

Austin Public Library Director's Report November 2012

More Than Books

Highlights

- For the complete list of APL holiday events, visit http:// library.austintexas.gov/press-release/celebrateholidays-apl.
- The new photo exhibit "Austin's "Mexico:" A Forgotten Downtown Neighborhood" opened on October 30 and runs through March 10, 2013. The opening reception is Tuesday, November 27, 6-8pm.
- Literature Live! created a pair of movie trailers to help spread the word about the Library's puppet show.
 Check out the videos at http://library.austintexas.gov/ basic-page/literature-live
- The are currently no upcoming City Council agenda items for APL scheduled for November.

Facilities Services

New Central Library Project: There are no quiet months in sight for the New Central Library Project. By way of example, a series of all-day meetings were conducted with the consultant architects and engineers during the first days of November in order to facilitate the process of refining Design Development documents into Construction documents. On November 1st, an interiors overview was carried out, focused on furniture, finish materials, acoustics, signage and maintenance. On November 2nd, the order of the day was a building program verification review to further ensure that the owner's project requirements would be met. A lengthy discussion ensued on November 5th via conference call regarding the use of the New Central Library's bike porch corral and how to have this amenity meet the requirements of the Land Development Code for twelve bicycle parking spots to be available to the public 24/7/365. The design team opted to provide one row of bike racks, in the form of the City Standard upside-down "U" rack, outside of the secure bike porch corral. A two-hour landscape workshop commenced at 9:00 AM on November 6th to review the ground level layout, specimens and materials, as well as the roof garden layout, specimens and materials. On November 21st, at 2:00 PM, the Construction Manager at Risk will open the Earthwork Retention System and Temporary Dewatering bids for the New Central Library site. A New Central Library Parking Garage Operations discussion will be initiated at 1:30 PM on November 27th between representatives from the City of Austin Parking Authority, Public Works, Library and the consultant design team in order to review parking controls and identify requirements to be met and approach to be taken. Later that same day and at the request of Austin Water Utility, a meeting with the design consultants and Public Works/ Library staff will be held at 2:30 PM to discuss the New Central Library Project's planned use of rainwater and reclaimed water at the facility to irrigate landscaping and flush toilets and urinals. The project schedule for the New Central Library remains established as follows:

The project schedule for the New Central Library is now established as follows:

February 2013 ~ Construction Cost Limitation approved by Council

June 2013 ~ Construction Document Phase completed (100% Complete Design Package Delivered)

August 2013 ~ Permits received November 2013 ~ Groundbreaking Ceremony conducted

December 2013 ~ Construction begins

December 2015 ~ Construction completed

Spring 2016 ~ Grand Opening Ceremony celebrated.

2012 Bond Development Process: On Tuesday, November 6, 2012, voters considered eighteen City of Austin propositions, including ten City Charter amendment propositions, one voter-initiated proposition, and seven bond propositions. These were considered in conjunction with the November General Election for Federal, State and County offices, along with propositions for other taxing authorities. Proposition 18 was approved by voters, authorizing \$13,442,000 for projects and programs for library, museum and cultural arts facilities. Their approval of this proposition will allow the City to provide funding for designing, constructing, improving and equipping library, museum and cultural arts facilities. The types of projects to be undertaken as part of this bond proposition may include but are not limited to the following:

Library Facility Improvement Projects

Provide funding for interior and exterior renovations at multiple branch locations of the Austin Public Library. Representative projects may include:

- Austin History Center
- University Hills Branch
- Cepeda Branch
- Will Hampton Branch at Oak Hill
- Milwood Branch
- Windsor Park Branch
- Pleasant Hill Branch
- Yarborough Branch
- Zaragoza Technical Support Warehouse

Cultural Arts Facility Improvement Project

Provide funding to expand City-owned buildings that are leased and operated by the Austin Film Society to increase the amount of square footage available for film and television production and add office space for creative small businesses.

2012 Bond Program implementation planning efforts are now underway. The necessary steps to be taken include: (1) establishing clear roles and responsibilities, (2) maintaining a commitment to efficiency in cross-departmental coordination and workload, (3) ensuring integrated CIP delivery of the bond program, and (4) providing pre-project planning and coordination. It is

anticipated that funding appropriations will be provided by March, 2013, so that the delivery of the bond program may begin.

Austin History Center Wastewater Line Retrofit Project: On November 5th, the middle portion of the parking lot shared by the Faulk Central Library and the Austin History Center was fenced off to allow this important infrastructure renewal project to move forward safely. Much of the trenching work was performed by hand due the presence of other utility conduits in the excavation area. However, the work went well and passed inspection on November 14th, allowing the newly laid wastewater line to be tied into the building's sanitary sewer. The parking lot has now been cleaned and re-striped, allowing the construction fencing to be removed on November 20th, two weeks ahead of the planned finish date of December 3rd.

Faulk Central Library/Austin History Center Chiller and Cooling Tower Retrofit: On October 11th, Council authorized the award and execution of Amendment No. 1 to the contract with Trane U.S., Inc., for the purchase and installation of a centrifugal chiller at the Faulk Central Library, to increase the contract in an amount not to exceed \$61,449 for a revised total contract amount not to exceed \$264,678. Although this contract is exempt, due to Federal funding, from Chapter 2-9D of the City Code (Minority-Owned and Woman-Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program), there is 20.20% WBE participation. The work at hand is to install a fresh air duct and mechanical ventilation fan for the system in order to provide a constant flow of fresh air to the mechanical room with high volume air flow in the event of a refrigerant leak. If a refrigerant leak should occur, this additional air flow will protect staff and customers by evacuating the refrigerant and displacing it with outside air. A pre-construction meeting at the site was held on October 17th with all participants in attendance. At this time, fabrication of the new ducting is approximately 50% complete, but the exterior work necessary to provide venting has been somewhat delayed due to the challenging configuration of the structure at the point of entry. Austin Energy and the Austin Public Library remain confident, however, that all work will be completed by the end of November in time to meet the ARRA grant deadline. The construction activities required to achieve the building modifications are not anticipated to cause any interruption of normal business at the Faulk Central Library and Austin History Center campus.

Exterior Security Cameras Installation Project:

A revised scope of work is currently being developed for the twelve branch libraries still awaiting the installation of exterior night/day security cameras. This project scope revision was deemed necessary as original pricing for the equipment is now outdated and in some instances, specified equipment is no longer in manufacture. Schneider Electric is presently in the process of preparing a revised project proposal for review and acceptance by the Austin Public Library. The project team, which includes representatives from the Communication Technology Management Department, Austin Public Library Security, Schneider Electric, and Titus Electrical Contracting, LP., have coordinated walk-through inspections of the twelve remaining branches to ensure consistency and prevent

task overlap. An asbestos survey was completed for the Zaragoza Technical Support Warehouse on September 19th, and the resulting report proved negative for the presence of asbestos containing materials.

Faulk Central Library Boilers and Flue Retrofit Project:

On November 6th, 60% complete design drawings and a Preliminary Engineering Report (PER)were received from the project consultants. Following its review of the documents, the Library Department requested that the PER be corrected and resubmitted. After reviewing the revised PER, the Library Department will forward both the 60% complete design drawings and the revised PER to the Contract Management Department in order that a Quality Assurance/Quality Control (QA/QC) assessment may be conducted.

Branch Libraries Photovoltaic System Installation Project: This joint project with Austin Energy, made possible by means of a State Energy Conservation Office (SECO) grant, has provided for the installation of rooftop solar panel arrays at the Carver, Spicewood Springs, Cepeda and Ruiz branch libraries. The only project items remaining to be addressed at the branches are the dash board screen installations within interior spaces needed to display the energy production of the photovoltaic systems. Display monitors for the dashboards and associated software are now being installed at all four branch library sites, allowing for real time display of power generation. The Austin Public Library and Austin Energy anticipates that this work will be concluded by the end of the present calendar year.

Austin History Center Programming & Outreach

- Reference Archivist Ashley Adair presented a workshop for book collectors at Recycled Reads Bookstore, on Saturday, October 6th, with 20 attendees. It went so well, she was asked to do a repeat of the workshop.
- On October 25, AHC Manager Mike Miller presented 2 programs. At lunch he presented "Historic Austin: A Landmark Tour" to 75 members of Community Associations Inc. at their monthly meeting. That evening, he led the reprise presentation of the O. Henry Mock Trial, originally presented at the AHC on 9/15, at the Westminster Retirement Home.
- On October 26, the AHC participated in the Travis County History Day event put on by the Travis County Archives. Assistant Manager Nancy Toombs led the AHC's role, and the AHC partnered with the County to create an exhibit, Travis County Past & Present, and to host a program for the day. The Travis County Records Manager, Stephen Broberg, commented to the AHC Manager that this project was the best example of a City-County partnership that he has ever experienced.
- On October 28, the AHC, led by Curator of Archives Susan Rittereiser, hosted the annual Archives Clinic, in partnership with the UT student chapter of the Society of American Archivist, and about 20 people attended the event.

Collections

- AHC staff finished processing 5 collections and placed EAD encoded finding aids for these collections on the Internet at the TARO website. These collections include the Barnes Landes Goodman Youngblood Records, the J. Roy White Drawings, the Siegmund Aronson Papers, the David Thomson Emo's Poster Collection, and the J. J. Hegman Papers. The finding aids are available online at: http://www. lib.utexas.edu/taro/browse/browse ahc1.html.
- The AHC received two interesting collections last month. One was the papers of former Councilwoman Margret Hofmann, who passed away last year. These papers document Hofmann's activism in Austin, particularly her efforts to preserve Austin's heritage trees. The AHC also received the papers of Siegmund Aaronson. He was a Texas lawyer and playwright as well as an active member and supported of the Austin Civic Theater

Exhibits

- A new photo exhibit for the David Earl Holt Photo Gallery opened on October 30. The AHC partnered with Mexic-Arte Museum to present "Austin's "Mexico:" A Forgotten Downtown Neighborhood." This exhibit explores the vibrant Mexican community that sprang up around what is now Republic Square in the late 19th and early 20th Centuries. An opening reception is being planned for Tuesday, November 27, 6-8pm.
- The AHC held the opening reception for the "Building a Community: The First Century of African American Life in Travis County" on October 28. Mayor Pro Tem Sheryl Cole was the featured speaker at the event, and about 40 people were in attendance.

Publications

Photos from the AHC were purchased for use in the upcoming University of Georgia Press book "Shadows of a Sunbelt City," the 2012 edition of the Austin Environmental Directory, the cover of the 2013 Travis County Budget volume, exhibits at the Susanna Dickinson Museum, the Bob Bullock Museum, and the Harrison County Historical Museum, and for a iPhone walking tour app to be put out by the Heritage Society of Austin.

Youth Services

In October, Sally Miculek, Head of Children's Services. pulled together a wonderful discussion/training for staff. John Trischitti, current member of the Texas Bluebonnet Award Selection Committee, came to discuss Public Libraries' Participation in the Texas Bluebonnet Award Program. He brought information about how public libraries can make use of the program's resources and solicited input about ways to improve the program for Public Libraries' use. The discussion proved to be quite productive and useful for staff attending.

Heath Rezabek from Teen Services presented at UTQuest about the new library, library automation and community functions. He received many compliments on his presentation including the following: Yesterday Heath Rezabek spoke to UTQuest about the new library and library automation and community functions. He was outstanding and a credit to the Library. The commitment and depth of awareness he displayed was impressive. John In an effort to promote APL's swonderful puppet shows, the Literature Live team produced some professional trailers for all to see and now available on the Literature Live web page. There is one for Grandmother's Tale and one for Elves & the Shoemaker.

Central Library Services

Staffing

Lisa Hamilton started her new position October 8, as the new Managing Librarian in Central Library Services Blair Parsons was hired to fill Lisa Hamilton's former Librarian II position. Blair's Librarian II position is currently vacant and advertised.

Outreach/Reference

Reference librarian, Betsey Blanche, created a display celebrating 30 years of "Banned Books." Recently challenged books include, Harry Potter, The Hunger Games, The Kite Runner, Leaves of Grass, One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest, On the Origin of the Species, Twilight and Brave New World

Service Changes and Improvements

Interlibrary Loan (ILL) - Since lowering the ILL limit from 5 to 1 request, the volume of requests has decreased APL has a new ILL Courier Service, BeavEx, that has been in business 22 years and serves numerous locations in Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas and New Mexico.

ACLS Database Computers were underused. All but two of them were made work/study computers. This can give people taking the TABC test three hours straight.

Reference Tips: APL now subscribes to four business iournals: Austin Business Journal, Dallas Business Journal. Houston Business Journal, and San Antonio Business Journal. Find them under Business on the Database Page. They each have a link to the digital version of the Book of Lists.

To review all of the bills that became law in Texas, use the bill search feature on the Texas Legislature's Web site which you can find on the Texas Legal Research Information Guide.

Branch Services

At the beginning of October, the APL and ACBR were present at the official renaming of the Oak Springs branch to the Willie Mae Kirk branch, in honor or the pioneering educational and civil rights effort of long-time East Austin resident Willie Mae Kirk.

Carver Branch Manager Steve Reich and Program Specialist Michelle Lawson participated in an interview for a short film for the Texas Book Festival. The film was highlighting projects which received funding from the Texas State Library.

Howson and Ruiz hosted early voting at their locations during the month of October. Crowds were large at times but both locations (and APL security) handled it successfully. Howson staff report that governor Rick Perry participated in early voting at their branch.

ACBR welcomed several new Administrative Assistants to Ruiz, Manchaca Rd, Little Walnut, and Yarborough.

Information Services

ALIS Staff have begun the FY2013 replacement of approximately 120 Dell Optiplex GX 620 Desktops. The desktops being replaced are primarily used by customers at branch Libraries. Staff replaced fourteen older machines with Dell Optiplex 990 Desktops at both the Oak Hill and Southeast Branch Libraries. Spicewood Springs Branch public access computer replacements will be taking place the week of November 11, 2012. Twelve public access computers will be replaced at Spicewood. The newer and faster machines will be received well by Library customers. WebPac computers replaced will be enhanced to allow the ad-rotator electronic flyers to display as a screensaver for those machines. All of the replaced machines will be running the Microsoft Windows 7 operating system.

Recycled Reads

October revenue for Recycled Reads was approximately \$17,650 (9,500 items) and over 3,800 people visited the store. Donations were received from approximately 220 people.

More than twenty volunteers on average donate over 120 hours of their time to the bookstore. Goodwill Industries picked up 21 gaylords of discarded materials and Image Microsystems picked-up 2 pallets of media. Staff received 16 pallets of materials from the warehouse, branches and donations and sorted approximately 30 pallets of materials representing over 35,000 items.

Almsot 12 tons of materials were kept out of the landfill. Staff met with Melissa Prescott from Austin Resource Recovery to discuss quantifying the tonnage of recycled materials processed by Recycled Reads. Mary Priddy from the Climate Protection Department provided Carbon offset analysis due to our efforts.

Volunteer Services

OCTOBER 2012 - STATISTICS

Number of Volunteers 146 OCTOBER - Volunteer hours 1226.62 Volunteer Value* \$ 21.79

\$ 26,728.00

October Incidents

- 40 Harassment of Library staff or customers (Not Sexual)
- 32 Disturbing others using the Library
- 16 Leaving personal belongings unattended
- 14 Mistreatment or vandalism of Library facilities, materials, or equipment
- 14 Using obscene language
- 13 Violating Internet Policy
- 13 Disorderly conduct
- 10 Theft of Library, staff, or customer property

- 8 Sleeping in the Library
- 8 Appropriate clothing is required
- 8 No outside food or beverages allowed in the Library
- 7 No hat policy
- 6 Intoxication resulting from alcohol or drugs
- 6 Strong Odor
- 5 Entering unauthorized areas
- 5 Blocking access to Library entrances, passageways or resources
- 4 Bringing in bedrolls, blankets or sleeping bags
- 4 Destruction of Library property
- 3 Unintended use of restrooms
- 2 Abandoning children or failing to supervise children at the Library
- 2 Soliciting and panhandling
- 3 Destruction of Library property
- 2 Sexual harassment of Library staff or customers
- 1 Bringing animals into the Library
- 1 Smoking in the Library
- 1 Physically attack or threaten to attack another person
- 1 Unlawfully carrying or displaying weapons
- 226 Total

Locations # of Incidents

ACE 41 ALW 13

ALW 13 ARZ 13

ATB 11

AMR 8

ANV 8

AUH 8

AWK 8 APH 7

AWP 7

ACB 6

ASJ 6

ATO 6

AYB 5

ASE 4

AOQ 3 ASR 3

AHC 2

ACP 1

AOK 1

AMI 1

ARR 1

To see the complete up to date listing of events visit

http://library.austintexas.gov/events

Brenda Branch, Director of Libraries



