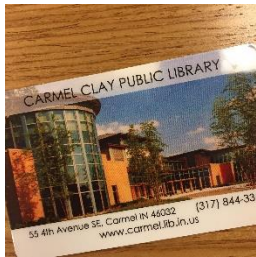


My first Report

At this writing I am nearing completion of my second week as the director of Carmel Clay Public Library. I am happy to report that I had a great, if somewhat overwhelming first week. I'd like to start by thanking the board of directors for this amazing opportunity to serve as the director of Carmel Clay Public Library. Public libraries tend to reveal the character of a community and our library speaks volumes about Carmel. I'd also like to thank Nancy Newport in particular for being my steady guide as I continue to acclimate to not only CCPL, but to Carmel itself, the greater Indianapolis area, and the state of Indiana. Nancy has been friendly, patient, and unwavering in her support. Finally, I'd also like to thank the staff of CCPL, all of whom have been so gracious and welcoming since I have started. I am truly excited to have joined such a dynamic and positive team.



My plan going forward



I am in the process of laying out a basic plan of how to best go forward as the new director. First, I am meeting with supervisory staff as quickly as I am able. I am asking for general impressions of the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats for the library from everyone. Upon completion of these meetings, I hope to compile my notes and be able to identify consensus areas among the staff.

In my first days, I have met with the following supervisory staff members:

- Peter Konshak: Peter and I met in the developing Digital Media Lab and I was treated to my first look at the space while we met.
- Katherine Kersey: this may have been my most significant meeting yet, as I walked away from it with my new CCPL library card.
- Christy Walker: Christy approached me to meet and I appreciate it as I try to get up to speed on our strategic planning process as quickly as possible.
- Renee' Kilpatrick: Renee' and I started by discussing a new opportunity that I hope to report back to the board soon.

I will continue to meet with staff as quickly as I am able. Following this immediate goal, I plan to establish regular meeting times with supervisory staff. Beyond that, I also would like to set aside time to work directly in service desk areas in the library. This will give me the opportunity to get to know and work with additional staff members, to meet more of our

patrons, and to learn first-hand about our services. I have decided to start in the Circulation area and go from there. I plan to get a bit more acclimated and take some online tutorials on the ILS before beginning, but I hope to start soon.

Flu Shots

Cindy Wenz reported that we had 25 employees participate in the flu shot clinic through Meijer on October 25. All were covered by some form of insurance, so the library did not pay for any immunizations. October 25 was my final working day at Johnson City Public Library, and I received my flu shot on that day as well.

Foundation

In addition to meeting with department supervisors, I also had a good and early meeting with Elizabeth Hamilton. We had a great discussion about how we will work together going forward. I also was invited to join the foundation's executive committee meeting on Saturday, November 12. I am impressed with the foundation staff and board and the commitment they have to supporting the library.

My wife Donna was in town this weekend ahead of her eventual move to Carmel later in December, and she attended the foundation's donor event with me on Monday evening, November 14. I attended the foundation's board meeting on November 17.

Friends of the Library

I attended the Friends of the Library meeting on Thursday, November 10. I am impressed with the revenue our Friends group is able to generate through the continuing book sale and seasonal sales. I can definitively report that this is a more engaged and successful Friends organization than any I have seen from my part of Tennessee. I also applaud the Friends' efforts to sell books online, particularly targeting books to sell that have a higher than normal resale value.

Indiana State Library Conference



Nancy Newport had the forethought to register me prior to my actual arrival at CCPL to attend the state conference. I appreciate that she did, as the conference was excellent. I had the opportunity to meet many of my colleagues from across the state and see some of the CCPL staff present on a variety of interesting topics. I attended the following sessions presented by our staff:

- *Serving Your Overscheduled Teens*, presented by Hope Baugh, Jamie Beckman, Tom McCutcheon, Karen Steinberger

- *Bridging the Digital Divide: Giving Seniors the Tools They need to Be Tech Savvy in the 21st Century*, presented by Brooke Baker, Katherine Huddle
- *It's Not Just Storytime Anymore: Educational Technology and Library Programs*, presented by Elizabeth Essink, Renee' Kilpatrick, Hannah Olmstead
- *Reboot Your Collection: Layout with Patrons in Mind*, presented by Renee' Kilpatrick, Holly Southern, Beth Weaver

Our staff did an amazing job. I am proud and honored to be working among such excellent library professionals.

Early voting

Early voting took place for twelve days at the library just prior to my arrival. I was in Carmel with my daughter Susan the last Saturday of early voting, and we stopped by the library and had a first-hand viewing of the daunting lines to vote. Lines extended to outside the building, with over 800 people voting that day alone.

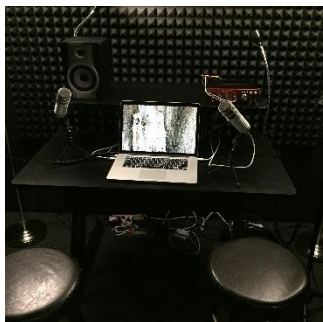
We had a total of 6,809 people casting their votes at our library. There were 8 early voting dates in October, and 4 early voting dates in November. Our door counts went up each day during early voting. Some people came in, looked at the lines and left.

Thanks are in order to our staff for staying longer, directing lines, and using the voting lines as an opportunity to showcase our marvelous library.

Indiana State Park Pass

In celebration of the State's Bicentennial and the Indiana State Parks' Centennial, public libraries have been issued a park permit for patrons to check out. The permit is available at the Reference Desk for a one week checkout period. It allows for admission of all persons in a single private, family-type, non-commercial vehicle or two motorcycles to any Indiana State Park. I'll report how it has been received by patrons at our meeting.

Digital Media Lab



We had our ribbon cutting with Mayor Brainard and Clay Township Trustee Doug Callahan for the Digital Media Lab on Wednesday, November 16. The reception was held a few hours later at 4:00 p.m. I believe that this new space is an excellent example of the adaptability of the library. We are providing a unique space that will allow for members of the community to create and innovate. This is a dramatic example of the fulfilling the purpose of the library and how we can uniquely foster creativity and learning in the community.