

DEARBORN PUBLIC LIBRARY
LIBRARY COMMISSION MEETING
Henry Ford Centennial Library - Room 111
Wednesday, August 14, 2024
APPROVED

Commissioners:

- Chairperson Marcel Pultorak - Present
- Vice Chair Dr. Ryan Lazar - Excused
- Secretary/Treasurer Jihan Jawad - Excused
- Zeinab Alhashemi - Excused
- Gerilyn Biggs - Present
- Ali Dagher - Present

Library Administration:

- Library Director Betty Adams - Present
- Assistant Director of Technical Services Mark Hancock - Present
- Assistant Director of Programs & Services Rebecca Hermen - Present
- Assistant Director of Operations Patty Podzikowski - Present
- Office Assistant II Daniel Smith - Present

I. Call to Order

Chairperson Pultorak called the meeting to order at 5:03PM.

II. Approval of Minutes - July 10, 2024 regular meeting

Item tabled until a quorum is present.

III. Department Reports

A. Library Foundation

Assistant Director Podzikowski now represents the Library at Foundation Board meetings. She reported that the Foundation has created new bylaws, and the new members are applying themselves to their duties.

The Foundation earmarked a \$1 million fund request for the future acquisition of a bookmobile and increased materials vending options throughout the community.

Assistant Director Podzikowski reported that the Foundation discussed having a representative attend Library Commission meetings, which the commission encouraged.

B. Director's Report

Please see Director Adams' July/August report in full beginning on page 4.

C. Historical Museum

Historical Commissioner Mariya Fogarasi was present on behalf of the Museum. She reported that the July 13 Historic Walking Tour at the Rouge Greenway was successful. Another is scheduled for September 7.

The Peach Truck will return August 14 for its final visit of the summer.

Fogarasi reported that the interior and exterior of the Gardner House is being restored by staff.

She reported a positive experience at Homecoming.

The Vintage Sale will open for presale on August 15, and open to the public from August 16 to 18.

She reported that the Museum has been discussing a collaboration with Dearborn Public Schools for the 80th anniversary of the merging of the Dearborn and Fordson school districts.

Wyandotte Alarm Company is installing new fire alarm systems in all Museum facilities.

The Museum will be holding a fall festival on October 11 and 12. October 11 will be the annual beer tasting, and October 12 will focus on family-oriented activities.

Fogarasi reported that she will be addressing City Council on August 20 regarding the Historic District Ordinance. She requested an endorsement from Director Adams, which was given.

Fogarasi will be giving a lecture about Berlin at HFCL on September 10.

Tony and Karen Cipolla will be giving a talk on September 11 about restoring local historic homes.

IV. New Business

A. Glowforge Policy

Item tabled until a quorum is present.

B. Salina School Memorandum of Understanding

Item tabled until a quorum is present.

C. 2025 Holiday Closure Schedule

The commissioners in attendance tentatively approved the holiday schedule; it will be voted on when a quorum is present.

V. Comments

No further discussion.

VI. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:37PM

Dearborn Public Library

Director's Report



Presented at the Library Commission Meeting
Wednesday, August 14, 2024
Betty Adams, Library Director

Historical European Swordsmanship program displaying proper techniques at Henry Ford Centennial Library.

Commissioner Notes

- During a localized power outage, a patron inquired if we had a **Library of Things** (power bricks, flashlights, charging packs)
- "Why isn't the SparkLab open more?"
- Patron using the Seed Library wanted to share that their Florida library and the GP library **they've borrowed things like tools and kits that included a cookbook and novelty cake pans**. They've borrowed both.
- A patron commented that the decorations on desk signs made it difficult to read the signs. Also wondered why YS doesn't have a similar sign to other service desks.
- We love coming to storytime with Ms Michele and Ms Kathryn. **Dearborn has the best storytimes in the area by far!**
- Patron asked if we had a laptop charger they could borrow- looking for one that goes from wall plug to a USB-C port
- **"You are all phenomenal, my daughters have been reading all the books you've picked out. You've all taken time to help them pick out amazing books, they want to come back for more."**
- Patron complimented Security Guard at HFCL on always being so nice.
- Message on Instagram about the teen lock-in: **"Why are the kids the only ones who get to have this much fun? Lol"**
- Your crafts are so fun this summer! We've been coming every week to see what you come up with.
- I wish you had the **youth chapter books in the holiday section** too. It was so helpful for when my daughter was younger. Now we just sort of browse and hope to find the sticker.
- **We've had so much fun doing the 1000 books programs, it's so nice that the library does this.**
- Little boy told librarian at youth desk that he loved all the books she picked out for him.
- I wish you had a **bigger large print section**.
- We did the summer reading program last year and we're excited to do it this year. **Thank you for doing this.**
- "You need to resolve the issue of **local papers (News & Free Press) not being available at 10:00 am on many occasions**. I don't see this as an insurmountable problem." - *Newspapers are no longer delivered the same as past, staff are providing once available.*
- Can we please get paper towels in the restrooms? - *We are working to address this issue with minimal plumbing impact.*
- **Today was my kids first experience asking their own questions and it was a great experience, thanks!**
- Patron asked if we were planning to offer any classes on how to use Ancestry.com

Current Administrative Projects

- Start of Year Budget transitions
- Rain Garden installation project at HFCL
- Esper Upgrade Survey creation
- Warren Avenue Project / Esper Upgrade Proposal & Community Survey
- Bryant Garden Hub Landscape Contract
- Summer Market representation
- Mayor District Walk Throughs
- Summer Reading Challenge Community Promotion
- Feedback & Strategy Mapping for Fiscal Year 24-25
- Administrative level training for newly selected Assistant Directors

Teen Lock-In participants break out for some collaborative game play.

Recurring/Wrapping Up:

- Financial Management
Course completed
- Esper Roof Repair
- Underground Cable Project
- Post Pandemic Public Library Cohort
- Level 1 Certificate recipient



Historical Museum

- 12 attended the July 13th Historic Walking Tour of Rouge Greenway
- The Tennessee Peach Truck made another visit to the Museum on June 24th
- Museum Exhibits Designer Tyler Moll and intern Ashley Long finished the restoration of both the exterior and interior of the 1830s Gardner House in July
- The August 2nd Historic Walking Tour of West Downtown was a success
- The August 2nd through 4th Homecoming event was well-attended, and the Museum had hundreds of visitors to its tent at Vendor Village at Ford Field. The Museum gave prizes to folks spinning our 120-year-old prize wheel, ranging from discounts on memberships to free pencils, 3D-printed buildings, and more. The Museum's 1930 Model A and 1916 Model T were also on display.
- The Museum's new Collections Manager, Karely Byrd-Nowisch, along with a cadre of staff and volunteers, have made excellent progress preparing for the Museum's upcoming annual vintage sale in August.
- The Museum held discussions with Dearborn Schools about a joint collaboration to celebrate the 80th anniversary of the combined Dearborn/Fordson school districts.
- The City issued the final permits to Wyandotte Alarm Company, who are installing the Museum's new fire alarm system across all of our buildings, starting on August 6th.

UPCOMING Programs:

- August 15th - Museum Vintage Sale, at the Ross House, noon-4pm
- August 16th - Museum Vintage Sale, 9am-6pm
- August 17th - Museum Vintage Sale, 9am-6pm

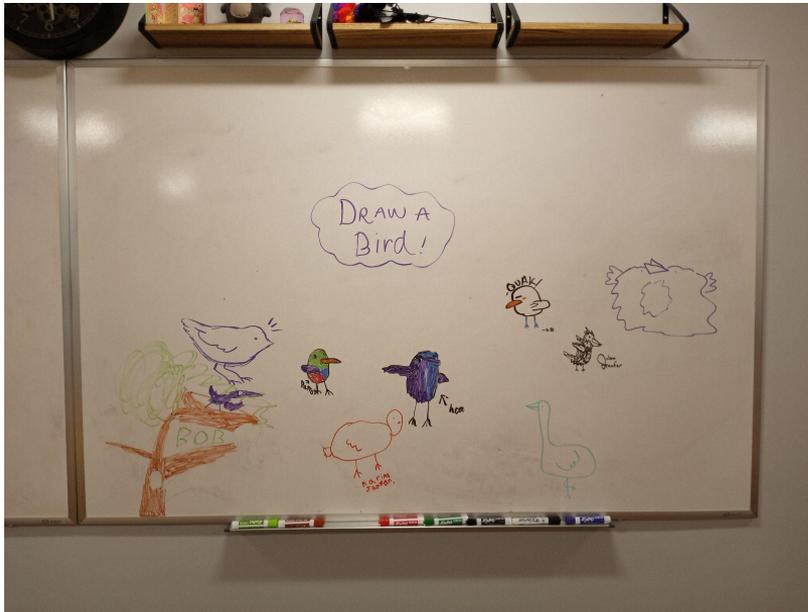
Circulation & Processing

Circulation Department:

- Service Desk redesign being discussed by department
- 3 new Pages hired

Processing Department:

- Items received: 286
- Items added to system: 997
- Total items on shelves and in flow: 775
- Processing staff began working on the large-scale project of removing MPAA ratings from DVD spine labels and bibliographic records, after the decision was made to eliminate the ratings.



MeLCat

- Loaned: 675
- Borrowed: 673
- Total items circulated: 1,348

Youth Programming & Outreach

- Welcome new Librarian !!
- July 22 - **An All Abilities Theater Workshop** provided social and language opportunities for patrons of all ages. Many enjoyed the dancing and acting. Patrons also learned how to sign the song "Here Comes The Sun" with the help of OpenSpot Theatre.
- August 10 - **Youth Librarians Kicked off the Homecoming Kids Stage** entertainment with a storytime that included Readers' Theater and a giant library card.
- July 26 - **Youth Staff hosted a Teen Lock-In.** 16 teens enjoyed making duct tape crafts, gaming, Nerf in the library, and lots of pizza.
- August 9 - **Librarians held a booth at the Kids Day Summer Market,** giving away craft kits and library information. Staff also worked at the Early Learning Coalition tent, greeting families and informing them of this partnership with the schools, businesses, and other services.
- August 8 - **Youth Services hosted the Summer Reading Celebration.** Approximately 130 were in attendance. An obstacle course, bubbles, chalk, dancing, crafts, and refreshments were provided by staff and T.A.G. teen volunteers.
- Summer Reading Challenge ended on August 10th. The community exceeded both our goals set for the summer; Register 1,000 participants and Log 10,000 Days of reading. **We registered a total of 1,029 readers who logged 17,020 days of reading!**

• Staff added a comment box between the Youth and Teen areas to receive public input about the library. All comments will be received through internal Feedback system.

- Staff responded to patron requests for **back to school supplies with a directory of local giveaway events and a school supplies swap.** The box was decorated by our talented TAG volunteers.



Special *THANK YOU* to:
Commissioners
Marcel Pultorak and
Gerilyn Biggs,
Councilman
AlSawafy, Fire Chief
Joseph Murray,
several Police
Officers, and the
Honorable Erin
Byrnes for your
attendance at the
Summer Reading
Celebration Event.

Adult Programming & Outreach

- Navigating City Housing outreach limitations
- Hosted Intercultural Center in Dearborn for a voter education program
- 1st Open Mic night was a great success - 2nd one scheduled for October
- Medieval Swordsmanship leisure and demonstration
- Making Zines
- Concert with Ship to Nowhere
- Papermaking with Citrine Tangerine
- Best Sellers Book Club is strong
- Tax Prep and Diabetes Prevention group continuing
- Upcoming programs of note:
 - Author Talk: Gray Matters: A biography of Brain Surgery by Dr. Theodore H. Schwartz (8/14)
 - Adventures in Simple Jewelry (8/15)
 - Last partnered Slow Rollin' Wednesday with Bike Dearborn starting at BBL (8/21)
 - Author Talk: Lance Parrish and Tom Gage : The Enchanted Season (8/22 IN PERSON)
 - Author Talk: The Lions finally roar by Bill Morris (9/5)

September Library Card Sign Up Month Magnet Giveaway - Staff invited to create Book/Reading themed magnets to be given to patrons checking out books and new patrons getting their card throughout September.



Snooping Around the Library - Keeping the Olympics Going: New Card and current Patrons can get specially designed Book Olympic Pins by signing up for a card and/or searching for Snoop Dogg pictures in the libraries. Pins designed by SparkLab Tech Marj Gaber. Runs through August 31st.

Bryant & Esper Branches

Esper:

- 42 Take & Make "Star-Spangled Wands" circulated
- 30+ Esper Free Craft participants
- 11 Dual Language Literacy crafts participants
- 3 Read & Feed
- 2 people for the Storytelling Guides.
- 27 participants at English Language Learners program
- 5 attendees for Dungeons & Dragons
- 2 visitors for the first 'GM Academy' event
- 40+ engagements with the Craft Tables
- 8 participants at Esper Makes: DIY Stickers event

Other assorted notes.

- A Girl Scout troop held their meeting on 7/13 at Esper - 21 attended
- 3 youth requested Take & Make bags early
- 36 youth toured Esper on 7/31

Bryant:

- Dearborn Area Chamber President Kelli Vanden Bosch met with Mayor Hammoud to discuss relocation of the Chamber
- The elevator received a new phone that communicates directly with 911
- Monday Alpha Stories: 107 participants
- Tuesday Storytime: 110 participants
- Thursday Get Crafty:
 - 7/11 (Campfires): 26 participants
 - 7/18 (Olympic Spinners): 37 participants
 - 7/25 (Olympic Torches): 28 participants

Thank you!

Dimitry completed 1000 Books Before Kindergarten, proudly displaying his achievement.

