

Austin Public Library Director's Report March 2013

More Than Books

Highlights

- The New Fiction Confab is April 13, from 2 pm 5pm at the John Henry Faulk Central Library see http://www. austinlibrary.org/site/PageServer?pagename=New_ Fiction Confab
- Día de los Niños, Día de los Libros—Children's Day, Book Day begins April 20 at the Southeast Branch. Visit http://library.austintexas.gov/press-release/ d%C3%ADa-de-los-ni%C3%B1os-d%C3%ADa-de-loslibros%E2%80%94childrens-day-book-day#overlaycontext= for all the events.
- The 2013 Mayor's Book Club will feature two novels: Billy Lynn's Long Halftime Walk by Ben Fountain and The Yellow Birds by Kevin Powers. Both novels explore the impact of the Iraq War on soldiers, families and the American mindset. Ben Fountain will visit in October for a series of events.

Join Kevin Powers:

- ~ for a Q and A at the Austin History Center Tuesday, April 30, 11:30am-12:30pm
- ~ for a Writing Workshop at the Hampton Branch Library at Oak Hill ,Tuesday, April 30, 2-3pm.
- The Austin History's Center newest exhibit opened March 19. "Birthday of a Beautiful Building: 80 Years and Beyond at 810 Guadalupe" commemorates the opening of Austin's Central Library building on March 20, 1933 and its reopening exactly fifty years later as the Austin History Center. The exhibit will be on display in the David Earl Holt Photo Gallery through September 15, 2013
- Upcoming April City Council agenda items for APL: April 23, 2013, the Contract Management Department will submit an RCA asking Council to authorize Construction Cost Limitation (CCL) funding in the amount of \$109,100,000 plus a \$2,600,000 Owner contingency for a total not to exceed amount of \$111,700,000, and authorize negotiation and execution of a Guaranteed Maximum for construction of the New Central Library and related improvements (to include 2nd Street Bridge, Utilities, Roadway Extension and Seaholm Substation Screen Wall) with Hensel Phelps Construction Company, Austin, Texas, Construction Manager at Risk.

Facilities Services

New Central Library Project: The New Central Library project continued to make great strides forward during March of 2013. On March 7th, the Austin City Council set a public hearing for April 11th to consider the permanent use of approximately 23,794 square feet of land for construction, maintenance, repair and replacement of a shoring or soil retention system, building canopy, bridge and roadway for the New Central Library/Second Street and Bridge Extension projects through dedicated parkland known as Shoal Creek Greenbelt, in accordance with Texas Parks and Wildlife Code, Section 26.001. Chapter

26 of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Code provides that the use of parkland for non-park purposes may be approved upon a finding that there is no feasible and prudent alternative to the use of this land. On March 8th, the project's core team met with the Planning, Development and Review Department (PDRD) to discuss revisions to the site's landscaping plan along Cesar Chavez Street. It was agreed to allow the project to use the more columnar chinquapin oak trees in this constrained area of sidewalks and bikeways rather than the more rounded red oak trees preferred by the street planners. Public Works, Parks and Recreation (PARD), Library, and Art in Public Places (AIPP) staff met on March 12th with consultants and the artist creating the interactive, family friendly sculptures to be installed near the Shoal Creek entrance to the New Central Library. The topic of discussion was accessibility to the artist's sculptures, as required by the standards of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and an action plan to achieve compliance to this Federal statute was devised. The tentative date and time chosen for the Groundbreaking Ceremony of the New Central Library/ Second Street and Bridge Extension projects is Thursday. May 16th at 11:00 AM. To coordinate the Groundbreaking Ceremony and other construction issues, the City's project staff and construction manager-at risk will meet on March 18th with the Seaholm development team and their construction manager-at risk. There remains concern that the Groundbreaking Ceremony may be delayed should Austin Energy's installation of a ductbank along Cesar Chavez Street prove to be slow going due to encountering poor soil conditions once trenching starts. Nevertheless, on March 28th, staff from Public Works, PARD and the Library will meet to finalize roles and responsibilities for the Groundbreaking Ceremony and to discuss the event program and logistics. Other project issues dealt with this month include: confirming that the reuse of an underground pump room on the site as a cistern meets water quality requirements, resolving discrepancies in the draft Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) of the construction manager-at-risk, integrating Green Water Treatment Plant artifacts within the New Central Library design, and determining the effect upon the project of a recent Council ordinance requiring amphitheaters to undergo a conditional structure approval process. The project schedule for the New Central Library remains as follows:

April 2013 ~ Construction Cost Limitation approved by Council

May 30, 2013 ~ Groundbreaking Ceremony conducted

June 2013 ~ Site Development Work begins

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

August 2013 ~ Building permits received

December 2013 ~ Construction begins

December 2015 ~ Construction completed

Spring 2016 ~ Grand Opening Ceremony celebrated.

2012 Bond Development Process: The Library Department has proposed that the design of the three following projects, as well as the land acquisition required by the University Hill parking lot expansion project, be funded in current Financial Year 2013, with funds for construction to be provided in Financial Year 2014:

- University Hills Branch Library Parking Lot Expansion
- Pleasant Hill Branch Library Roof Replacement and HVAC Upgrade
- Milwood Branch Library Renovations

In Financial Years 2015 and 2016, the Library Department requests that appropriations be provided to initiate and complete the three following renovation/retrofit projects:

- Will Hampton Branch Library at Oak Hill Renovations
- Austin History Center Interior and Exterior Improvements
- Zaragoza Warehouse Fire Sprinkler Upgrade

Finally, the Library Department intends to carry its share of the 2012 Bond Program through to completion by designing and constructing its last three renovation projects during Financial Years 2017 and 2018, when the necessary funding may be provided. Those projects are:

- Cepeda Branch Library Renovations
- Yarborough Branch Library Renovations
- Windsor Park Branch Library Renovations

2012 Bond program implementation planning was completed this month, and a Bond Oversight Committee meeting is scheduled for the morning of March 29th, so that discussion and action may be taken on the mid-FY2013 Proposed Bond Appropriation and Sale Schedule Amendment.

Financial Year 2014 Capital Improvement Program Plan: Continuing to make good progress on the New Central Library Project will remain the primary goal of the Library's Capital Improvement Program (CIP) work plan for Financial Year 2014. However, three pressing renovation projects funded by means of the 2012 Bond Program likewise figure prominently in the department's Financial Year 2014 CIP work plan:

- The University Hills Branch Library Parking Lot Expansion Project will correct vehicular and pedestrian access safety hazards at this increasingly popular East Austin community library.
- The Pleasant Hill Branch Library Roof Replacement & HVAC Upgrade Project will prevent further water penetration of the building envelope and restore interior climate control for this important South Austin library facility.
- The Milwood Branch Library Renovation Project will repair a failing sanitary sewer and replace worn finishes, furniture and equipment at this heavily used library serving the Northwest quadrant of the City.

The currently unfunded but critically needed RFID Installation for Branch Libraries Project has also been proposed for inclusion in the CIP work plan of the Austin Public Library for Financial Year 2014. This project will upgrade obsolete electromagnetic-based collection security and management equipment throughout the departmental inventory of properties to match the RFID (Radio Frequency Identification) technology currently utilized at our two newest branches (North Village and Twin Oaks) and planned for the New Central Library. The Austin Public Library proposes to upgrade this essential equipment at its facilities to RFID incrementally, beginning with its busiest branch locations. The remaining schedule for finalizing the Financial Year 2014 Capital Improvement Program is:

Early April ~ City Manager to review CIP Plan & Bond Sale Schedule

April 18 ~ Financial Forecast Presentation to Council

June 25 ~ Planning Commission recommends FY14 CIP Plan

August 1 ~ Proposed Capital Budget presented to Council

September 9 – 11 ~ Budget Readings/Approval

Exterior Security Cameras Installation Project:

The Communications Technology Management Department (CTM) has transitioned the project management of the ESAS project from one staff member to another during March of 2013. ESAS provides an integrated enterprise level security solution to installing new services and replacing end of life and/or updating access control, video surveillance and alarm systems. CTM has just informed the Austin Public Library (APL) that the City's master cabling contract is being negotiated at the present, therefore all cabling work on the APL security camera installation project has been halted until a new contract is in place. In the meantime, APL is working with CTM to have the necessary spending authority released to Schneider Electric in order to finish the installation of security cameras at the Spicewood Springs, Cepeda, Manchaca Road, Pleasant Hill, Howson, Milwood, Old Quarry, Yarborough and Oak Hill branch libraries.

Faulk Central Library Boilers and Flue Retrofit Project:

On February 12th, Austin Public Library and Contract Management Department (CMD) staff met to review the feasibility of employing a Job Order Contract (JOC) vendor as the method of construction delivery for this project. It was decided that the project remained a good match for the CMD managed JOC program that provides construction, repairs and maintenance services to City of Austin facilities via JOC vendors The project's construction documents and drawings are now 90% complete, but the project manager has requested additional information from the design engineers needed to meet the Electronic Plan Review requirements of the Quality and Standards Management Division. A project construction schedule will be established and announced to both Library staff and customers as soon as proves possible.

Twin Oaks Branch Library Real-Time Controls for Rainwater Harvesting Project: This is a pilot project sponsored by the Watershed Protection Department to retrofit the rainwater harvesting system at the Twin Oaks Branch Library with Real Time Controls. The intent is to achieve better balance between the sometimes conflicting goals of storm water treatment and water conservation. In storm water treatment, storm water is expected to be discharged from cisterns to infiltrate the ground quickly so that cisterns are empty for the next storm. In water conservation, the water in cisterns is held as long as possible for regular use in irrigation. Real Time Controls are being proposed as a potential solution to this conflict. These controls are connected to weather stations and will automatically draw down the cistern contents by the amount of rain predicted by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). This approach will allow cisterns to be emptied for storm events while insuring a reservoir for irrigation purposes. The City of Austin Watershed Protection and Water Environment Research Foundation (WERF) has teamed with Geosyntec to carry out this pilot study for evolving technology on a shared cost basis. Following installation, the new control system will be monitored for 24 months. Real Time software will allow information on the system to be displayed in the interior of the library for customer viewing. During the initial inspection of the Twin Oaks site, it was discovered that the existing rainwater harvesting system was not performing to design criteria and bio-filtration system improvements were needed. That work has been scoped and priced. but is now awaiting approval by the Watershed Protection Department's director and assistant city manager before being initiated.

Austin History Center Programming and Outreach

- African American Community Archivist Cynthia Evans had numerous outreach events related to Black History Month. She represented the AHC at the Huston Tillotson Black Heritage Festival on February 23 and the Camp Mabry Heritage Festival on February 27.
- The AHC had a very successful trivia contest on its Facebook page this month, with the AHCA sponsoring the prize (a free 1887 bird's eye view of Austin). The AHC received many positive comments about the contest and requests for more in the future.

Collections

- AHC staff finished processing 3 collections and placed EAD encoded finding aids for these collections on the Internet at the TARO website. These collections include the Sinclair Black Papers, the Southwestern Ice & Cold Storage Photographs, and the Theresa Matocha Scrapbook. The finding aids are available online at: http://www.lib.utexas.edu/taro/browse/browse ahc1.html.
- The AHC recently received a donation related to Valmon Records, a historic Austin record label that recorded Mexican American recording artists who had few other avenues to showcase their music. The collection includes Photographs, LPs, 45s and a songbook. The donation was highlighted in an article in La Voz: http://www.lavozcolorado.com/detail.php?id=6893#.US4oOrg9BT0.email.
- The AHC just completed and posted its new guide,

"Austin History Center LGBTQ Resource Guide: Sources of Information Relating to LGBTQ People in Austin, Texas in the Austin History Center, Austin Public Library." (http://www.austinlibrary.com/ahc/downloads/LGBTQ%20 Resource%20Guide.pdf). This guide was compiled in response to a June 4, 2010 article in the Austin Chronicle ("Outing the Archive: The Austin History Center stands ready to gay up its archives") about the lack of archives for the Austin gay community. The article brought volunteer help to the AHC, and the volunteers under the supervision of Video Archivist Tim Hamblin scoured the AHC collections to note collections and resources that would be useful for people researching this topic, as well as revealing areas where additional documentation is needed.

Exhibits

- The AHC installed a new photo exhibit at the Terrazas Branch Library in conjunction with their grant funded American music in film program series. The exhibit, "Austin Music Originals," highlights some early happenings in the Austin roots music scene and serves as a complement to the lecture and film series planned by Terrazas.
- The newest exhibit at the AHC opened on March 19. "Birthday of a Beautiful Building: 80 Years and Beyond at 810 Guadalupe" commemorates the opening of Austin's Central Library building on March 20, 1933 and its reopening exactly fifty years later as the Austin History Center. The exhibit will be on display in the David Earl Holt Photo Gallery through September 15, 2013.

Publications

• Photos from the AHC were purchased for use in 3 upcoming books: an upcoming biography of Oveta Culp (UT Press, 2014), Visual Art and the Urban Evolution of the New South (U of South Carolina Press, 2014), and The Eyes of Texas from the Past. Images and collections are also being used in upcoming exhibits at the Capitol, the Capitol Visitors Center, and the County's 700 Lavaca building, public tours of the Governor's Mansion, on the Humanities Texas website, and in the Republic Square Master Plan Report.

AHCA News

• The AHCA held its annual Angelina Eberly Luncheon on February 6. The sold out room (200+) was regaled with stories in the luncheon's third installment of its series of programs honoring former Austin Mayors. A tribute to the late Roy Butler was followed by a roundtable discussion with Bruce Todd and Will Wynn, emceed by DAA Executive Director Charles Betts. Current Mayor Lee Leffingwell provided the opening remarks, having this to say about the AHC: "[The] History Center building, to me, is the best building, the most... significant building in the city of Austin except for the State Capitol, and it is incumbent on all of us to make sure it stays there." The new Waterloo Press publication, Austin: The Faces of Philanthropy, 1976-2012 by Robert Godwin, was officially launched at this event with a book signing after the luncheon.

Branch Services

 AWP - Adult Programming: The Community Cinema film "Powerbroker" attracted 12 citizens on March 5. The Windsor Park Book Club had 4 readers at the monthly meeting discussing No Ordinary Time: Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt by Doris Kearns Goodwin. Before he left to work in AOPP, former staffer Michael Wheat set up an author program with Michael Brick. Mr. Brick wrote much of his book about Reagan High School, Saving the School: The true story of a principal, a teacher a coach, a bunch of kids and a year in the crosshairs of education reform, on his laptop here at Windsor Park Branch. The program included performances by the Reagan HS choir, the Latin jazz quartet, a dance troupe and a discussion led by Mr. Brick and Reagan principal Anabel Garza. There were 60 attendees for this event.

- AUH AUH hosted the traveling display on the Buffalo Soldiers produced by the Texas State Parks and Wildlife Department. Over 15 people attended the February 4 discussion on the Buffalo Soldiers.
- ACB held its Black History Month program: The Tap Experience: the history of tap dancing on February 25.
 Terrence Taps provided a demonstration and lecture for an enthusiastic audience of about 30 kids and adults.
 It was great to see the way he successfully got his audience to participate in the program, even the teens!
 - **Upcoming Events**
- ARC Art Show April 13, 2pm 4pm at AOK
- Dia de los Ninos April 20, 10am 2pm at ASE

Youth Services

On February 23, Youth Services tabled at the Austin Regional Science Festival at Palmer Events Center. Thousands of kids and parents visited the Library's table to find out what is going on at the Library. Staff put together some creative games and math doodles for kids to try at the table! Overall the event was a successful outreach for the Austin Public Library.

Sally Miculek, Children's Coordinator, was asked to join two very important Texas Library Association task forces. The first is the pending Texas Public Library Standards Task Force. This task force will begin its work in the next couple months, and will continue working for the next year. The TLA Executive Board was asked to compile a list of recommended members for this task force, and felt that it would be beneficial to list one member of the Executive Board for the membership. As Sally is the Public Librarian Member-at-Large for the TLA EB, she was asked to take this role. Additionally, TLA has been approached about a partnership with the Illinois Library Association Summer Reading initiative, iREAD. As Sally is both the Public Librarian Memberat-Large on the Executive Board and also coordinates the wonderful Summer Reading Program here at APL, she was asked to chair the task force to explore this partnership as well as other opportunities for TLA to get involved in the provision of Summer Reading Programs for Library users in Texas. This task force will begin its work soon, with a goal of completing its work and making a recommendation to the TLA Executive Board by the end of the summer.

Central Library Services Staff News

Reference Librarian, Meg Holle, will be joining ACLS at the end of April. Meg was a Reference and Instruction Librarian at the Walden University in Minneapolis, Minnesota. She has a MLIS from the iSchool, University of British Columbia in Vancouver, BC, Canada. She also has a Bachelor of Arts in English from the University of Minnesota.

Service Changes

- The remainder of the Central's Vinyl Recording Collection was withdrawn in early March due to declining circulation. Only one complaint has been received and that was during SXSW. Keeping Austin's creative music history in mind, the music archivist at the Austin History Center went through the collection and chose items that related to Austin and to Austin recording artists or composers. These items will be kept and preserved at the AHC so that future generations will have access to it. The withdrawn recordings will go to Recycled Reads in the near future.
- The re-casing and RFID tagging of the Adult and Juvenile DVD's and CD's has been completed. The Children's DVDs switched places with the DVDs so now the major motion pictures are facing the east entrance windows and the Children's DVDs are situated at the first DVD range. With the new arrangement, visibility is enhanced for the Children's DVDs and congestion alleviated for customers browsing the popular feature DVD section. The center range of shelves was removed and 5 new music CD racks were installed. They provide more space and better visibility of materials while adding aisle space for customers in a very busy area.

Information Systems

The Locations pages maps were updated on the APL website. The website now uses an interactive Google plugin to display a map of each Library location. The plugin allows customers to choose the type of map to display. Customers may choose a satellite view or the standard map view. They can zoom in or out when viewing a map. Customers also have the option of using the interactive Street View on any of the location maps.

Recycled Reads

February revenue for Recycled Reads was approximately \$12,755 (14,000 items) and over 4,000 people visited the store. Donations were received from approximately 251 people. Over 37 boxes of weeded materials were received from the Westbank Public Library.

More than twenty volunteers on average donate over 200 hours of their time to the bookstore. Goodwill Industries picked up 11 gaylords of discarded materials from the store. Image Microsystems picked up 13 pallets of media from the store and an additional 4 from the warehouse. Staff received 18 pallets of materials from the warehouse, branches and donations and sorted approximately Staff's main effort in February was sorting books in the warehouse. Between February 1 and February 28, the backlog in the warehouse was reduced from 80 pallets to 1.5. 30 pallets of materials representing over 58,000 items. Over 18 tons of materials were kept out of the landfill.

Mindy Reed coordinated with Mike Bensen in COA purchasing to receive approval to initiate an online bookstore. After coordinating with Purchasing, Treasury and APL finance, ARR was given to approval to post online book sales with Alibris.

Recycled Reads now has over 1,150 Facebook followers and 108 on Twitter/Pintrest. Staff increased the blog posts to bi-weekly with collectibles featured on Wednesday and crafting projects featured on Fridays

ASE 2 AYB 2 AHC 1 AHO 1 AWK 1

Volunteer Services

FEBRUARY 2013 - STATISTICS
Number of Volunteers 160
FEBRUARY - Volunteer hours 1364.90
Volunteer Value* \$ 21.79
\$29, 740.73

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http://library.austintexas.gov/programs

Brenda Branch, Director of Libraries

To see the complete up to date listing of events visit





February Policy Violations

- 30 Disturbing others using the Library
- 23 Harassment of Library staff or customers (Not Sexual)
- 14 Disorderly conduct
- 12 Sleeping in the Library
- 11 Using obscene language
- 11 Sleeping in the Library
- 11 Theft of Library, staff, or customer property
- 8 Mistreatment or vandalism of Library facilities, materials, or equipment
- 7 Leaving personal belongings unattended
- 7 No outside food or beverages allowed in the Library
- 6 Physically attack or threaten to attack another person
- 4 Abandoning children or failing to supervise children at the Library
- 4 Entering unauthorized areas
- 4 No hat policy
- 3 Intoxication resulting from alcohol or drugs
- 3 Violating Internet Policy
- 3 Bringing in bedrolls, blankets or sleeping bags
- 3 Destruction of Library property
- 3 Appropriate clothing is required
- 2 Blocking access to Library entrances, passageways or resources
- 2 Strong Odor
- 1 Bringing animals into the Library
- 1 Fighting
- 1 Sexual harassment of Library staff or customers
- 1 Smoking in the Library
- 1 Public Lewdness

120 Total

Locations # of Incidents

ACE 38 ALW 17 ATB 9 ATO 8 AUH 8 7 AMR 5 ACB 5 APH

ANV 4

ARZ 3 ASR 3

ASJ 3

AWP 3