacco Free Community Partnership exhibited a series of four posters for a two-week period.

Fiscal Year

Working on the ARIS (Annual Research Information Survey) for the MA Board of Library Commissioners

FOJEL

The figure submitted by the FOJEL President Barbara Day for current membership is 144 members

Gifts

Following a meeting with the Aldrich Society to discuss providing a telescope to the library that can be loaned to patrons, the Southbridge Rotary Club has generously agreed to purchase the equipment. Training will be provided by the Aldrich Society. The project will get off the ground in the fall.

Grants

Thanks to grants from the Southbridge Cultural Council, the Olive I. and Anthony A. Borgatti Fund at the Greater Worcester Foundation and the 100th Anniversary Celebration fund by JEL Board of Trustee to sponsor such a wide range of programs

Research

The quest for a photograph of Dr. Maximilienne Tétrault has been successful. Through assistance from Mary Puracchio contact has been made with a family member who had a photograph. This reserved member of Southbridge community will take her place in the annals of the Franco American biographical dictionary that is currently being researched.

Staff

Interviews were conducted this week for the position of Library Aide, as Brett French has taken a position at the A J Petro Swimming Pool. The position of Library Page to replace Matt Mrazik who will be attending school at the Massachusetts Academy at WPI and will not be available to work., has been posted.

Town Manager

Town Manager, Kevin Paicos toured the facility and discussed services. The library now has one swimming pool pass compliments of the Recreation Department where one family may obtain free admission to the facility on Randolph Street.

Trustees Appointments

Dick Whitney was re-appointed to position on the Board of Trustees.

Volunteers/Tax Abatement

The six participants are working on projects and have completed approximately half of the hours in the program.

Centennial Events

During the month of July there were many events presented by the Trustees 100th Anniversary Celebration banner. There was a lot of engagement in the *Big Data* program presented by Merrimack Analytics. We are hoping to build a series of programs on the technology topic throughout the year.

Month of August Exhibit	Carolyn Bessette of Blue Bubble Quilts will display her work	During Library Open Hours	Main Hall
Tuesday 19,26	Knitting with Sonya	10:30 p.m. – 12:30 p.m.	Reading Room
Tuesday 19	Chess for Tweens and Teens with the YMCA	10 a.m. – noon	Main Hall
Wednesday 20,27	Crafty Wednesdays	drop-in all day	Children's Room
Wednesday 20,27	Super Kids	10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	Children's Room
Thursday 21	Concert with duo Oakes and Smith*	6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.	Reading Room
Thursday 28	MBLC Trustee Orientation	6 p.m. – 8 p.m.	Pioppi Room
Thursday 28	Concert with composer Michael Caprera*	6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.	Reading Room
Friday 22,29	Baby Time	10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	Craft Room

Month of September Exhibit	<i>Aging Minority in Massachusetts</i> with documentary photographer Mario Quiroz-Servellón	During Library Open Hours	Main Hall
Monday 8	Book Club	6:30 p.m.	Reading Room
Monday 15	FOJEL Meeting	6 p.m.	Mills Room
Monday 8,15,22,29	PJ Story Time	6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.	Children's Room
Tuesday 2,9,16,23,30	Knitting with Sonya	10:30 p.m. – 12:30 p.m.	Reading Room
Wednesday 3,10,17,24	Crafty Wednesdays	drop-in all day	Children's Room
Wednesday 3,10,17,24	Super Kids	10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	Children's Room
Thursday 4	Reception for Mario Quiroz-Servellón	6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.	Reading Room
Thursday 11	Library Box Office: <i>Entre Nos</i> (Spanish w/English subtitles)	6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.	Main Hall
Thursday 18	<i>Fascinating Rhythm</i> with Cornel Coley*	6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.	Reading Room
Thursday 25	<i>An Evening of Flamenco</i> with	6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.	Reading Room

	Edmy Ortiz, Roberto Rios and Students of Flamenco Worcester – JEL 100th		
Friday 5,12,19,26	Baby Time	10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	Craft Room
Monday 1	Library Closed in honor of Labor Day		

*sponsored by the Southbridge Cultural Council