Evanston Public Library Planning Process Update
July 20, 2011 Submitted by Susan Newman, Chair

The EPL Plan for the future committee approached this project with the idea of creating a 21st Century library that responds to the needs of all segments of the Evanston community. The committee is aiming to provide concrete goals and tangible objectives that will assist and guide EPL as it plans for the future. To develop the plan, the committee collected the following:

Collection of Existing Data
   Library statistics, prior studies and reports

Organizational Input
   Staff SWOT
   Board SWOT

Community Input
   Stakeholder Interviews
      Elizabeth Tisdahl – Mayor
      Sara K. Schastok - Evanston Community Foundation
      Rachel Hayman – School District 202
      Lucile Krasnow – Special Assistant for Community Relations, Northwestern
      Eugene S. Sunshine – Sr. Vice President for Business & Finance, Northwestern
      Keith Terry – School District 65
      Wally Bobkiewicz – City Manager

Focus Groups
   Business community
   Educators/Literacy
   African Americans
   Hispanic Population
   Social Service agencies
   Cultural Organizations
   Library volunteers – including members of EPLF, student volunteers &
      members of the Book Sale Committee

Community Focus Groups
   15 Phone Conversations

Online Survey
   1,000 Reponses

Our findings show that Evanstonians believe in a vibrant EPL system that offers an even stronger collection and equitable services for the entire community. The committee draft report, containing not only strategic directions but also goals and objectives, will be delivered to the full Library Board and Staff in August. The final report will be available for the Evanston community as a whole.