

TRUSTEES MEETING

TUESDAY, MARCH 24, 2012

REPORT PRESENTED BY MARGARET MORRISSEY, DIRECTOR

Technology

A sixty month lease has been signed with Ikon print management company for copier/printer/scanner. Ashley met with the representative from Britannica and was given an overview of new resources now available online.

Building

Graffiti found in men's bathroom, within a month of the DPW painting the first floor facilities. Police documented the four instances of vandalism. Susan Babb Youth Consultant at MLS visited and talked to the Children's Librarian about some ideas for the space in the Children's Room. The children's collection is being re-arranged to be more accessible and engaging to the target audience. I talked with Susan and Rosemary Weltos, the MBLC building consultant. The libraries that are being suggested as places with well appointed Children's Rooms are: Cambridge and Wilmington.

Policies

Unattended Child Policy – staff still working on a draft to present to the board.

Budget

Thank you to the Chairwoman of the Trustees for attending the Education and Human Services Sub Committee meeting. There was no discussion on the Library budget and it was recommended to Town Council. The FY13 budget reflects a 2.41% increase.

Library Programs

The Southbridge Cultural Council will be funding eleven programs that will be held at Jacob Edwards Library this year. The Monday night story program is proving to be very popular – kids have the option of dressing in their pajamas! I was guest reader at the children's program for St. Patrick's day.

Fourth Grade students of Lori Primavera of Trinity Catholic Academy visited to have an overview of the digital library and other resources. The students are beginning a large research project on states and really enjoyed learning about the databases and to see how easy it was not only to look up their state, but also how easy it is to cite references.

April is a very busy month when we celebrate National Library Week, Jazz History, and National Poetry Month. As there is school vacation and some early release days, there were lots of diverse programs offered throughout the month that had the teens, tweens and kids as a target audience. Programs included chess, craft, recycling instruction, as well as movie screenings to name but a few. Once again

this year, the Jacob Edwards Library participated in *Library Snap Shot Day* and posted photographs on the MLS Flickr account.

Outreach

Staff is already scheduling school visits and preparing the summer reading materials. We have been meeting with Sarah Jordan of the ELL Department . The YMCA Daycare has a wonderfully creative art show on display again at JEL (second year) in celebration of the Week of the Child. The ELL Department and the Family Liaisons have assisted in translating and distributing the flyers for vacation week throughout the schools.

Digitization

A complete collection of the Southbridge High School yearbooks has been gathered and sent to Boston Public Library for scanning (LSTA Grant). The gaps in the JEL collection were closed due to the phenomenal efforts of Helen Santilli and Martha Fearing of the HMM Auxiliary and Ronald and Jackie Varin. David Stevens assisted in the collecting of some of the Notre Dame and St. Mary's yearbooks. The Southbridge Evening News covered this story.

Staff

Staff member has returned to work part-time from sick leave.

Meetings

I attended the following board meetings: Digital Commonwealth, Literacy Volunteers and the monthly get together of area library directors to discuss areas of mutual interest. Within the past month, I have participated in the Strategic Planning for the Massachusetts Library System and the C/WMARS network. Attended the quarterly CHNA5 (Community Health Network Area5) meeting and met with 25 agency representatives in Central MA area. I met with two members of ASPIRA to discuss grant writing and funding and followed up with some materials. The MA Board of Library Commissioners offered a webinar on Creating Reports that I attended. Assisted the Optical Heritage Museum with access to historical publications.

Donations/Grants

Edward and Irene Desrosiers donated \$100. The library successfully applied for a grant to obtain 27 oversized art books. Thanks to Ed Acly for providing some colorful pansies and planting the window boxes and urns on Main Street.

Sort To Light

The library staff and volunteers have worked steadily on the barcode duplication project, for the past two months. The machine has had to be returned to the MLS. It is hoped to finish the project when we have access to the machine the next time.

Friends of Jacob Edwards Library

The Friends of JEL conducted a book sale March 22-24. Sales were down, in spite of the efforts to offer bargains. The Annual Meeting of FOJEL took place on April 23rd with only four people in attendance. The officers are President: Barbara Day, Vice President: Anja Bull, Secretary: Laura Tomasko and Treasurer: Vivian Deslisle. Membership drive will be a priority in the coming year.