

## Space Study Project: Site Visits

Continued from last month's report. On October 19, Christy Walker, Peter Konshak and I visited three branch locations from the Multnomah County Library system in Portland, Oregon:

- Hillsdale Library: opened in 2004, this location was designed with "high-performance green building practices to significantly reduce the building's negative impact on the environment while providing an inviting, friendly and comfortable place for library patrons of all ages." When we introduced ourselves and explained our purpose in visiting, a librarian went and turned on the lighting from the lower portion of the columns. This branch was an overall impressive space.



- Hollywood Library: opened in 2002, a 13,000-square-foot library combined with 47 mixed-income apartments and 815 square feet of ground floor retail space. The juxtaposition of elements was interesting and we



talked to a librarian for a while. This is mostly used as a full-service library by this segment of the community.

- **Kenton Library:** in a storefront building at 8226 N. Denver Ave. Kenton Library opened on March 8, 2010. I think we all expected a little more from this branch, though it certainly has impressive elements and is used in a multi-purposed fashion. Common in many branches I visited, a central desk provided staff with a 360 view of the library and provided patrons with a single service point to ask for help.



- **Vancouver visit:** The tour of the main Vancouver library was perhaps the best and most interesting library of my trip. Seattle Central Library is in a class of itself of course, but Vancouver felt much more relevant to our library and what we are trying to accomplish, with a mix of opens social spaces, well-lit shelves and a modern functional Teen Area with gaming and program capacity.

### **Library Journal Design Institute Workshop:**

Peter Konshak, Christy Walker and I attended this workshop on October 23. We heard from various libraries at various stages in design projects, and from architects with experience working with libraries. We networked with other librarians and had opportunities to discuss our space challenges and some of our future aspirations, including how to approach branch services. At one point attendees formed smaller breakout groups and we each joined a different group and worked through different space challenges with other librarians and



architects. Peter and Christy are both good strategic thinkers and I appreciate their accompanying me on these site visits and for the workshop.

### Space Study/Visioning Update

As of this writing, we have completed our penultimate session with MSR on November 13. The day was comprised as follows:

- Staff session with MSR #1
- Staff session with MSR #2
- Leadership session with MSR
- Public Forum

In October we focused on branch service possibilities at Towne Meadows Elementary. For the second forum on November 13 we concentrated more on the vision for space changes on the main library campus. It may seem counter-intuitive or impractical on some level, but through this point in the process, we have allowed ourselves to go on a relatively unobstructed visioning path, free from any practical consideration and wholly concerned with developing the best possible vision of the library. This has been the best way for us to gain clarity on the total needs and aspirations of the library and community. By this point in the process, it is clear that we are building towards a bold vision for our library. We will soon begin to work to shape that vision into what can be considered achievable in scale. MSR will make a final report to the library by December 18.

### DML Report:

The one year anniversary party for the Digital Media Lab went quite well. The celebration was held on Saturday, November 11 from 5:00-8:00 p.m. at the DML. Live music and light refreshments was provided and the turnout was excellent with over 200 people stopping by. We greeted many people who were visiting the DML for the first time. I talked to a patron very excited to have "discovered" the lab. It was a great night to celebrate the success of our first year. I extend my thanks and congratulations to



the entire DML staff, as they spent last year defining and shaping the character of the new space.

Peter Konshak further reports the following:

*The DML was featured in Current in Carmel on November 3. The reporter who wrote the article, Heather Collins, also attended our anniversary event. She has proposed creating a series called "Let's Get Digital" that would feature some of the projects and digital art being created at the DML.*



*DML staff will be preparing an end of year report with statistics from our first full year of operation. This will be available for the December Library Board meeting.*



### Carmel Clay Public Library's Digital Media lab exceeds expectations in first year

By Heather Collins In only one year, Carmel Clay Public Library's Digital Media Lab has become a public hot spot. Patrons of the Carmel Clay Public Library can...

YOUARECURRENT.COM

## Change in DVD/Video Fine Schedule

After consultation with Circulation Manager Katherine Kersey and AV Manager Christy Walker, allowing Katherine time to confer with her staff, and following a discussion at a manager's meeting, I am recommending we reduce the video late fine to \$.50 a day for all DVDs & Blu-rays. In our deliberations, we identified the following factors:

- When CCPL first started loaning VHS in the early 1990's
  - The Collection was very small
  - The Circulation Department was very small
  - Replacement cost of videos was very high, often \$100 or more
  - The Library charged \$.50 per hour
    - The Library ran a report every morning of VHS due (3 day loan)
    - Patrons were given a phone call when the Library opened each morning to remind them to return items
- When CCPL opened in a new building on May 2, 1999:
  - Fines were "reduced" to \$1 per item per day w/ 7 day loan – no renewal
  - A renewal option was added over the years but the fine stayed the same
- Current factors for consideration:
  - Replacement costs have been greatly reduced to the point where the original rationale is completely out of line
  - Replacement items are now easy to acquire
  - Patrons routinely argue they can buy for 1/3 of the price on Amazon, etc.

The aforementioned staff are strongly supportive of this measure. In 2016, we budgeted \$121,000 in anticipated revenue from fines. I do expect that this change will result in a drop in revenue, but the scale of the drop is difficult to predict. Fines from videos may not necessarily be cut in half, as patrons may borrow more than before and therefore offset some of the potential loss. I'd like the change to take effect in January 2018.

## CPR Training

30 staff members underwent CPR training on Friday, November 10. Our next step will be to acquire and install 2 AEDs. I appreciate the willingness and enthusiasm of our staff to undergo this training.



## Indiana Library Federation

I and other library staff attended the 2017 Indiana Library Federation Conference on November 14 and 15. I have noted the following highlights of the conference:

- CCPL Technical Services Manager Lisa Dick participated in a panel discussion/presentation titled "Unlocking the Mysteries of Technical Services to



Discover Our Libraries' Hidden Gems." Lisa did a great job sharing her leadership and philosophical perspective of our Technical Services Department.

- CCPL Board Member Jane Herndon presented "Leadership During a Facility Improvement Project." I found this session particularly valuable and learned a few things about state law and financing projects.
- CCPL staff members Brian Barrett and Katherine Huddle hosted a "Speed Dating for Librarians" program.
- CCPL Staff member Karen Steinberger joined three school librarians for the panel discussion/presentation "YHBA: Creating Tomorrow's Readers Today." Karen has been active in the Young Hoosier's Book Award committee all year and here she was able to share a lot of her knowledge and experience.

The highlight of the conference was perhaps the Banquet Awards on November 14, where Assistant Director Nancy Newport received the ILF 2017 Outstanding Librarian Award and Computer Training and Support Specialist Katherine Huddle received the ILF 2017 Outstanding New Librarian Award. Way to go Nancy and Katherine, we are all very proud of your accomplishment!

