

Director's Report to the Board of Agents

Silas Bronson Library

May 24, 2016

Raechel Guest, Director

FY17 Budget

We are still in the process of preparing our operating budget for the upcoming fiscal year. We do not yet know if the proposed municipal appropriation will be cut, although the latest update indicates there may be a reduction of \$50,000. The Board of Aldermen adopts the City's budget on June 10; the Mayor has until June 13 to veto their budget; and the Aldermen have the option of voting to overturn the veto by June 16. Once we know the final figures for our municipal appropriation, we will be able to finalize our total operating budget.

Circulation Division

February Statistical Reports: Main Library

Total Collection Size: 249,688

Total Items Circulated: 10,520

Total Circulation In-House: 99

Total Circulated at Other Libraries: 897

Total Circulated from Other Libraries: 410

Total Active Patrons: 13,196

Total Expired Patrons: 16,129

February Statistical Reports: Bunker Hill

Total Collection Size: 13,330

Total Items Circulated: 727

Total Circulated at Other Libraries: 101

Total Circulated from Other Libraries: 275

Total Active Patrons: 467

Total Expired Patrons: 531

February Statistical Reports: Museum Passes

EverWonder Children's Museum: 1

Imagine Nation: 2

Mystic Aquarium: 1

Peabody Museum: 1

Wadsworth Atheneum: 1

March Statistical Reports: Main Library

Total Collection Size: 249,896
Total Items Circulated: 10,980
Total Circulation In-House: 81
Total Circulated at Other Libraries: 952
Total Circulated from Other Libraries: 307

Total Active Patrons: 13,216
Total Expired Patrons: 16,037

March Statistical Reports: Bunker Hill

Total Collection Size: 13,344
Total Items Circulated: 856
Total Circulation In-House: 8
Total Circulated at Other Libraries: 74
Total Circulated from Other Libraries: 261

Total Active Patrons: 469
Total Expired Patrons: 532

March Statistical Reports: Museum Passes

Imagine Nation: 1
Mattatuck Museum: 3
Peabody Museum: 2

Online Presence

We are steadily increasing the number of page likes for our Facebook account; as of today, we are at 374 page likes. The Google Analytics for our website reports 1,794 users and 6,173 page views for the past month. Other than the homepage, the page for our museum pass information was the most visited during that period with 247 views, most likely reflecting the impact of our new museum pass brochure.

Publicity

Our regular column in the *Waterbury Observer* continues; this month's issue features a history of the branch libraries. The Waterbury Chamber continues to list our events as part of their monthly full-page insert in the *Republican-American*. I am working with our program-planning staff to develop a new approach to promoting our events starting this fall.

Exterior Improvements

Volunteers from UNICO have refinished the benches on the patio. The removal of the shrubs along the rear entrance, and the subsequent planting of new grass, has been well-received. Members of the public have commented on how open and inviting it now appears.

Professional Development

I attended the Connecticut Library Association's annual conference in April. Over the course of two days, I went to workshops focused on current trends and best practices for public libraries. I came away with some fantastic ideas for how we can improve on the services we offer, reach more people, energize the staff, and make significant contributions to Waterbury's quality of life. Tomorrow, I will be attending workshops hosted by the Connecticut Library Consortium on Managing Change In Your Library and Assessing & Managing Your Building.