

Library Director's Report, July 16 – August 14, 2013

Board of Library Trustees Meeting

The meeting will take place on August 19 at 7:30pm in the conference room of the Main Library.

Town Committees

I am serving as Chair of the Town's Human Services Function group for this fiscal year. We meet monthly and I report for the group at the town-wide Department Heads meeting and to the Executive Function Group.

I have been appointed to the Municipal Facilities and Services Task Force as the Library Director and to represent the Human Services group. The primary goal of the Task Force is to study the need for expanded public safety facilities, but other town department may come into play as well. The Task Force has met once and will meet again on August 28.

Library Project Update

Permanent Building Committee

The PBC will next meet on Wednesday, August 14 in the Main Library conference room. Project Manager John Sayre-Scibona from DTI will present invoices for payment and will also report on punch list work.

Project Update

Work continues on the lighting and window shade system to complete the appropriate timing. The lighting consultant visited the building and recommends either changes or increased lighting in several areas.

Reps from the sound control system visited the library and made changes to the level of 'white noise' being pumped into areas where we are want to muffle sounds from the first floor.

We have had complaints from several library users about the parking spaces reserved for low emission vehicles. They are particularly upset about the portion of the sign that reads 'No SUVs.' One patron wrote to the Board of Selectmen about the matter. These signs are part of the LEED program and we asked the LEED consultant to advise us on this.

Temperatures in the building have been very comfortable.

A new controls company was brought onto the job by the mechanical sub-contractor and as a result we more confidence that the system is being put into better working order. There has been a noticeable decrease in error messages generated by the system.

The new grass has been a disappointment. The timing of the first planting and the weather conditions produced mostly weeds. The landscaper will return in September to re-seed and eliminate the weeds. He is under contract through the spring of 2014.

First Month Open

We were all pleased (to put it mildly) with the public response during our first month open. People have been very complimentary about the building and new services. The numbers have far exceeded our expectations. Each time someone tells us how much they like the new library we see the building through

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We will continue to waive the usual fee for lost card replacements through August. The almost 800 library cards issued was more than we had done in many prior years and will help patrons with self-check.

The Friends of the Library have done a great job in publicizing the opening.

Colburn School

I have begun planning for the Colburn mural display with the Adams/Ahern sign company. We need higher quality photos to make the display work and I'll be in touch with the Historical Society to have them search their archives. Adams/Ahern will have rough cost estimates prior to our meeting.

Dedication Plans

Mary Beth Persons and I have begun to contact our speakers for the September 15 Library dedication. Mass Board of Library Commissioner George Comeau, State Representative Paul McMurtry and Board of Selectmen Chair Nancy Hyde have been lined up to date. Invitations will go out next week.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas Viti
Library Director