

Austin Public Library Director's Report April 2012

More Than Books

Highlights

- The 2011 READ Poster: READ: Your Life Depends on it featuring Austin's Public Safety Leaders—Police Chief Art Acevedo, Fire Chief Rhoda Mae Kerr and EMS Director Ernie Rodriguez Texas won the Texas Library Association's Branding Iron Awards Print Advertising category
- The Libary's Employee Appreciation Awards Luncheon will be May 4, 11 a.m. at the Norris Conference Center, 2525 W. Anderson Lane
- The Dell Discovery Lab at the Willie Mae Kirk Branch will officially open Saturday, May 12 at 2pm.
- City of Austin Budget Timeline and next steps: May 4-APL's Budget Work Session 10am; August 1-Proposed Budget presented to City Council; August 12 & 22-Budget work sessions; August 23 Budget Public Hearing/Tax Rate Public Hearing/Utility Rate Hearings; August 30 Budget Public Hearing/Tax Rate Public Hearing; September 10-12- Council adopts Budget & Tax Rate

Facilities Services

New Central Library Project: On April 3, 2012, an interdepartmental meeting was held at One Texas Center to plan the utilization of an abandoned underground vault (formerly an Austin Energy pump room) as cistern storage for water quality and rain water collection of the Seaholm/ Lower Shoal Creek Redevelopment District. Forensic engineering is now underway to establish the viability of the structure for use as a cistern. Maintenance of the structure and any necessary appurtenances will need to be coordinated between the different entities in the district. On April 5, 2010, the core team of the New Central Library Project received updated floor plans from the Joint Venture and began reviewing the drawings for content and acceptability. It was determined that the drawings remain very much a work in progress as many areas have not been revised since the Schematic Design Phase. The Waterfront Planning Advisory Board (WPAB) granted the variance request for the New Central Library because:

- The portions of the building encroaching upon the setback line are either public outdoor spaces that directly celebrate the lake and creek, or are architectural solutions to environmental issues of solar shading and heat control
- The project demonstrated numerous quantitative, qualitative and superior measures around the building and at the pedestrian street level and at every other outdoor public space on the building that gave "bonus criteria" that far exceeded the ask of a variance of an elevated porch encroachment

On April 19, 2012, New Central Library Project management team will meet with the personnel from the Lady Bird Johnson Wild Flower Center to learn from their experiences with designing, constructing and maintaining green – or vegetated – roofs. An Audiovisual/Technology/ Security Design Development Discussion will be conducted on April 23, 2012, with staff members from the departments of Public Works, Communication Technology Management and the Library in attendance along with representatives from the Joint Venture Design Team and the Construction Manager at Risk. The Austin City Council will be asked on April 26, 2012 to authorize the negotiation and execution of a design and commission agreement with Sharon Engelstein for artwork for the Second Street Bridge and Extension (Shoal Creek to West Avenue) Project in an amount not to exceed \$166,000. As the site for this artwork will be adjacent to the New Central Library, it presents an opportunity for a wide range of ideas to be proposed by the selected artist for art that will be dynamic and engaging for children and families, in response to the 2008 Families and Children Task Force Report. On April 30, 2012, the Kickoff Meeting for the Second Street Bridge and Extension Art in Public Places (AIPP) Project will be conducted with the major stakeholders in order to share base information regarding project goals, the artist's scope of services, potential exterior locations for installation, and the constraints and opportunities for conceptual design work. In a related Art In Public Places development, the contract with the artist, Christian Moeller, selected for the New Central Library AIPP Project has now been finalized and a coordination meeting is expected to be scheduled soon for the artist with the architects, engineers and other personnel engaged in the design of Austin's New Central Library. On March 7, 2012, Design Forum # 3 was held for the Seaholm Substation AIPP Wall Project. Dan Gallagher of NADAAA, Inc., reviewed the updated and Council-approved Schematic Design, addressed issues raised during the approval process and collaborated with attending stakeholders to provide direction to the artists as they move through the Design Development Phase. The project schedule for the New Central Library is as follows:

Spring 2012 ~ Design Development Completed (60% Complete Design Package Delivered)

- · Council briefed
- Library and Design Commissions briefed

December 2012 ~ 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.

Fiscal Year 2012-2013 Capital Improvement Program

<u>Plan</u>: In order to maintain its inventory of property in acceptable condition to be used by the community, the Austin Public Library is requesting that three (3), critically needed facility improvement projects receive funding appropriations in upcoming Fiscal Year 2012-2013:

- RFID Installation Project for Three Branch Libraries (\$515,000) ~ The Austin Public Library, like most major urban library systems across the country, is in the process of converting its collection management/security system from an electromagnetic based system to more efficient Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) technology. RFID technology reduces the number of staff hours required to check-in, check-out and search for collection items, while RFID self-check units have proven to be far easier for customers to use. The new North Village and Twin Oaks branch libraries are both equipped with RFID systems, as will be the New Central Library at opening. For seamless management and tracking of the collections, all library locations need to function with the same technology. The Austin Public Library proposes to upgrade the equipment at its facilities to RFID technology incrementally, beginning with our busiest branch locations: the Will Hampton Branch at Oak Hill, the Milwood Branch, and the Spicewood Springs Branch libraries. This project is a Business Priority of the Austin Public Library, will provide tangible improvement to service delivery and access, and increases the operational efficiency of infrastructure.
- Pleasant Hill Branch Library Roof Replacement Project (\$240,442) ~ The existing roof of the 8,300 square foot Pleasant Hill Branch Library is original equipment dating from the time of construction in 1985. Its present deteriorated condition requires that it be replaced in its entirety with a new, modified-bitumen, highly reflective and sustainable roof to protect the building's interiors and contents.
- Pleasant Hill Branch Library HVAC Upgrade Project (\$998,400) ~ The failing HVAC (heating, ventilation and airconditioning) system at the Pleasant Hill Branch Library is original equipment dating from the time of construction in 1985 and must be thoroughly retrofitted now. Completion of this pressing mechanical upgrade project will enable the Library Department to once again provide dependable interior climate control for customers at this busy community library.

2012 Bond Development Process: Four public workshops, one in each quadrant of the City, were held during the month of March to provide Austin residents with the opportunity to learn more about the bond development program and potential bond projects, participate in a group exercise in which they were asked how they would spend potential bond funds, and interact one-on-one with staff from the various City departments. At the April 9, 2012 meeting of the Bond Election Advisory Task Force, the chairperson of the City Facilities Committee reported that her group was recommending that all Austin Public Library potential bond projects be included on the upcoming bond ballot for funding purposes. Ranked in order of the number of Council-approved guiding principles criteria which applied to each specific project and totaling \$8,042,000, these projects for the Library Department are:

- University Hills Branch Library Parking Lot Expansion (\$1,022,000)
- Zaragoza Warehouse Fire Sprinkler System Upgrade (\$497,000)
- Austin History Center Interior & Exterior Improvements (\$1,168,000)
- Renovation of Will Hampton Branch Library at Oak Hill (\$1,340,000)
- 5. Milwood Branch Library Renovation (\$1,066,000)
- 6. Pleasant Hill Branch Library Roof Replacement & HVAC Upgrade (\$1,234,000)
- 7. Cepeda Branch Library Renovation (\$684,000)
- 8. Yarborough Branch Library Renovation (\$592,000)
- 9. Windsor Park Branch Library Renovation (\$439,000)

Austin History Center Wastewater Line Retrofit Project: The Library Department has submitted all documentation to the Contract Management Department required to have a new consultant assigned to the project and provide the necessary engineering services to complete the work. The Library Department has submitted all documentation to the Contract Management Department required to have a new consultant assigned to the project and provide the

necessary engineering services to complete the work.

Faulk Central Library/Austin History Center Chiller and Cooling Tower Retrofit: The Austin Public Library and its project partner, Austin Energy, have received the contractor's revised change order proposal for exhaust system modifications needed to bring the Faulk Central Library basement chiller room within compliance to new mechanical codes. The building permit for these modifications has been extended by the City of Austin with several stipulations which added costs to the original estimate. However, the new change order proposal will allow the Faulk Central Library mechanical room and equipment to be brought into full compliance with the requirements of the new building code. Council's approval will be needed to award the new change order amount, and Austin Energy and the Library Department are working diligently together to place this item on a Council agenda in June of 2012. The work required to enact the desired building engineering modifications is not expected to exceed six weeks in length, nor is the work expected to cause any interruption of normal business at the Faulk Central Library and Austin History Center complex

Exterior Security Cameras Installation Project: The full shipment of exterior security cameras needed for the remaining priority library locations has been delivered and is now in the hands of the Austin Public Library for safekeeping. Installing exterior security cameras at Library locations has been delayed to allow a review by the City of Austin of the need for grounding of such exterior devices. This action was taken after lightning strikes in January, and again in March, caused extensive damage to the security camera system installed on another municipal building. Proposals were subsequently provided by the contractor to meet the City's established, jurisdictional responsibilities for system grounding, equipment grounding, isolated grounding and lightning protection grounding. On April 5, 2012, the Library Department accepted the contractor's grounding proposals, and the equipment needed for

lightning protection is now on order. The installation of the exterior security cameras is now expected to be initiated at library locations near the end of April, 2012, in the following order: Ruiz, Carver, University Hills, Southeast Austin Community, Little Walnut Creek, Terrazas, St. Johns, and the Willie Mae Kirk branch libraries.

Faulk Central Library Boilers and Flue Retrofit Project:

The Contract Management Department is currently finalizing a contract with the firm selected by the Library Department from the City of Austin Mechanical/ Electrical/Plumbing Engineer Rotation List to provide professional consultant services for the Faulk Central Library Boilers and Flue Retrofit Project. In addition to Design and Construction Management responsibilities, the Library Department is asking the Contract Management Department to add project Commissioning to the scope of work for this particular engineering firm.

Branch Libraries Photovoltaic System Installation Project: This joint project with Austin Energy, utilizing a State Energy Conservation Office (SECO) grant, calls for the installation of solar panels on the roofs of the Carver, Spicewood Springs, Cepeda and Ruiz branch libraries. The solar panel array planned for the Carver Branch Library will be the largest such installation found in the Library's inventory of properties and one of the largest planned to date for any City of Austin facility. The three roof levels of the Carver Branch Library will be covered by 276 modules (solar panels) set at a 5 degree angle. This roof mounted photovoltaic system will provide 60 KW for the Carver Branch Library and whatever electricity is not used by the library will be absorbed by the City grid for distribution elsewhere. Austin Energy and the Library Department have taken care to bring the new conduits for the PV system through an existing, cabling chase to keep roof penetrations to a minimum, and at the City Inspector's request, have installed disconnects for the system on both the roof and at ground level. Austin Energy is proposing to conduct a public celebration of the successful photovoltaic array installation at the Carver Branch Library and the Carver Museum before the end of May, 2012, and the date and time for that event will be advertised throughout the community as soon as they are established. The work to install photovoltaic panels at the three remaining library sites is anticipated to start within the next several weeks.

Oak Springs Branch Library Name Change: As of April 3, 2012, the contract was awarded to the low, responsive bidder for the deconstruction of existing building and monument signage at the former Oak Springs Branch Library as well as the design, fabrication and installation of new signage identifying the facility as the Willie Mae Kirk Branch Library. New signage design is now underway while the vendor is developing site plan modifications required for the permitting process. As the permits are acquired and the project schedule can be firmed up, a date and time for the dedication ceremony will be coordinated by the Library Department with the Kirk family, confirmed with upper management of the City, and then advertised widely. The new signage for the dedication ceremony, which is anticipated to be a very special and well attended event, is not expected to be finished and in place prior to June of the present year.

Austin History Center Programming & Outreach

- Video Archivist Tim Hamblin served on the panel "Dig Deep: Libraries, Archives and Filmmaking" at the SXSW Film Festival on March 13. The panel discussed how archives and libraries can be great sources for accurate information for filmmakers, much of which is not available on the web, and how there is far more information available beyond doing a basic 'Google search'. The panel was well attended and there were so many questions at the end that the panelists had to continue their discussions outside the meeting room.
- On March 24, Mexican American liaison Gloria Espitia kicked off her new project to document the development and history of the Emma S. Barrientos Mexican American Cultural Center (ESBMACC). The project proposes to conduct 40 oral histories of individuals identified by an advisory committee of having served a major role in the 40 year history of making the ESBMACC possible. The project started with an oral history workshop held at the Ruiz Branch.
- Also on March 24, the AHC, along with the AHCA and Waterloo Press, had a booth at the Six Degrees of Connection history event held at the Oakwood Cemetery. This event was organized by Save Austin's Cemeteries and was designed to have all of Austin's historical and heritage organizations together "under one roof" (and there was a tent).
- On March 27, Reference Archivist Ashley Adair gave a presentation to the Travis County and Districts Retirement System Employees Lunch and Learn meeting. Thirty-five people attended her talk about the AHC.
- On March 31, the AHC, along with the AHCA, the Heritage Society of Austin, and the city's Historic Preservation Office, presented a half day workshop "Windows on the Past: Researching Your Historic Property." Over 40 people attended the event, learning about how to research a historic property, what resources are available for research, how to apply for a landmark, and the different architectural styles common to Austin.

Collections

- Archives staff finished processing 5 collections and placed EAD encoded finding aids for these collections on the Internet at the TARO (Texas Archival Resources Online) website. These collections include the Austin Equal Citizenship Corporation Records, the Elaine Heard Collection of National Society Magna Charta Dames, Austin Colony Records, the James Steely Historical Preservation Papers, the Pat Toth Austin Schools Collection, and the John B. Winn Parent-Teacher Association Records. The finding aids are available online at: http://www.lib.utexas. edu/taro/browse/browse_ahc1.html.
- The AHC continued to add to its movie theater holdings. Staff acquired two scrapbooks of clippings and photographs belonging to veteran projectionist Jim Maloy, which document Austin historic movie heritage and the local 205 are on loan for copying. Several of the images were already used for the First Pictures Shows exhibit. A donation was also received a from the grandson of J. J. Hegman, an early movie theater owner who opened the Queen and Ritz Theaters. This donation included many photographs from the theaters in the Hegman chain as

well as extensive news clippings of the Hegmans battle against the local Blue Laws that prevented them from showing movies on Sundays.

 Asian American liaison Esther Chung conducted an oral history interview with Tommy Hodinh, the owner of MagRabbit. She also acquired a small collection of clippings and documents about his life and career.

Publications

 Photos from the AHC were purchased for use in a book by the Texas Senate Media Services, the Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan, for an ACVB video, and on the Humanities Texas website.

Exhibits

- For the week of March 26-April 2, the AHC had its traveling exhibit, "Mexican American Firsts: Trailblazers of Austin and Travis County" on display on the ground floor rotunda of the Capitol. The exhibit was available for viewing during the festivities and conference surrounding the unveiling of the new Tejano Monument on the Capitol grounds.
- The Deco and Moderne: Austin Architecture of the 1930s photo exhibit will be closing its run at the AHC on April 29, though it will live on as a temporary installation at the Austin Chapter of the American Institute of Architects office in August. An exhibit about the life of William Sydney Porter, aka O. Henry, is scheduled for the David Earl Holt Photo Gallery, to be completed in early May.

Central Library Services 2012 New Fiction Confab

The 2012 New Fiction Confab will be held Saturday, April 21, at the Faulk Central Library, Howson, Twin Oaks and Yarborough Branches.

Readings, Q&A's and Panel Discussion to be held at the John Henry Faulk Central Library are:

2:00pm Walter Kirn

2:30pm Peter Orner

3:00pm Ben Marcus

3:30pm Heidi Julavits

4:00pm Panel Discussion

5:00pm Book Signing

Reorganization at Central

All the NEW Adult Fiction and Adult Non-fiction as well as Adult Large Print have moved to the second. Media will now expand into the New and Large Print sections, this is to make space for the \$800,000 in CIP materials that will be arriving this year. The next fiscal year there will be \$1 million in CIP funds and \$1 million the year after that.

Staff expanded and rearranged the Media area and in the near future will install 2 RFID self-check units and security gates like North Village and Twin Oaks have. This is in preparation for the New Central Library. The collection will have RFID installed in the current media and new materials will come with the tags installed.

Recycled Reads

March revenue for Recycled Reads was approximately \$15,500 and over 4,300 people visited the store.

More than twenty volunteers on average donate over 200 hours of their time to the bookstore. More than 33 pallets of materials from the warehouse were processed and over 100 individual donations from the public were received. Approximately 15 pallets of materials were sorted representing over 43,000 items. Good Will picked up over 26 gaylords of material, and approximately 12 tons of materials were diverted from the landfill. Image Microsystems picked-up 5 pallets of materials.

Manager Mindy Reed continues acting Branch Manager responsibilities at AOQ.

Volunteer Services

MARCH 2012 - STATISTICS

Number of Volunteers 172

JANUARY - Volunteer hours 1640.60

Volunteer Value* \$ 21.36

\$35,043.28

March Incidents

- 34 Disturbing others using the Library
- 32 Harassment of Library staff or customers (Not Sexual)
- 18 Disorderly conduct
- 15 Mistreatment or vandalism of Library facilities, materials, or equipment
- 15 Leaving personal belongings unattended
- 14 Violating Internet Policy
- 13 Sleeping in the Library
- 13 Using obscene language
- 11 Intoxication resulting from alcohol or drugs
- 10 No hat policy
- 7 Theft of Library, staff, or customer property
- 6 No outside food or beverages allowed in the Library
- 5 Strong Odor
- 4 Abandoning children or failing to supervise children at the Library
- 4 Bringing animals into the Library
- 4 Entering unauthorized areas
- 4 Physically attack or threaten to attack another person
- 4 Destruction of Library property
- 3 Unintended use of restrooms
- 2 Fighting
- 2 Soliciting and panhandling
- 2 Appropriate clothing is required
- 2 Blocking access to Library entrances, passageways or resources
- 1 Indecent exposure
- 1 Smoking in the Library
- 1 Public Lewdness

227 Total

Locations # of Incidents

ACE 60 ATB 18 ALW 12 ARZ 12

AWP 12

ACB 11

AMR 8

APH 7 ASE 7 ASR 6 ANV 5 ASJ 5 AUH 5 AHO 4 AWK 4 ACP 3 AOK 2 AOQ 2 AYB 2 AHC 1 AMI 1 ARR 1 ATO 1

To see the complete up to date listing of events visit

http://library.austintexas.gov/events

Brenda Branch, Director of Libraries

