



**MEETING MINUTES
EVANSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Wednesday, September 13, 2017**

6:30 P.M.

Evanston Public Library, 1703 Orrington Avenue, Community Meeting Room

Members Present: Socorro Castro, Adam Goodman, Tori Foreman, Margaret Lurie, Vaishali Patel, Benjamin Schapiro, Sandra Smith

Members Absent: Shawn Iles, Michael Tannen

Staff: Laura Antolin, Teri Campbell, Karen Danczak Lyons, Renee Neumeier, Jessica Ticus

Citizens Present: Deborah Lazar, Bobby Burns, Bennett Johnson, Atina Danner

Presiding Member: Benjamin Schapiro, President

CALL TO ORDER/DECLARATION OF QUORUM - A quorum was present and President Schapiro called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm.

CITIZEN COMMENT- Deborah Lazar spoke in support of an equity audit and expressed her appreciation of the Board's response to the community.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. **Approval of the August Bills and Payroll and Minutes of August 16, 2017 Regular Meetings** –Margaret Lurie motioned to approve and Sandra Smith seconded and it was approved on a voice vote.

INFORMATION/COMMUNICATIONS

- A. **.Honoring Book Sale Volunteers** – President Schapiro read a proclamation honoring the Book Sale Volunteers for their hard work on the quarterly book sales, which have been an important fundraiser for the Library and welcomed service to the community for decades.

LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- A. **Director's Report-** The third annual Storytelling Festival, scheduled for October 6-8th, will feature international as well as local storytellers. All events are free and open to the public. On September 25th, the City Council will be asked for approval to move forward with construction bids for the Robert Crown Community Center. The Friends of Robert Crown signed a

memorandum of agreement with the City authorizing the City to move forward invoicing donors who have pledged financial support. The contract with CCS, the fundraising consultants for this project, ends in September and renewal of the contract is under discussion. The Library's Eclipse Viewing Event was attended by over 500 people and a great event.

- B. Evanston Public Library and Equity of Access, Diversity and Inclusion –** DeEtta Jones, founder of DJA Consulting, skyped into the meeting to discuss the company's extensive experience working with libraries and other public institutions around issues of equity, access and diversity. Members of the team at DJA consulting have professional backgrounds in marketing, technology, human resources, diversity and inclusion, organizational development, and instructional design. Ms. Jones discussed how she would approach working with the Library and the City of Evanston and emphasized the need to listen to the community and find bridges to people who feel they have not had a voice. She believes in open and honest conversation about race and class and wants to develop a more robust understanding of underserved areas and develop near and long-term strategic recommendations for providing service. Board and community members were able to ask questions. Next steps, as defined by Karen Danczak Lyons, include defining the scope of the work and working with the City to seek grant funding.

STAFF REPORT

- A. Administrative Services Report –**The North Branch Library construction is completed and the branch opened to the public on September 5th. Lush has most of the necessary permits for construction approved and anticipates opening for business by December.
- B. Summer Reading Program-** Renee Neumeier and Laura Antolin reported the Summer Reading Program continued to grow this summer. New software for patron interface and program administration made it easier to collect data and analyze results. Overall participation increases with over 442 more participants and completion rates increased from 45% to 46%. In response to community feedback, the program was extended almost three weeks, ending August 20th. Community partnerships with Y.O.U, COE summer camps and other sites helped bring the program into the community. ABC Boosters, a program that matches teen mentors from the Youth Job Center with rising kindergarteners, also continues to improve. ABC Boosters served 74 children at three sites and trained and employed 21 teens.

BOARD REPORTS

- A. Development Committee** – Shawn Iles reported that the efforts for the 2017 Fund for Excellence campaign are underway and the committee had a kick-off meeting on September 7th.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. Facilities Committee- Main Library Renovation Update** – Report tabled until October.
- B. . Appointment of Committee Members:** Ben Schapiro made the following Board Committee appointments.
- Executive Committee:** Ben Schapiro (Chair as President); Tori Foreman, (Vice-President); Vaishali Patel (Secretary); Shawn Iles(Treasurer)
 - Finance Committee:** Shawn Iles (Chair as Treasurer); Sandra Smith; Socorro Castro; Ben Shapiro, Ex-Officio
 - Management Committee:** Adam Goodman(Chair);Tori Foreman, Margaret Lurie
 - Facilities Committee:** Benjamin Schapiro, Shawn Iles, Michael Tannen
 - Development Committee:** Margaret Lurie (Chair); Shawn Iles
 - Fund for Excellence Committee:** Margaret Lurie (Chair); all Board members
 - Endowment Investment Committee:** Shawn Iles, Michael Tannen, community members Karen Young and Peter Hemwall
 - Liaison to Evanston Nursery and Pre-K Schools:** Socorro Castro
 - Liaison to D65:** Vaishali Patel
 - Liaison to D202:** Michael Tannen
 - Liaison to Northwestern:** Adam Goodman
 - Board Nominating Committee:** appointed in April
 - Director Evaluation:** Adam Goodman

ADJOURNMENT – Sandra Smith motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 pm, seconded by Adam Goodman and approved by voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Vaishali Patel

Approved October 18, 2017

**Next Meeting: Wednesday, October 18, 2017 at 6:30 pm Evanston Public Library,
Community Meeting Room.**

**Library Director's Report
September 13, 2017**

Updates:

- Summer Reading:
 - Renee Neumeier and Laura Antolin will be presenting on the summer reading outcomes at the September 13 board meeting.
- Robert Crown Community Center and Library: the September 25th City Council meeting agenda includes items related to this important project including a request to approve the creation of bid documents, an update on fundraising and the execution of a Memorandum of Understanding between the Friends of Robert Crown, the City of Evanston and the Evanston Public Library.
- Eclipse programming update from Kim Kaufmann:
 - Held two of the Eclipse Viewer events (50 attendees and 45 attendees respectively). Our expert for these two programs was Joe Guzman of Chicago Astronomer who brought his telescopes for patrons to use. Unfortunately that only worked for the 8/12 event as it was raining 8/16.
 - Eclipse Party! (500+ attending!!) I could never have done this without the support of other staff, both as sounding boards during the planning and as workers during the party. We even had our two MYSEP students volunteer their own time to come and work that day because they were so excited about it. I only heard one story about a grumpy patron who didn't get glasses right away, everyone else I talked to had a great time and thanked us for hosting the event. The different stations were a hit but mostly with families, though I did see some adults working through the "How Big, How Far, How Hot?" game. Kids enjoyed making their eclipse chalk art and their Sun Cookies. The cookies for the Sun Cookies activity were donated by Bennison's and Jewel and this activity taught kids about the different features of the surface of the sun. It turned out we had many more glasses than we thought so we didn't run out until after 2pm. I never thought to count them when they arrived, I assumed they sent us what we'd asked for. We were also able to allow patrons to use the two pairs of Binoculars we received in our NAML kit to see the sun at a higher magnification than the solar glasses. I wouldn't have done much differently so I think we have a solid plan for the next eclipse in 2024!

Assessments, Metrics and initiative results:

Computer/Internet Use													
	Jan-17	Feb-17	Mar-17	Apr-17	May-17	Jun-17	Jul-17	Aug-17	Sep-17	Oct-17	Nov-17	Dec-17	FYTD
Main	4,023	4,090	4,057	4,083	4,015	4,505	4,472	5,023					34,268
North Branch	201	227	265	244	252	260	250	-					1,699
CAMS	473	453	465	477	527	527	524	616					4,062
Computer Lab	242	197	220	181	197	205							1,242
Overall Computer/Internet Use	4,939	4,967	5,007	4,985	4,991	5,292	5,246	5,639	-	-	-	-	41,271

Website Visits													
	Jan-17	Feb-17	Mar-17	Apr-17	May-17	Jun-17	Jul-17	Aug-17	Sep-17	Oct-17	Nov-17	Dec-17	FYTD
All Location	55,468	48,541	52,269	44,632	43,173	43,187	42,205	45,110					374,585

Wifi Users													
	Jan-17	Feb-17	Mar-17	Apr-17	May-17	Jun-17	Jul-17	Aug-17	Sep-17	Oct-17	Nov-17	Dec-17	FYTD
All Location	25,449	25,114	26,969	25,171	26,957	27,358	25,848	26,785					209,651

Library Visits													
	Jan-17	Feb-17	Mar-17	Apr-17	May-17	Jun-17	Jul-17	Aug-17	Sep-17	Oct-17	Nov-17	Dec-17	FYTD
Main	27,390	26,711	34,402	41,249	40,502	46,245	44,373	45,837					306,709
North Branch	3,790	4,005	4,109	4,058	3,815	4,785	4,453	4,553					33,568
CAMS	3,164	3,426	3,515	3,440	3,638	4,156	4,072	-					25,411
Overall Library Visits	34,344	34,142	42,026	48,747	47,955	55,186	52,898	50,390	-	-	-	-	365,688

Highlights from Children’s Services from Jan Bojda and team include:

- Kaufmann met with Kumar Jensen and Ericka Doroghazi from the City to discuss partnering on a high profile event for the next NAML (NASA @ My Library) grant year. We are all definitely interested in planning something around Earth Day. We’d also like to do other things throughout the year but nothing specific was identified at this time.
Outcome: Our high profile Eclipse event is developing new partnerships.
- Meyer arranged for Courtney Schroeder and Jess Alexander from the Morton Grove Public Library to present *Putting the M in Steam* for some of our Children’s Programmers. She invited Courtney and Jess after remembering their presentation at IYSI and worked with them to host a meeting of our Math Storytime Team plus 2 Erikson researchers. Great that our team could get ILA training on the topic we were all exploring. Several staff members thanked her for bringing in such an actionable training to our team.
Outcome: From Gonzales about our recent trainings: I’m excited to integrate the things I learned from the Erikson institute and the Math workshop given by Morton Grove Public Library. I will be changing the theme for week four, from *Peek a Boo* to *Shapes and Counting*. I will be using books and songs, that integrate shapes and counting in a fun way. I even made a felt display for, *Un Elefante Se Balanceaba* (The Elephant Song) with pink Elephants and a black spider web!!

Children’s Outreach Highlights from Laura Antolin include:

National Night Out :

- Tabled at 5th Ward’s first National Night Out at Twiggs Park in response to a request from Alderman Robin Rue Simmons. Provided mobile access library services (courtesy of Jill Skwerski and the book bike), information and STEAM activities (origami and paper

airplanes as well as the airplane launcher) with the help of summer youth employee, Isaiah Braithwaite.

- Impact: Library is responsive to community requests and connects to community members.
- Outcome: Engaged with and informed community members about library services at a large community event, bringing activities, library materials, services and resources.

SRP in camps:

- Completed SRP final visits (book prizes) to Fleetwood and Robert Crown. Throughout the summer made visits to 17 different camp groups, interacting 3 to 4 times with 908 youth. Approximately 70% or 648 of those campers received SRP books. Changing patterns of camp attendance and camp sessions meant that not all campers were seen at all visits. Non-completion of SRP was related to youth being absent or leaving camp programs. Continued work needs to be done to include information about SRP in camp registration packets so that parents are clearly informed about their children's participation in SRP while in camp.
- Impact: The importance of reading throughout the summer to help deter summer slide was supported by the SRP.
- Outcome: SRP continues to be more embedded in camp programs each year providing youth the opportunity to participate in this Library program outside of the library building(s), and to provide more equitable access to programs and services.

Y.O.U.:

- Debriefed with Casey Varela and Emily Fishman regarding SRP. Emily felt that staffing had been difficult during the summer and that SRP wasn't as successful because of that. Casey was in attendance at Family Focus during a SRP visit and liked the way I had structured the visit (I asked the youth to book talk their favorite books) so we discussed ways to modify our partnership in summer of 2018 as well as the reading log for camps.
 - Pre-Care youth (approximately 60) - for the first 30 minutes each day, youth will read. Once a week, Laura will come in and lead a "book club" where the youth talk about what books they are reading.
 - Regular Program - modification of reading log to look more like a calendar. The youth will check off or color in each day that they read (reading will be done at camp and at home). Laura will not come to meet with the youth during regular program hours until the end of the summer - at that visit all youth will get SRP prizes including a book.
- School year partnership will continue this year (Laura bringing books to check out to Y.O.U. afterschool youth) and will be set up by each site coordinator (Dawes, Oakton, Walker, Washington). Monthly dates at Oakton have been scheduled.
- Outcome: Through partnerships, library services will be expanded to provide more equitable access to programs and services.

Home Daycare Provider Book Bags:

- Added Kindercare to Book Bag delivery and delivered first 2 bags. A former Home Daycare Provider who received Book Bags currently works at Kindercare and was very excited to see me and receive the 2 bags – she told me that the need for material there was great and that she had been wanting to get in touch with me.
- Volunteer Joe Moos will be trained to deliver Book Bags in September – he successfully passed the volunteer requirements. Joe will be taking my Daycare homes and I will continue to deliver to the Centers.

- Impact: Resources and quality of the early literacy activities provided by Home providers and Centers are significantly increased.
- Outcome: 20 Books Bags delivered (14 Book Bags delivered to home providers (1 is on vacation); 6 Book Bags delivered to centers (IWSE and Kindercare)

D65:

- Teacher Checkout:
 - Prepared and sent out Teacher Checkout letters and applications to Evanston/Skokie elementary schools and private/parochial schools.
- D65 librarians:
 - Attended first D65 librarian departmental meeting of the new school year. Provided information on Library services, listened to D65 initiatives and participated in equity discussion based on training D65 teachers had received. Delivered school specific lists of students completing the SRP to librarians and their principals (compiled by summer intern, Jasmine Abron, and organized by Leigh Kennelly).
 - Delivered 4 D65 library books (returned to EPL) to Kingsley librarian and 6 library books to Washington librarian. I deliver library books at the beginning and end of each month.
- K-LEAP Curriculum Night Book Bags:
 - Contacted D65 schools to determine Curriculum Nights and worked with Lea Hernandez-Solis to order K-LEAP book bags and nonfiction books for 830 kindergarten students. Requested materials for inclusion in book bags from F65.
 - Prepared a book bag for every student in each kindergarten classroom in 6 of the 12 elementary schools (Martha Meyer is responsible for the other 6 schools) and delivered school-specific bags to the librarian at each of those schools (Dawes, Dewey, King Arts, Lincoln, Oakton and Washington).
- K-Tours:
 - Sent emails to the kindergarten teachers in each school outlining Kindergarten tours, and providing a list of dates available to schedule tours. Touched base with Positive Connections Bus Company and D65 Transportation department regarding Bus Forms. Received requests and have scheduled kindergarten tours for 7 of the 12 schools.
- Afterschool childcare programs:
 - Scheduled monthly visits to Washington School and am in process of scheduling visits to Dawes School.

Teen Services Highlights from Renee Neumeier include:

The Hate U Give Book Discussion:

- Teen services partnered with ETHS staff member and community member Traci Brown Powell on a book discussion of *The Hate U Give* by Angie Thomas. The book group targeted current and former ETHS Books'r'Us Book Group members. There was a big interest in the book discussion and we gave away 15 copies of the book to interested members and alumni. Only three members were able to make it to the discussion due to inclement weather. We held an in depth discussion on the issues raised in the book ranging from police brutality, race issues, discrimination, gangs, family issues and relationships.
- Outcome: Teen Services reached black young adult women who were living in Evanston or had strong connections to Evanston and who were not regular EPL users. Teen services staff gained insight into issues that the participants felt strongly

about. Attendees were grateful for the opportunity to meet and discuss the book and we will offer this more than once next summer.

Linked in Learning Article

- Amy Odwarka, librarian at Haven asked if Renee Neumeier, Tracy Hubbard (Bessie Rhodes) and Kefira Philippe (Nichols) would be interested in submitting an article about our approach to collaboration to ISLMA to publish in *Linked in Learning*. This book is put out every few years and is often required reading for MLIS students. A close to final draft can be found here:
https://docs.google.com/document/d/11mYN5JFD5cAl_OldFWYXObCQwaouKJsCRj3TRXDbVZQ/edit?usp=sharing
- Outcome: We worked together to share ideas on how to engage with the school or public librarian in your community. Readers gain ideas on how to initially connect, how to start small with booktalking together, how to tie partnerships to the curriculum like the Mock Printz program we do annually and how to go big like the YA Middle School Lit Fest. These tips and tools will be useful to both school and public librarians in their work.

ILA 2017 Presentation:

- Kefira Philippe, Amy Odwarka, Tracy Hubbard and Renee Neumeier began outlining their presentation for ILA. They model much of their presentation off of the article they submitted to Linked in Learning. Renee Neumeier put together the slide presentation and revised the outline.

Y.O.U.

- EPL social worker, Justine Janis, made a connection with one of the members of the outreach team at Y.O.U., Emeric Mazibuko. Emeric is interested in spending some time at the Loft to make connections with our teens who come in regularly.
- Teen Services wrapped up the final session of the Y.O.U. summer program. At our final session we made art bots that the students were able to bring home.
- Renee Neumeier has a debrief meeting with Casey Valera to go over what went well and what we can work on for future enrichment programming for Y.O.U.. We're going to work on setting up a model where specific program options will always be available from EPL and possibly at more than one Y.O.U. site. Teen Services staff will also be taking part in a training put on by Y.O.U. staff about their approach to working with youth.
- Outcome: Through the summer program partnership we were able to reach teens who aren't always familiar with the Loft. We provide them with hands on learning and problem solving opportunities. The teens also become familiar with the Loft, the staff and the services available to them. This familiarity make the Loft more welcoming to these students since they know who they will see and what they can do outside of Y.O.U..

GSA

- Kevin Kelley continues to lead the teen GSA. There have been 6 -16 teens at each meeting and it's always a combination of returning and new faces. The mix of middle school and high school students is evenly matched. Kevin had concerns about how the two groups would mix, but meetings have been running very smoothly and everyone is welcoming. Justine Janis, EPL's social worker, was invited to the second meeting in August. She talked with the teens about techniques on how to manage stressful situations and back to school stress. The teens who attended the meeting were very

open about what causes them stress and anxiety. Kevin is working on finding a drag queen to present at an October meeting.

- Outcome: GSA continues to provide a safe and open space for LGBTQai+ teens and their allies. Teens from all different parts of Evanston and different Evanston schools are able to connect at these meetings and feel supported. Many of the teens use the Loft regularly because of the welcoming and supportive environment. The GSA's input helps us continue to expand and improve our services to LGBTQai+ community.

Teen Services Staffing

- Interviews were completed for the Teen Services Librarian I position and for the Teen Services Library Assistant position. Tyler Works has accepted the position for Librarian I and Elacsha Madison has accepted the position for Library Assistant. Tyler Works has several years of experience working as a teen librarian and currently is the Youth Services Assistant Department Head and Technology Librarian at Indian Prairie Public Library. Tyler has a wealth of STEM programming experience, which will be a huge asset to our team. He has experience working with diverse youth and understands the importance of equity in library service. He also brings strong project management skills and program development and evaluation knowledge. Elacsha has in depth experience working with youth from diverse backgrounds and also with diverse needs at the Mercy Home. She is prepared to handle all the different situations that can come up when serving teens. Elacsha is highly enthusiastic and excited to work with teens and sees herself as a positive role model for them. She brings a fresh perspective to programming and services. We're excited to welcome both Tyler and Elacsha to the Teen Services team.
- Outcome: Being fully staffed will allow the Teen Services team to expand our partnerships and bring more programming and services to the community. Having diverse staff helps us to strengthen relationships with teens and community members. We will also be able to offer new in house programming options to the community.

Inquiry Based STEM Programming

- Renee Neumeier met with Dr. Rebecca Daugherty, a researcher and scientist who used to be very involved in the afterschool STEM programming that NU's Science in Society Research Center runs, to discuss creating some inquiry based STEM programming at EPL. This means we're working towards creating programs that are focused on teen interests, but are also focused on having them problem solve and think critically in approaching the challenge. An additional benefit will be improving Teen Services staff's skills in presenting this type of program because the manner in which this type of program is facilitated is very important to the program's success. Currently Teen Services staff is reviewing popular books, YouTube videos and trends that can be used to create challenges that will excite teens. We're hoping to pilot 3-4 programs before March 2018.

Schools:

- Sent out teacher checkout renewal applications to all Evanston middle schools and high schools
- D65
 - Library Department meeting
 - Attended most of the the D65 librarian department meeting. Learned about their initiatives and D65 initiatives for 2018. Participated in brainstorming and discussion.

- Provided information, updates and materials on school services EPL offers.
- Mock Printz
 - Renee Neumeier is working with D65 middle school librarians on narrowing down the booklist we'll be using for our annual Mock Printz program with 8th graders. Each year the book selection process has become more in depth. This year we started with a list of titles that have gotten multiple starred reviews and are narrowing it down from there.
- ETHS
 - Big Read
 - Working to coordinate with Samoane Jone the English Department Chair on how many copies of *Citizen* ETHS would like and when they would like them delivered.

Roundtable Interview:

- Met with science writer from the Evanston Roundtable to discuss the makerspace coordination happening in Evanston, how EPL is involved, what types of making and STEM opportunities EPL currently offers and EPL's long term plans related to STEM.

Community Engagement Highlights from Jill Skwerski include:

1. Final week of book bike visits to free lunch locations at James, Mason, Crown and Fleetwood Jourdain. During just this one week, we connected 39 patrons with direct library services.
 - a. Outcome: Made library services available to patrons at a location where they naturally gather.
2. Partnered with COPE at their school supply giveaway events at Grace Lutheran Church and St. Mark's Church. Provided +/-100 attendees with access to mobile library services via book bike. Created 8 new cards and checked out 32 items.
 - Outcome: Connected non-traditional library users to library services. At least one family had never had a card, didn't know or understand how to use a public library, and had never visited a library. Through mobile library services, we are able to break down some of the barriers that exist to connecting our non-users with access to service.
3. CommUNITY Picnic in Ingraham Park. Hosted tent with full mobile access library services and STEAM activities (courtesy of Laura Antolin and student assistants). Roughly 300 attendees visited the booth, gave away 150 books from book bike and issued 1 new library card (to new Director of Student Residential Services at NU).
 - Outcome: Engaged and informed Evanstonians regarding library services at large community event, providing access to services outside the building(s).
4. Provided letters of support for grants in support of forthcoming library programs and services.
 - EISMA (Evanston in School Music Association) letter written in support of partnership to bring music program to EPL this November.
 - a. Prism Pathways letter written in support of grant that will allow EPL to partner with local NFP in 2018 to bring neighborhood digital literacy centers to underserved neighborhoods via church locations.
 - Outcome: Through partnerships and grants, library services will be expanded beyond our current capacity to provide more equitable access to programs and services.

Highlights from Latino Engagement From Miguel Ruiz:

1. Presentation at REFORMA National Conference
 - a. Poster Session on our Chicago Community Trust “On The Table” model for Latino community engagement.
Outcome: Informs the latino serving library community about EPL’s leadership in outreach to Latino populations
2. Planned screening for WTTW Documentary
 - a. Focused on the Pilsen Latino community with Panel from Chicago and Evanston to be presented in November 2017.
Outcome: Build partnerships with Chicago leaders and build specialized programming for our Latino residents
3. Joined the Centro Romero organization as a Trustee
Outcome: Build partnerships in the Chicago metro area that focus on serving the Latino immigrant population in order to bring Chicagoland resources and services to Evanston Public Library
4. Table at ETHS Freshman & Transfer Student Orientation
 - a. Tabled during the Spanish language orientation timeline
Outcome: Engaged Spanish speaking families regarding library services and created new library cards.
5. Delegated Library student employee to develop Evanston Latino demographic data report.
Outcome: Report assists in identifying a clearer picture of Latino demographics in Evanston in order to enhance data driven decisions on outreach, resource, and service development.

Tech Training Highlights from Eduardo Gomez:

Veteran Center

- **Total Attendance:** 0 patrons
 - No participation for the month of August for the Vet Center
 - We will no longer continue to partner with the Vet Center due to zero interest and participation from the location.

Blake

- **Total Attendance:** 2-3 patrons per week
- **Topics: Email, Computer Basics, Smartphone**
 - Patrons continue to build on their computer literacy skills each week.
 - We received 1 new student for the month of August who is new to computers and will return to learn how to be well versed in operating a computer.

Primm

- **Total Attendance:** 12 students (4 per week)
- **Topics: Internet, Smartphone, Computer Basics**
 - Two new students attended during the month of August.
 - Both students had never used a computer before and wanted to begin learning how in order to use the Internet.

- Taught the rest of the students how to set up and operate their newly purchased smartphones.

* Eduardo was on vacation for two weeks during the month of August, which is why there was a slight dip in attendance for the month.

Neighborhood Services Highlights from Connie Heneghan include:

At CAMS we provided several art programs to support the Discover and Create portion of the Summer Reading Program. The highlight of our month was the Eclipse. Thanks to Kim Kaufmann and Bridget Sweeney we offered a build your own eclipse viewer program and had our own viewing party. Bridget Sweeney arranged with the Main Dempster Mile Association to bring participants onto the terrace of The Main. This kept children and families safe from traffic during the viewing. Additionally adults gathered at the corner of Main and Chicago and shared glasses.

Outcome: Engaging the diverse community that surrounds the CAMS branch.



Connie Heneghan continues to bring books, audiobooks and DVDs to the Foster Senior Group on Wednesdays. Six of their members participated in the Summer Reading Program. Member Nellie Nichols was thrilled to receive a gift certificate through the drawing.

Lewis Koppel, winner of our local Senior Spelling Bee went on to win the State Senior Spelling Bee in Springfield. He was honored by the city council. This is a joint effort between Parks and Recreation and the Library.



Connie Heneghan has taken temporary responsibility for leading the library's African American Literature book group at Gibbs Morrison discussing *The Underground Railroad* by Colson Whitehead. Fourteen attended including three new participants.

Paula Shapiro and Bridget Sweeney attended Putting the M in Steam. Paula Shapiro has been part of the Erickson program Finding Math in Storybooks and is particularly interested in identifying components of math early literacy similar to the five early literacy components of reading.

The North Branch was closed for the month of August. We are thrilled with the repairs and improvements that were made and greatly appreciate being able to set up before reopening. As much as we didn't like deserting our patrons for the month, we received many positive comments from patrons about the North Branch and about missing us while we were closed like this note from The Bonges family:

*Dear Nancy & Staff of North branch,
Thanks for being such an important part of our lives! We will miss you...*

N Engel received the following note from author Sarah Dessen:

July 2017

Hi Nancy!

I heard from my cousin Libby Hill that you are a fan of my books and a great librarian, so I wanted to send a note saying hello! Libby has great things to say about your library-which I understand, as my local one is one of my top places. I hope you are well and that you have a great summer!

From a patron who found employment using the Internet:

Thank you so much for all of your support and words of encouragement...Don't worry I will still be around for assistance!

From Linda & Raphael Moreen:

Dear EPL North Branch Team,

We just wanted to express our gratitude for your hard work year-round to help us easily gain access to other materials we enjoy!... We feel fortunate to live near a fantastic library.

Comment to Bridget Sweeney when she checked out books to a man who had immigrated from Iraq: "*Why do you do this?*" Checking this patron's ID to sign him up for a computer, staff encouraged him to get a library card then ordered him some materials they had been discussing. He was overwhelmed at this service that we take for granted.

Adult Services Highlights from Heather Norborg include:

Programming:

In August, Kim Hiltwein hosted the AFTER HOURS FILM *The Circle* - 37 people attended and it was a lively crowd.

Upcoming film programs:

- *The Big Sick* is the After Hours Film for October, which is a multicultural movie with a diverse cast addressing issues in interracial relationships.
- *Where the Guns Go* documentary screening and lecture which is a political/current event program. It focuses on Mexico and will appeal to a Latinx audience as well as community members interested in issues of gun control - in partnership with Neighbors for Peace.
- *Before the Flood* screening and discussion, in partnership with Citizens' for a Greener Evanston. This is a science program about global warming that is aimed at all ages.
- *A Song for You* screening and discussion with the film's directors - about the director's family's experience during the Holocaust.
- *Unlocking the Cage* screening and panel - a documentary on animal rights.

Lorena Neal finalized the schedule for a new series of Law At The Library with Karen Handley at the Chicago Bar Association. The first session will be on Sept. 14, and we have new posters for the Main Library, and flyers to distribute to all branches.

Chokshi Filippone continues to provide free legal consultations on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday evening of each month. Appointments have been fully booked in advance, and we are now booking into November.

Outcomes: The purpose of the Law At the Library program and the free legal consultations as they relate to the library's strategic goals is to improve access to justice (defined as the ability of people to seek and obtain a remedy through formal or informal institutions of justice for grievances) to the Evanston community, as well as to support learning & literacy (through increased knowledge of legal subjects).

Lorena Neal has also scheduled additional dates for this season of MENA events with Danny Postel at MENA. In addition to the two programs scheduled for October 2 and Nov. 13 described last month, we now have a program scheduled for Dec. 11, called "The Risk of War with Iran: Will Trump Kill Obama's Iran Deal? A Talk by Trita Parsi." Copies of Mr. Parsi's latest book will be on sale through Bookends and Beginnings. On February 26, 2018, the Turkish-American novelist and New Yorker writer Elif Batuman will do a reading from her novel *The Idiot* (which will also be for sale at the event). On April 23, 2018, we will host a lecture by Nadia Marzouki, a political scientist from Tunisia. More details will be added as they become available.

Outcomes: The MENA lecture series relates to the library goals of engagement and learning & literacy. It serves as a bridge to bring the intellectual resources of Northwestern University to the Evanston community as a whole, so that community members can learn about current and historical events in the Middle East and North Africa.

Kathleen Lanigan continued to coordinate SCORE mentors to meet with small business owners twice a week to provide advice and encouragement.

In August, SCORE also presented a workshop about federal taxes targeting small business owners.

Outcomes: The SCORE partnership relates to the library goals of access and engagement by giving the local small business community access to free, expert advice.

Russell Johnson continues to manage our author events. He was very busy in August, with the final Mission Impossible: Don Quixote event and with **Planning for upcoming events:**
-- **DQ Wrap-Up Lecture (8/9) - Over 100 attendees. Ran this final program for DQ. Introduced our guest speaker Dr. Carmen and also provided updates about the end of DQ. Helped facilitate the Q&A following the lecture. Created a brief PowerPoint to announce MI: Dostoevsky to the world** Outcomes: **An example of quality supplementary MI programming that gives a richer experience and helps keep readers engaged over the year.**

-- Deena Uzzell Program - Met with Ms. Uzzell on 8/2 to discuss what details of her 9/9 program (which he inherited) had already been planned. Added website and calendar blurbs, designed a flyer, and promoted the reading via EPL's Facebook. Reached out via email to MI: *Moby-Dick* veterans who might be interested.
Goals: Offer programming of interest to history buffs, the African-American community, and Mission Impossible participants.

-- *Being Mortal's Villages* - Working with North Shore Village to host this live webcast on 9/25. The webcast will feature a live interview with *Being Mortal* author Dr. Gawande and will be viewed at the same time at 300 locations nationwide. Added website and calendar blurbs and designed a flyer.

Goals: Foster our continued partnership with North Shore Village and offer programming of interest to Evanston's retired population and anyone interested in issues of aging.

-- *H.H. Holmes: The True History of the White City Devil* Reading - Scheduled a reading for 9/19 with Chicago author Adam Selzer. Added website and calendar blurbs, designed a flyer, and promoted the reading via EPL's Facebook.

Goals: Continue our support of local authors, link to Judy Nickels' reading, and offer programming for Chicago history buffs, true crime fans, and people who can't get enough *Devil in the White City*.

-- Judy Nickels Reading - Scheduled a 9/27 reading for Evanston author Judy Nickels novel *Competent Witness* - a new angle on H.H. Holmes in historical fiction. Added website and calendar blurbs, designed a flyer, and promoted the reading via EPL's Facebook.

Goals: Continue our support of local authors, promote the Soon to Be Famous Illinois Authors Contest with hopes of bringing it to EPL, and offer programming for Chicago history buffs, historical fiction fans, and people who can't get enough *Devil in the White City*.

-- *Chicago Quarterly Review* Reading - Scheduled a reading for 10/24 for the launch of the respected lit journal's latest issue.

Goals: Strengthen our relationship with this Chicago lit fixture after an extremely successful ELF event in May. Continue our support of diverse local authors and build EPL into an even more attractive reading venue.

-- History in Fiction and Nonfiction - Scheduled a joint reading for two Chicago authors on 11/1. Steve Bellinger is an African-American sci-fi author who will share *The Chronocar*. Joseph Rulli is an historian who will share *The Chicago Haymarket Affair*. As a pair they have presented at 57th Street Books, The Book Stall, Chicago Public Library, and Oak Park Public Library and talk about how research influences their fiction and nonfiction writing about Chicago.

Goals: Continue our support of local authors, and offer programming of interest to sci-fi readers, Chicago history buffs, the African-American community, novelists, history writers, and more.

-- The Climate Reality Project - Scheduled this North Shore Village program for 11/7. More details to come, but it originates from Al Gore's organization and look to feature a panel of speaker on climate change.

Goals: Continue our relationship with North Shore Village and offer programming for those interested in environmental issues and climate change.

-- *Dorothy Day: The World Will Be Saved By Beauty* Reading - Worked with Rosalie Riegler to schedule a reading by Day's granddaughter Kate Hennessy on 12/9. Recently heard Hennessy interviewed on NPR's Fresh Air about the biography, and it sounded fascinating.

Goals: Continue to build EPL as a venue for national authors of "big" books. Strengthen our relationship with Rosalie and her large Evanston network of authors and activists including Neighbors for Peace.

Russell also continues to manage our Local Art space and the *Off the Shelf* blog: August Local Art @ EPL: Jim Parks

Julie Rand continues to plan the ASK A MASTER GARDENER program. She is working on a program for the fall to address how climate change affects gardening.

Outcomes: The master gardener program provides access to free, innovative programs and expert advice on topics of interest to garden enthusiasts.

Julie Rand signed up 2 new BOOKS ON WHEELS patrons in August. She is working to streamline and improve the BOW service, to make it clearer and more consistent for staff and patrons.

Outcomes: BOW provides access to library materials and services for homebound patrons.

Deb Winarski and Jeny Wasilewski continued our partnership with the Center for Independent Futures with their book club for adults with disabilities. It meets once a week at the library. Leaders read aloud from the book and participants discuss what they've read. The group is full, with between 10-14 attendees per week.

Outcomes: Expand services to adults with disabilities. Address issues of learning & literacy and access to services for this community.

Jeff Balch continued to manage our Free Book Distribution Program:

Continued coordinating FBD

* distributed approx. 700 books in August (minus 200 returns)

* continued process of reducing distribution due cessation of accepting donations during planned renovation

* continued day-to-day management of this program

Eduardo Gomez continued to teach computer classes at the Main Library:

1 on 1 Sessions:

- **Total:** 21 sessions
- **Cancel/No Show:** 5 sessions
- **Topics:** iPhone, LinkedIn, Word, PowerPoint and Tablets.

I worked with two of the same students throughout the month of August. One student wanted to learn how to use Microsoft Word and PowerPoint and the other wanted to learn how to use their smartphone. We had a dip in participation during the month of August because I was on vacation for nearly two weeks. Patrons continue to express their desire to expand the sessions to at least 1 hour

Computer Classes: Basics, Gmail, Internet, Word

- **Total:** 8 classes (1 topic/2 times a week)
- **Total Attendance:** 3 students

Wednesday seems to be the time that works for most patrons as 90% of the attendance came from the session we offer on Wednesday. We did not receive any patrons on Saturdays.

I was gone for nearly a two-week vacation that helps explain the poor performance for this month's attendance.

In September, we will again begin offering technology classes in Spanish at King Arts School (in partnership with D65) and in English at Family Focus. This session we will also offer 1-on-1 appointments at Family Focus.

Goals: To expand our digital literacy offerings at locations throughout the community. To increase Evanstonians' knowledge and confidence using online tools and resources for school, work and daily life.

Due to our department being short-staffed this month, we have asked for assistance on a few programs until we hire new staff. Connie Heneghan and Kevin Kelley have stepped up to continue two of our monthly book groups (African American Literature and Graphic Novels) to

keep these popular programs going. Katy Davis volunteered to staff our monthly Tabletop Game night as well. We really appreciate their help!

Positive Patron comments

-- From Jeffrey Gettleman (referring to his 7/25 event): "Wynn and Russ – I thoroughly enjoyed myself and thought you guys put on a great event. What a great idea and look forward to doing more with the library as soon as I have some new material! Have a great rest of the summer and thanks again for being wonderful hosts."

-- From Thomas Kingsley (Mission Impossible reader): "I want you to know how much I enjoyed our travels through *Don Quixote* over the past months. You were ever energetic, well organized, thoughtful and, indeed, inspiring. I look forward to our next "Impossible Dream."

-- From Jeffrey Allen (Mission Impossible reader): "I want to thank you for guiding the group with your usual upbeat spirits, insightful comments and deft leadership... I look forward to the new reads, *The Brothers Karamazov* and *Crime and Punishment* and hope to be able to sign up for one of the classes that you will be leading."

--Kim Hiltwein reports that her partners at the Block Museum were very excited about the number of new visitors who attended two programs in the summer which were part of our Summer Reading Program. Over 50 people attended each of their Sculpture Walks and most said they had heard about it through the library. They are very interested in partnering with us again for next year's Evanston Reads: *Citizen* program.

Technical Services Highlights from Tim Longo include:

Items Added August 2017

Adult at Main=1319
Adult at North=40
Adult at CAMS=29

Total adult items=1388
Juvenile at Main=1490
Juvenile at North=39
Juvenile at CAMS=38
Total juv items=1567
YA at Main=308
YA at North=31
YA at CAMS=20

Total YA items=359

Total items added to collection in August 2017= 3314

August 2017

Carts Ordered:

Evanston RW Adult Fiction: 1337.45
Evanston RW Adult Nonfiction: 6813.74
Evanston PL Fiction- Mystery & Detective: 1019.15
Evanston Popular Paperback: 33.87
Travel: 714.79
Fantasy: 294.34
Romance: 627.57
Urban: 370.07
Non-CLS Purchases: 822.08

Non-CLS Most Wanted: 204.41
Most Wanted: 37.19
Poly: 565.43
Replacements: 1536.34
Misc: 678.34
Rotary: 224.50
Amazon: 249.44
Audiobooks:
Ebooks: 1004.84

Patron Requests:

Received 36 patron book requests for the month of August. Will purchase 16 of the titles suggested.
Received 3 patron ebook requests for the month of August. Will purchase 0 of the titles suggested.
Received 1 patron audiobook request for the month of August. Will purchase 0 of the titles suggested.

Weeding:

Staff Requests:

Kim Hiltwein: 6 ebooks, Purchased: 6 ebooks
Renee: 4 books, Purchased: 4 books
Kim Heglund: 1 book, Purchased: 1 book
Connie: 2 e-audiobooks, Purchased: 2 e-audiobooks

Donations:

Adult Gift Books Added to the Collection: 112
Adult Gift DVDs Added to the Collection: 295
Adult Gift CDs Added to the Collection: 31

Local Authors Added to the Collection:

- *Thinking and Learning Through Children's Literature* by Junko Yokota
- *Trial* by Wendell Thomas
- *Psychics, Healers & Mediums* by Jenniffer Weigel
- *Gardens of Green, Boston and Beyond, A Continuum, and Warm Intrigues* by Lynn M. Dixon

Weeding:

Books Sent to Repair: 17
Most Wanted Titles Weeded: 56
Most Wanted Titles Added to the Circ Collection: 8
Grubby Books Weeded and Replaced by Gift Books: 49
Grubby CDs Replaced by Gift CDs: 10
Grubby Audiobooks Replaced by Gift Audiobooks: 3
Damaged Books Weeded: 221
Other Books Weeded: 4
CDs Weeded: 12
Audiobooks Weeded: 6
Old Editions of New Books on Standing Orders Pulled: 27
Old Editions of Audiobooks Pulled: 1
Books Sent to be Relabeled, Cataloged, etc.: 25
CDs Sent to be Relabeled, Cataloged, etc.: 1
Audiobooks Sent to be Relabeled, Cataloged, etc.: 9
DVDs Sent to be Relabeled, Cataloged, etc.: 1
Books from the "Lost" report replaced: 18
Audiobooks from the "Lost" report replaced: 7

Weeding Plan for Nonfiction (700s)

Missing: 164
Weeded: 3216

Displays

First Floor – Sad Reads
Second Floor Front 8/1 – Readalikes
Second Floor Front 8/8 – Solar Eclipse Titles
Second Floor Front 8/25 – Labor Day Books (Midwifery)

Second Floor Back 8/1 – Words Words Words
Second Floor Back 8/25 – Funny Audiobooks
Staff: Ben

Volunteer Highlights from Mary Kling include:

August 2017

- Interviewed six new volunteers
- Checked references for seven volunteers
- Received requests for additional volunteers from Staff (Books on Wheels, Book Sale, Flyers, Free Book Delivery, Children's, One-Time Events, and Circulation)
- Placed new volunteers in Concierge (1), Flyers (2), Children's (3), Circulation (3), Book Sale (2)
- Attended Storytelling Festival meeting
- Monitored Volunteer Evanston website for referrals and verification of hours logged by volunteers
- Recruited substitute volunteers for Free Book Distribution
- Finalized list of volunteers for Raiser's Edge for FFE
- Facilitated background checks for three volunteers
- Updated background check procedures for EPL volunteers
- Began partnership with Beacon Academy to provide volunteer opportunities for their students

Upcoming events of Note:

Banned Books Week

- Books on the Chopping Block

Tail Waggin' Tutors:

While not a new program, Tail Waggin' Tutors is still going strong. Originally proposed and organized by Laura Antolin, Leigh Kennelly and her colleague on Tuesday evenings when the program is scheduled, Robin Sindelar, keep this popular event going. Its purpose is to provide struggling or beginning readers the opportunity to develop confidence and fluency in reading by reading to our volunteers' non-judgmental therapy dogs.

Excerpts from patron feedback:

- From Wilson:
A family going back to China made sure to visit the library one more time. The mother said that her daughter loves the library and they will return to China with fond memories of the times they spent here and in our programs.
- From Gonzales:
A little boy came in with his grandmother; I think he was around three years old. They were looking for books about Michael Jackson. Me being who I am I started

singing a Michael Jackson song. The little boy smiled and I asked if he knew the song and he did. I showed him and his grandmother where the biography section was, found them a book and a movie on Michael Jackson. They thanked me and stopped by the desk to say bye. I liked to think that I brightened their day a little.

Outcomes: Positive experiences with the library