

Director's Report to the Board of Agents

Silas Bronson Library

May 21, 2018

Raechel Guest, Director

Front Plaza Project

The project reached its substantial completion on May 15. LaRosa and the City are now in discussion regarding project overrun costs, and there are a few items that were put on the back burner, such as replacing the sign on the front lawn and installing lighting along the side of the building. The latest information I have is that the Public Works Department will be receiving a state-funded Local Capital Improvement Program (LoCIP) grant which will be used to complete the project.

Staff Vacancies

A new Children's Librarian, Anne Zadora, started on May 10, filling one of the two vacant Librarian II positions. Margaret Keating, Librarian III, transferred from our Children's Division to our Adult Division. We still have one AIS Librarian II vacancy which the City would like to leave vacant for the first 9 months of the new fiscal year.

Additionally, Anita Bologna, Librarian II, has submitted her resignation. She will be retiring at the end of June, at which point we will once again have two vacant Librarian II positions in our Adult Services Division.

We are still waiting for the new lists of Admin I candidates and Maintainer I candidates, so that we can fill those vacancies.

Fortunately, our summer hours start this week, which will make it easier to keep the public service desks staffed.

Catchafire Logo Design

We have launched a Logo Design Poll to help us decided which logo to choose. The poll will remain open until June 15. I will present the tallies at the June 18 Board meeting for the final decision to be made. So far, we have received 37 paper ballots and 115 online votes. The top two contenders are the Origami logo and the whale logo.

After the logo is selected, I will be able to use Catchafire to find someone to build a new website using Drupal or Wordpress. In addition to giving our website a much-needed makeover, this will allow us to migrate our website to a less expensive host. We are currently paying more than \$4,000 a year for website hosting, when we really should pay only a few hundred dollars a year.

Library Archives

We have received a donation of photographs, slides, and films from the Waterbury Region Convention & Visitors Bureau documenting tourism related events in Waterbury since the 1980s. We also received a set of metal file cabinets, which I intend to use for our WWII archive, which is currently stored in wood file cabinets.

Although our librarians received training in creating finding aids for our various archival collections, we have not been able to move forward with management of those collections due to our staffing situation.

BRASS Grant

We have been unable to spend a portion of our BRASS grant from the Connecticut Community Foundation due to our staffing issues. Specifically, we had intended to use the funds to start teaching computer classes for Spanish-speaking seniors. The librarian who was the lead for this project left for a higher paying job last August, and we have been unable to replace her.

I will be meeting this week with Deborah Stein at the Community Foundation to discuss our options for the grant program.

Circulation Division

April Statistical Reports: Main Library

Total Collection Size: 260,427
Total Items Added to Collection: 753
Total Items Circulated: 10,692
Total Circulation In-House: 213
Total Circulated at Other Libraries: 271
Total Circulated from Other Libraries: 380

Total Active Patrons: 11,506
Total Expired Patrons: 14,255
Total Patrons Added: 189

April Statistical Reports: Bunker Hill

Total Collection Size: 16,694
Total Items Added to Collection: 69
Total Items Circulated: 731
Total Circulation In-House: 0
Total Circulated at Other Libraries: 66
Total Circulated from Other Libraries: 218

Total Active Patrons: 405
Total Expired Patrons: 467
Total Patrons Added: 1

Museum Pass Usage, April 2018

American Clock & Watch Museum: 1
Barker Comic and Cartoon Museum: 1
Barnum Museum: 0
Beardsley Zoo: 2
Children's Museum/Roaring Brook Nature: 2
Connecticut Science Center: 2
Connecticut's Old State House: 0
CT State Parks & Forest Recreation: 0
EverWonder Children's Museum: 0
Harriet Beecher Stowe Center: 0
Imagine Nation: 6
Institute for American Indian Studies: 0
KidsPlay Childrens Museum: 9

Maritime Aquarium at Norwalk: 5
Mark Twain House: 0
Mattatuck Museum: 6
Mystic Aquarium: 2
Mystic Seaport: 1
New Britain Museum of American Art: 3
New England Air Museum: 4
New Haven Museum: 0
Old Sturbridge Village: 1
Peabody Museum of Natural History: 4
Wadsworth Atheneum: 4
White Memorial Conservation Center: 1

Online Presence

Facebook Followers as of 5/18/2018: 982
Facebook Reach Apr. 20 – May 17: 8,378
Facebook Post Engagements Apr. 20 – May 17: 3,102

Website Visitors Apr. 1 – Apr. 30: 1,909
Website Sessions Apr. 1 – Apr. 30: 3,028
Website Pageviews Apr. 1 – Apr. 30: 6,147

Most Visited Website Pages (Apr. 1 – Apr. 30):

Home Page: 2,993	How to Find Books: 161	Teen/YA: 43
Programs: 365	Calendar: 160	Directions: 37
Museum Passes: 296	How to Get a Card: 131	New Movies: 34
Bunker Hill Branch: 224	Research: 130	Library History: 27
Genealogy/Local Hist.: 219	eBooks: 93	Computer Classes: 26
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