

Holmes Public Library  
Director's Report  
April 2011

The Wage & Personnel Board has not recommended the Trustees' request for the reclassification of the Adult Services Librarian to that of Assistant Director. The Trustees' decision is whether to make a request at Town Meeting that the body consider the request or to postpone the request for another year and re-submit to Wage & Personnel next January.

Two candidates will be on the ballot for Library Trustee in May: Stacy Rancourt and Richard Conley. I am pleased that two Halifax citizens are offering their services to the Library. The institution will be strengthened by their contributions.

The roof still has a very small leak above the rest rooms. The problem is between the connecting area of the flat roof above the school and the Library's main roof. Buildings and Grounds is continuing to tackle the problem.

A draft plan outlining the move of the adult fiction and non-fiction collections is included in the Trustees' packet. Staff are preparing for this two-week project beginning immediately after the Friends' Book Sale and before Summer Reading begins.

The new lounge chairs for the Adult Reading area have arrived and are beautiful. New adult "new book" browsing shelving, a specialized turn-style display for newspapers and signage remain to be chosen in order to complete this move. Staff are debating purchasing used new book display shelving from Borders Bookstores or new steel library shelving units from Gaylord. There is a big difference in pricing and in the type of display offered from these two choices.

The Trustees have been approached by a local Scout troupe with the idea of a landscaping project for the Spring. This may be a two-year process between landscape planning and implementation.

The Finance Committee has approved the Library's budget request enabling the library to meet the State's Municipal Appropriations Requirement, and the Library will let the Finance Committee know at the end of April what FY2011 funds the Library will be able to return to the General Fund.

The Friends of the Library will fund a two-part genealogy series this fall, and are discussing creating a volunteer position to coordinate refreshment for some library programs. The Golden Opportunities grant series is half-way through and staff are beginning to think about planning technology cafes for next year. The Summer Reading program is right around the corner. Staff are beginning to formulate the publicity, and, of course, Miss Marie has most of the programming already planned! The Library has received a substantial gift towards the LaCivita Children's Fund, and Miss Marie is thinking about ways to bring more arts programming to Halifax children.

The Library has been notified that it will receive a Public Relations Award at the Massachusetts Library Association's Annual Conference for each of the three entries submitted. We do not know which award but have been told that the awards acknowledge excellence and are well-deserved.

The Friends of the Library has sponsored three entries on behalf of the Library Staff for the Massachusetts Library Association Public Relations Awards in the Summer Reading (Once Upon a Summer 2010), bookmark (Massachusetts Book Award Display 2010), and social networking project (Golden Opportunities 2011) categories.

Respectfully Submitted

Debra DeJonker-Berry, Library Director

