

TRUSTEES MEETING

TUESDAY, MARCH 16TH, 2010

REPORT PRESENTED BY MARGARET MORRISSEY, DIRECTOR

STATISTICS FOR FEBRUARY 2010

Total No. of Hours Open	189
Total No. of Saturdays Open	4
Total No. of Hours Open Saturday	16
Total Hours Open After 5 p.m.	21
Attendance in Library	9,243
No. of Volunteers	26
No. of Volunteer Hours	67.75
Room Uses by the public	65
No. of Children's Programs	11
No. in Attendance	106
No. of Young Adult Programs	4
No. in Attendance	48
No. of Programs for Adult	12
No. in Attendance	150
No. of Reference Transaction	96
Internet Use	1,372
Microfilm Use	7
Total copies made	1,300
Total prints made	821
Holds filled (ILL)	1,141
Holds Received	665
Wireless Visits	246

Teens:

Teen technology week was well advertised and although we did not have a large attendance, it is important to be offering programs that will appeal to young adults. Coupled with the Anime Club and now the fledgling TV Card Games discussion group, we have the basis for an emerging series of programs. There are still disruptive teens in the library after school but we have a better handle on the situation.

Programs:

The *Boys of the Town* program, sponsored by the Southbridge Local Cultural Council was very well attended and we have laid the foundation for future sponsorship of a similar program. Given the direction the budget is going, I feel we will be increasingly reliant on sponsorship for programming. The Friends provide some funding in this regard as well as the refreshments. The knitting group celebrated its second year of weekly gatherings at the end of February. The Drumming program was offered for four months but will finish on March 22.

All appointments have been assigned in the AARP Tax Assistance program and it continues to be well appreciated and needed in the community. The Council on Aging also offers some sessions at a different time to augment this program.

Met with the three local agencies that provide literacy services through JEL and discussed best practice and future configurations

Budget

Thank you to the Board for the \$10,000 check for Materials for FY10 - second payment. The check was deposited on 3/12/10.

I would also like to thank the Chair, Joan Menard for attending the budget hearing with me. The FY11 budget directions were to submit a level funded budget but as we were underfunded in some line items as well as experiencing some unanticipated repairs, this is not possible. I am working on a proposal to present to the accountant to close this gap.

There was a discussion about the funding of the Materials a/c and the town will continue with the \$36,000 and is requesting a donation of funds from the Trustees, as has been given in the past. An indication that funding would be forthcoming but the exact amount was yet to be determined. It was anticipated that the amount needed to meet the State Aid requirements would be forthcoming.

Last week, I joined with librarians across the state who gathered at the State House to advocate for funding to support libraries. I met with the legislative aides and discussed our needs in Southbridge.

Capital Account

I would like to request authorization to spend \$2,400 from Capital Account for repair of HVAC system (Johnson Controls) as we had a problem recently where the heating zone in the Adult Dept was not reaching the temperature.

Building

The library hosted another state-wide meeting of Building Inspectors, and a group of Librarians, in the Pioppi Room as well as serving the usual demand from the community. The building has experienced some vandalism recently which has been reported to the police – there was graffiti sprayed on one exterior wall, the button for the handicapped door has been pulled off on a few occasion and we are changing to a different design to see if this may impede any future destruction.

CMRLS – MLS

The Report of the transition team - an eighteen member committee charged with developing a plan to consolidate the six existing regions into one Massachusetts Library System (MLS), that will serve the entire Commonwealth was discussed. The necessity of the plan, is that line 7000-9401 of the MBLC budget has been reduced by over 28%. In FY11, delivery and interlibrary loan will continue. Bibliotemps, the temp staffing agency will no longer exist.

Staff

Barbara Fish's father passed away last week and she has taken so time to be with her family. Karla Gartsu reported that the MA Dept. of Elementary and Secondary Education's day-long program *Closing the Gap for Early Literacy* was informative and was of benefit to participate in this seminar.

Technology

The library is pleased to offer a new format of audiobook to patrons - a limited number of titles are now available in the new MP3 CD format, making a much more compact product but requires special player.

Considering a decrease in the number of Public Access Catalogs (PACs) in favor of increasing the number of public access internet computers. Southbridge has only 12 public internet stations compared with our neighboring libraries that are offering in the region of 20 connections. As soon as I have a proposal together, I would like to buy some new computers from capital fund to keep current with technological developments. The current machines being used as PACs will have a slow response time as they are a much older machine.

Reminder that on Thursday 25th through Saturday 27th March, the annual **Friends of the Library Book Sale** will take place in the Pioppi Room.

Celebrating Jazz and Poetry at JEL

Throughout the month, Scott Erb's photographs from his recent publication **20 Worcester Artists and their Workspaces** will be on display.

Monday, April 5th – **Mystery Book Club** will discuss Lynn York's *The Piano Teacher*, at 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, April 6th, 13th, 20th and 27th, - **Knitting with Sonya** from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Tuesday, April 6th, 13th, 20th and 27th - **Anime Club for Teens** from 3.10 p.m. to 4:10 p.m.

Thursday, April 1st Reception for the Scott Erb's photography show at 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in the Main Hall.

Thursday, April 8th **Movie screening** – a selection from the independent movie collection.

Tuesday 20th Monthly meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Jacob Edwards Library in the Mills Room at 12 noon.

Thursday, April 22nd **Gospel Choir Association of New England** are back again at JEL to perform at 6:30 p.m.

Monday, April 26th Annual meeting of the Friends of the Jacob Edwards Library in the Reading Room. Business Meeting 6 p.m. followed by a Jazz performance at 6:30 p.m.

April is **Sexual Assault Awareness Month** and we are planning a display of materials to help raise awareness in our community about the issues surrounding sexual violence and the services New Hope and other organizations provide to those in need.

Please note: the library is **closed on Monday, April 19th** in honor of Patriot's Day

MBLC is offering two trainings in the near future - the annual Trustees Symposium with the theme **Group Process: Working Effectively as a Board of Trustees**, and the Violence in the Workplace.

