

Holmes Public Library
Director's Report
January 2011

The final version of the Long-Range Plan has been submitted to the MBLC and is available on the Library's web-site. The operating budget request is level-funded for services but there is a \$2,022 increase to fund the SAILS assessment this year. In addition, last year's request for Wage & Personnel to reclassify the Adult Services Librarian as Assistant Director and a Copier Revolving Fund article are included. With the exception of switching fiction and non-fiction and selecting and installing signage, the adult collection move has been completed. Staff are reviewing options for the purchase of several comfortable chairs. Next month, Staff will plan on the shift between adult fiction and non-fiction and re-organization of the children's and young adult spaces.

The snow waited for most of the roof and HVAC repairs to be completed. The roofers have a half day's work or so remaining, and the economizer for the HVAC system still needs to be installed. The flat roof between the library and school is still leaking, however, and analysis is underway. The Building & Grounds Committee is recommending three roof repairs (town hall, the COA and the Fire Station), work on the Museum's heating system and the COA architectural fees this year. The Library carpeting and ceiling painting are in line on the Capital Plan but not yet high enough on the priority list. The library can look forward to a year without crises or disruptions from construction and concentrate on library services instead.

The fliers for the LSTA grant series "Golden Opportunities" are in your packet. With the advice of the Advisory Committee, Staff has worked hard and creatively on the design and wording of the program publicity in order not to intimidate potential participants. Space is filling up quickly! We are also looking forward to applying for a "On the Same Page"—Community Read grant and a Mass Memories Road Show grant this year.

The Silent Auction raised a little over \$600 for the Friends and was a wonderful example of everyone, Friends, Staff and Trustees working together. Next year, many patrons have offered to help and so the event will grow and be a reasonably simply winter fundraiser. Holidays in Halifax was extremely well-attended. The weather was perfect, and the Library welcomed hundred of smiling faces. The highlight of the evening was the musical performances by Rebekah Beals (age 17); Emily Beals (age 15); Ho lly Beals (age 11); Hope Beals (age 7) and Michael Shea (age 10).; the wonderful refreshments prepared by the Friends and the Culinary Arts students from Silver Lake, the reading of A night before Christmas in Miss Marie's custom-made "Holidays in Halifax" sleigh by Dick Steele; and the appearance by Mr. & Mrs. Claus (Ken & Betty Corti). One distressing note on the evening was the theft of several DVDs. We will keep the stacks lit next year to discourage repetition.

SAILS replaced their server (funded with an LSTA grant) this week. The library computers were down for a day and a half. As upgrades go, this one went flawlessly. Hats off to the Staff at SAILS!

Respectfully Submitted
Debra DeJonker-Berry