

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BUFFALO AND ERIE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
July 16, 2009

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library was held on Thursday, July 16, 2009, in the Central Library pursuant to due notice to trustees. The following members were present:

Sharon A. Thomas, Chair
Jack Connors, Vice Chair
Frank Gist, Secretary
Sheldon M. Berlow, Treasurer
Richard L. Berger
Phyllis A. Horton
Anne M. Leary
Rick Lewis (via conference call)
Hormoz Mansouri
Albert L. Michaels
Elaine M. Panty
Mario J. Rossetti
Judith K. Summer

Absent:

John G. Schmidt, Jr.
Wayne D. Wisbaum

Chair Sharon A. Thomas called the meeting to order at 4:08 p.m. in the Joseph B. Rounds Conference Room.

Agenda Item B – Agenda/Changes to the Agenda. The agenda was approved as mailed.

Agenda Item C – Minutes of the Meeting of June 18, 2009. Minutes were approved unanimously, as mailed, upon motion by Mr. Berger and a second by Ms. Summer.

Agenda Item D – Report of the Chair. Ms. Thomas welcomed new trustee Mr. Albert Michaels to the Board meeting as well as Mr. Rick Lewis who was present via conference call.

Agenda Item D.1 – Committee Appointments. Due to midyear vacancies, Ms. Thomas asked trustees to review the committee appointment list which was distributed at the

meeting. Ms. Quinn-Carey read aloud the new appointments. Ms. Horton moved for approval of appointments as presented. She was seconded by Ms. Summer, whereupon committee appointments were unanimously approved. Ms. Thomas asked Mr. Lewis to notify her which committees he may wish to join.

Agenda Item E – Committee Reports.

Agenda Item E.1 – Executive Committee. Mr. Connors reported the Executive Committee met on July 9th in the Central Library. Present were Trustees Sharon Thomas, Elaine Panty, Jack Connors, Judy Summer, Phyllis Horton, Deputy Directors Kenneth Stone and Mary Jean Jakubowski and Director Bridget Quinn-Carey.

Several issues were brought to staff and Executive Committee attention that warranted additional discussion regarding the Board approved proposal to enable the Chief Development and Communications Officer (CDO) to negotiate a personal services agreement with the Library Foundation (Foundation).

The Committee discussed the issues and recommended that a resolution be added to the July Board agenda to authorize the Library Director to negotiate a contract between the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library and the Foundation directly, rather than through a personal services agreement between the CDO and the Foundation.

Ms. Thomas was to contact Board members regarding committee service and bring a list of committee appointments to the July meeting for approval.

Regarding the nomination for Vice Chairman, Mr. Rick Lewis has withdrawn his name from consideration.

Ms. Summer noted that she would like to organize an event for the recently retired Board members to recognize their contributions.

The Committee reviewed the agenda for the July 16, 2009, Board of Trustees meeting including the proposed resolutions.

Agenda Item E.2 – Budget and Finance Committee.

Agenda Item E.2.a – 2010 Budget Guidance. Ms. Quinn-Carey explained this resolution provides budget guidance in preparing the 2010 budget. Guidelines from the County were received and they are holding Library funding level for 2010 which is in keeping with their four year plan. The Library is asking for an additional \$750,000 for items brought to the Board several months ago as thoughts for potential funding which are broken down in the resolution. Ms. Quinn-Carey answered questions by Mr. Berlow regarding the budgeting of the \$250,000 annual payment to Erie County to return

savings associated with the Erie County Fiscal Stability Authority efficiency grant for the Library's RFID initiative and questions by Mr. Gist regarding the \$300,000 County-wide literacy services. Mr. Berger moved for approval. Ms. Panty made a second. Approval of Resolution 2009-34 was unanimous.

RESOLUTION 2009-34

WHEREAS, as of July 8^h, the Library had not yet received Year 2010 budget instructions and preliminary targets from the Erie County Budget Office, and

WHEREAS, said instructions are expected to be received shortly, with the budget request due to the County prior to the Library Board's next scheduled meeting, and

WHEREAS, in order to provide a timely response to the County, budget preparation and review alternatives were discussed with the Board's Budget and Finance Committee Chair and the Executive Committee, and

WHEREAS, on January 8, 2009 the Finance Committee of the Erie County Fiscal Stability Authority voted to recommend approval of the Library's efficiency grant application to the full Erie County Fiscal Stability Authority (ECFSA) with the condition that a method to ensure some benefit of grant financed savings inures to Erie County is developed, and

WHEREAS, on January 29, 2009 the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees of the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library adopted Resolution 2009-5 directing that an annual payment to Erie County in the amount of \$250,000 be included in the Library's Budget Request to Erie County beginning with the 2010 budget year to satisfy this requirement, and

WHEREAS, on February 4, 2009 the ECFSA voted unanimously to approve the Library's Efficiency Grant application for the \$1,718,343 amount requested, and

WHEREAS, the Library desires to complement efficiency based realignments with strategic investments in County-wide literacy services, cultural tourism opportunities, and programs to assist our patrons meet the economic challenges of today's economy which all directly relate to the Library's mission, and

WHEREAS, the Executive Committee recommends that Library Trustees articulate guidelines for preparing the 2010 budget request; designate the Library Director as responsible for preparing a draft budget request consistent with these guidelines; provide for review of the draft budget by the Budget and Finance Committee, which would provide direction to the Library Director in finalizing the budget submission to Erie County as close to the deadline as committee meeting schedules and preparation time will allow, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library hereby directs the Library Director, in cooperation with the Budget and Finance Committee, to complete the 2010 budget request utilizing the following guidance:

- Include an annual payment to Erie County in the amount of \$250,000 in the Library's budget request to return savings associated with the ECFSA's efficiency grant; and
- Request an additional \$750,000 in 2010 budget to help fund the following initiatives:

Innovation and Partnership Incentive Funds	\$150,000
County-wide Literacy Services	\$300,000
Enhance Cultural Tourism Exhibits and Programming	\$300,000, and be it

further

RESOLVED, that the Director transmit the resulting request to the County of Erie's Division of Budget, Management and Finance as close to the deadline as schedules and preparation time will allow.

Agenda Item E.2.b – Authorize Executive Committee to Approve, Rank and Submit NYS Library Construction Aid Applications. The B&ECPL Board of Trustees must prioritize and approve all construction applications prior to submission to the State. Because the Board will not meet again until after the application deadline, this resolution authorizes the Executive Committee to act on the Board's behalf and report back on its final recommendations. In response to questions from trustees, Ms. Quinn-Carey provided more detail on deadlines and the process for approval and ranking of projects prior to going to the Executive Committee. Mr. Berlow felt the full Board should be able to view these applications as well. Because of tight deadlines, it was suggested that Board members could attend the Executive Committee meeting on September 3rd. Mr. Connors added that he has talked with Mr. Stone and at some point in the future, these could go to a committee, possibly the Building Oversight Committee, to be reviewed perhaps with some outside people as well, who can then provide recommendations to the Executive Committee. Ms. Quinn-Carey stated the local share match is still 50% in response to a question by Ms. Panty. Ms. Summer moved for approval of Resolution 2009-35. Ms. Horton made a second. Approval was unanimous.

RESOLUTION 2009-35

WHEREAS, the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library (B&ECPL), in its role as a operator of the Central and Buffalo Branch Libraries, must authorize submission of NYS Public Construction Grant Program Applications for projects supporting the

Central Library and Buffalo Branch Libraries, including providing required assurances, and

WHEREAS, the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library, in its role as a Library System, must evaluate, rank and recommend approval of construction applications submitted by public libraries or public library systems under the New York State Library Construction Grant Program, and

WHEREAS, Board-approved applications for New York State Library Construction Aid grants must be received by the Division of Library Development in Albany no later than September 11th, and

WHEREAS, most potential applicants will require as much time as possible to complete those applications and deliver them to B&ECPL System staff for review and prioritization before Board approval and subsequent forwarding to Albany, and

WHEREAS, the B&ECPL Board of Trustees is not scheduled to meet again until after the September 11th deadline, and

WHEREAS, under Article VI, Section 1 of *The Bylaws of the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library*: "The Executive Committee, in intervals between meetings of the Board of Trustees, shall have all the powers and duties of the Board of Trustees not inconsistent with law," now therefore be it

RESOLVED that the Executive Committee is authorized to approve and prioritize all B&ECPL State Library Construction Aid applications and transmit those recommendations to the Division of Library Development before the prescribed deadline, and be it finally

RESOLVED, that a report of these actions will be provided for the Library Board at its September 2009 meeting.

Agenda Item E.2.c – Use of Designated Balances for Adding RFID to Additional Libraries and Technology Improvements. As explained in Resolution 2009-36 below, this would aid in encouraging RFID (Radio Frequency Identification) implementation throughout the System. Mr. Berger moved, Ms. Summer seconded, and the resolution was approved unanimously.

RESOLUTION 2009-36

WHEREAS, New York State Public Library Construction Grant Program 2009-2010 funding again includes a \$14 million allocation with \$664,117 available to support up to 50% of eligible costs for projects benefiting the public libraries located within Erie County, and

WHEREAS, to date, 7 Buffalo and Erie County Public Library (B&ECPL) libraries considering construction projects are not part of the Radio Frequency

Identification (RFID) efficiency grant project and are interested in leveraging state construction grant funds to bring RFID technology to their libraries sooner than would otherwise be possible, and

WHEREAS, converting additional libraries to RFID provides a system-wide benefit by allowing those libraries to streamline workflows and enable labor force restructuring while simultaneously generating vast improvements in library material inventory control and public service, and

WHEREAS, given these benefits, using the B&ECPL's designated fund balance for grant match to fund the local share for the RFID portion of a proposed project benefits all parties at a cost, including estimated contingency and installation, of no more than \$252,867, which is available within the designated balance, and

WHEREAS, to meet the technology demands of continued double digit growth in computer use there is a need to upgrade/replace select equipment and to improve performance monitoring capabilities at an estimated cost of \$53,000, and

WHEREAS, this amount is available in and an appropriate use of funds in the designated for equipment & technology replacement fund balance, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library authorizes the use of the Library's designated fund balance for grant match to support the costs of RFID not covered by New York State Construction Grant funds for the following libraries and not to exceed amounts:

Location	Use of BECPL Grant Match Balance for Match, Contingency & Installation Not to Exceed
East Aurora	\$33,279
Elma	\$19,271
Grand Island	\$26,792
Kenilworth	\$18,751
Kenmore	\$39,784
Anna Reinstein	\$38,125
Orchard Park	\$41,074
West Seneca	\$35,791
Total system	\$252,867

, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library authorizes the use and immediate budgeting of the Library's designated fund balance for equipment & technology replacement to support the costs to upgrade/replace select equipment and to improve performance monitoring capabilities as follows:

Description	<u>Project/ Item</u> <u>Cost</u>
Exchange Project Supplement - email archiving	\$7,000
Bluesocket Wireless Controller (Support up to 400 users)	\$15,000
Cisco 3825 Router (border)	\$8,000
Director's Station (Sirsi purchase cost including software License)	\$18,000
Director's Station (equipment)	\$5,000
Total	\$53,000 .

Trustee Panty voiced concern that we may deplete our fund balance if we keep using it. Ms. Quinn-Carey explained the Library is being very judicious in its spending this year and RFID has the long-term effect of helping to save revenue; additional discussion ensued regarding the fund balance. Ms. Quinn-Carey gave a brief explanation of RFID for the benefit of our new trustees.

Agenda Item E.2.d – Monthly Financial Report. The monthly financial report for the period ending May 31, 2009, was included in the board packet.

Agenda Item E.3 – Development Committee. The Committee met on June 23rd and primarily discussed a fundraising event they are moving forward on at the Central Library -- a Great Gatsby party tying in with the Library's participation in *The Big Read*. Mr. Hudson asked trustees to save the date of Saturday evening, September 26th tentatively from 7 p.m. to midnight for this event. Additional exciting details regarding this event were shared with trustees. They are currently working on potential sponsors and to date have a \$1,000 commitment from Try-It Distributing. Ms. Leary inquired as to the ticket goal for this event. Mr. Hudson replied the space can hold 350 people so that is what they are hoping for. Mr. Hudson added at 350 tickets, after calculating out expenses and revenues, they hope to make somewhere between \$5,000 - \$10,000. He acknowledged that while not a huge moneymaker, they hope to get their feet wet to offer a gala event next spring or summer. The hope would be to hold two events per year; one higher ticket price to raise significant dollars and another that would be more nominal in terms of cost that would be available and more accessible to people in the community.

Ms. Summer inquired about the Book Club in a Bag. Assistant Deputy Director Paula Sandy replied this should be ready in September.

Deputy Director Hudson continued with his report stating they have technically finished up the annual fund ending just shy of \$62,000 and have more than doubled the number of donors from 665 to 1,360 this year. He added, the Hamilton exhibit was very successful; in looking at attendance at the Central Library this year over the same 6 week period compared to last year, the Central Library was up more than 17,000 people over last year and they feel some of the increase was a direct result of the Hamilton exhibit and advertising done to promote it. He thanked *Business First* and Mr. Connors for their support.

Agenda Item F – Report of the Director. Ms. Quinn-Carey began her report stating they have postponed the technology program by Carol Batt planned for this meeting until the September Board meeting due to a few missing trustees. She was happy to report Assistant Deputy Director Carol Batt just launched the B&ECPL Central Library site on Facebook today. The Elma and Lakeshore Branch Libraries also have Facebook sites. This joins Twitter and some other things being done to get the word out about the Library on different social networks. A number of staff have just returned from a very worthwhile American Library Association (ALA) conference in Chicago; they hope to get more staff to attend the upcoming PLA conference or the next ALA conference to learn new things and get new ideas into B&ECPL and share these with the System, taking those practices to our communities.

Ms. Quinn-Carey announced Assistant Deputy Director Peggy Skotnicki reported the *Get Graphic* program is going to be featured in a chapter of an upcoming book published by the Neal-Schuman Publishers entitled *Winning Grants, a Multimedia Guide for Librarians*, adding it was a fantastic program and we should be very proud of the staff. A copy of the book which featured work by the participants in the *Get Graphic* project by William S. Hein & Co., Inc. was passed around. She noted it is being sold at the New York Library Association book store at the NYLA conference in Niagara Falls this year as well as in Central's *Encore Editions* book store and the Library receives a percentage of the profit.

The Summer Reading and Read Down Your Fines programs are off to a fantastic start. She reminded trustees they were invited to a reception following the Board meeting featuring the Double Stars exhibit in the Rare Book Room as well as a Meet and Greet July 20th at 2:30 p.m. for our new trustee Mr. John G. Schmidt, Jr.

The following was submitted by the Director and transmitted to Board members prior to the meeting:

**Report of the Director
July 16, 2009**

Our attention turns more directly to finances for the next several months as the County begins the 2010 operating budget request process and the City begins the 2010 capital request process.

While we are managing our current operating budget responsibly, we continue to rely on 5% of operating funds to be provided by our fund balance. This is not a sustainable situation, and will be somewhat mitigated over time by planned attrition-based vacancies as part of the RFID (Radio Frequency Identification) project. However, we need to look to 2010 and beyond to not only be prepared for stormy weather, but also to proactively advocate for our services and develop a compelling advocacy campaign to bring to our elected officials. I have reached out to our Contracting Member Libraries to discuss this situation and enlist their assistance in these efforts, and I will be meeting with other departments and managers over the next several weeks.

We are scheduled to present our mid-year budget report to the Legislature on July 22, 2009, at 12:30. A copy of the report will be available at the Board meeting, and you are welcome to attend the presentation.

I am continuing to work with staff through the restructuring process and continue to develop our key initiatives: literacy and special collections. We will launch an innovative collaborative project with the Buffalo Public School's Adult Education division in July targeting at-risk youth (ages 17-21). Buffalo Adult Education will provide 5-day per week classroom instruction for young people who have not yet attained a high school diploma. We are developing a unique partnership that will combine library services, collections and support with classroom instruction and administration provided by Buffalo Adult Education. We are very happy to partner with them to develop a model we can replicate in other library branches over time. Two more programs are in development with Buffalo Adult Education as part of our literacy initiative efforts.

Our Special Collections staff is developing exciting exhibitions for 2009 and 2010 including making visits to other libraries and museums, and through partnerships with other institutions including the University of Buffalo. Several staff members from this division attended the Institute of Museum and Library Services national conference focused on preservation of rare or at-risk materials. Buffalo State was prominently featured in the conference, and will continue to be an excellent partner for our preservation efforts now and in the future.

Technology service improvements (both public and infrastructure) are running on or ahead of schedule and have dramatically enhanced our service offerings and staff efficiencies. We have ambitious technology-related goals for 2009-2010 and beyond and will work to prioritize those projects in light of budget projections and targets.

Circulating laptops at a number of our libraries are very popular and solve the problem of having too little space to add new public desktop machines. Users seem very happy with the service and like being able to find a spot to sit and work rather than be assigned to one. We hope to add more laptops in other locations in the coming months.

The guidelines and application window for library-related broadband stimulus funds (ARRA) have been released, and I will be meeting with State officials on July 17th to participate in a meeting to develop a unified plan for the State to submit. We have already submitted a draft request for consideration, and I hope to be directly involved with the crafting of the proposal.

The enclosed departmental reports provide a detailed view of the activities, services, programs and projects under way at this dynamic institution.

Report of the Chief Operating Officer

Monthly highlights are as follows:

Excitedly, the Library continues to move forward in its efforts to become the foremost literacy focused institution in Western New York. Both the Library's Summer Reading Program: *Be Creative at Your Library* and the Mayor's Summer Reading Program, in which the Library plays a pivotal role, have moved into high gear. The Library's First Annual Summer Reading Block Party was held Saturday, June 20th. Library Director **Bridget Quinn-Carey** was mistress of ceremonies to the more than 200 participants. Representatives from the Buffalo Museum of Science, Mayor's Summer Reading Program, Buffalo Fire Department, Parent Network of Western New York, Massachusetts Ave. Project, and Orchard Park, Amherst and West Seneca Public Libraries manned booths providing various activities and information. Children and adults alike were entertained by the musical and comedic talents of Glenn Colton, by Coco the Clown who created balloon animals, flowers and hats and by the musical sounds of B&ECPL's own **Jerome Linberg** who DJ'd for the program. Several B&ECPL libraries also provided staff to support craft tables, operate the duck pond, maintain information and give-a-way booths, man the popcorn machine, host the afternoon movie, and keep the crowd entertained, etc. WNED and the Buffalo News used Block Party venue to showcase and award several youngsters for their literary contributions to the *Share a Story Contest*. John Craig from WNED and Pamela Stawasz and Mary Jane Poleto from the Buffalo News hosted the ceremonies, with a special visit from Clifford the Big Red Dog. Special recognition for the creation of and organization of the Block

Party is given to Children's Room Coordinator **Kathy Goodrich**, the Children's Room staff, members of the planning committee, Library Events Coordinator **Anne Conable**, Assistant Deputy Director - Development and Communications **Paula Sandy**, the contracting libraries who provided crafts, entertainment, information and staff, as well as the many volunteers who gave their time and energy to make this event successful.

As the number of unemployed and underemployed in Erie County continues to rise, the Library has become a place of solace, a place to learn and a place of hope. On June 24th, Resume Maker software, available on all public PCs, was upgraded to Version 15. The new application provides faster program access and eliminates problems associated with connectivity issues. The new version is packed with powerful update features to help write a better resume with samples available for nearly every career. A Resume Maker Basics public training class is scheduled for July 23rd at the Central Library. Later this year Resume Maker classes will be available for use with Cyber Train (mobile training class equipment) at libraries throughout Erie County.

Computers and computer access are vital for B&ECPL patrons. To meet the growing need, additional laptops have been made available for public use. Dudley and East Delavan join the Crane Branch where laptops are available for in-library use. The laptops are checked out with a valid B&ECPL library card. They provide expanded Internet service and flexibility in libraries where space and furniture restrict the addition of more traditional desktop PCs. Laptops at these locations were purchased with grant funds from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. Purchased using private funds, the Marilla Library also added 2 laptops for public use. As funding becomes available, it is anticipated that many other B&ECPL libraries will begin offering this popular alternative to the public desktop PC. Network Support prepared and deployed a total of 10 new laptops during the month of June.

Along with the increasing need for computers and computer access comes the need for increased bandwidth. Installation of additional T-1 lines has been completed by AT&T and a Network Support team led by Technical Support Services Specialist **Johnny Hsu** at 5 B&ECPL libraries. As a result, doubled bandwidth (3Mbps) is now available at the Crane, Niagara, Frank E. Merriweather, Jr. and East Delavan City branches, as well as the Kenmore Branch Library. This increased bandwidth provides speedier Internet access at some of the busiest computer-use libraries. Upgrades will be scheduled for other locations as funds become available.

Technical Services and Technology Support Manager **Maureen McLaughlin**, Catalog Department Manager **Kelly Donovan** and Senior Computer Operator **Roseann Hausrath** attended the *6th Annual SirsiDynix Northeast Regional Group (SNRG) Conference* at Penn State University in State College, PA. They attended several sessions, in addition to presenting "Implementing 9XX in Symphony," June 14th - 17th.

Librarian **Nancy Mueller** met with Assistant Deputy Director - Special Collections **Peggy Skotnicki** to discuss the possible role of the Central Library in a Centralized Genealogy Center. Librarian **Nancy Mueller** is the Records Management Officer (RMO) for the B&ECPL and serves on the Erie County Records Commission as such. The Erie County Records Commission has created a subcommittee called the Genealogy Subcommittee to investigate the possibility of opening one central records center for Erie County, preferably located in the downtown Buffalo area. This subcommittee is in the very beginning stages of this research and is trying to find out what records the local municipality centers house. Special Collections Librarian **Tom Morrissey** will be joining the committee as a liaison from the Special Collections Department representing the Library.

Additional highlights:

OverDrive Downloadable Service Enhanced. On June 16th, OverDrive released a new version of their OverDrive® Media Console. Nearly all OverDrive WMA Audiobooks in our download collection are now compatible with the iPod®, iPhoneT, iPod touch®, and iPod nano®, as well as Zune® and thousands of other portable devices. This enhancement provides expanded download capability for library cardholders and allows the download of hundreds of titles that were not previously available for use on these devices. Audio and video download collections can be found at the Library's Downloads 2 Go <http://bit.ly/11jK9> website.

RFID Conversion Begins. RFID implementation plans have been in progress for months, but accelerated during June as we prepared to begin collection conversion. On June 25th, 26th, 29th and 30th, representatives from EnvisionWare, Inc. were on site in Buffalo to begin installation of RFID hardware and software as well as conduct staff training. They provided an introduction to RFID technology at the Central Library and Crane Branch and demonstrated tag application and the encoding software. New materials for all City branches will be tagged and activated. The Crane Branch is the first library targeted for conversion, followed by North Park as soon as the facility is ready for library use. Additional meetings, phone conferences and on-site visits are planned as the implementation progresses.

Centralized Serials Check-In Program Expanded. Eight additional libraries have been added to the program whereby magazines and subscriptions are entered in the Sirsi Serials Module and bar-coded for circulation at the Central Library. The magazines are processed on the day that they are received and delivered to libraries the next business day. Due to the intricacies of Serials Module as well as patterns and predictions for publications, it is most efficient to consolidate the processing for multiple copies of magazines. This program removes labor intensive procedures from branch and contract library staff allowing them to spend more time on public service functions. With the addition of Alden, Anna M. Reinstein, Audubon, Collins, Hamburg, Julia

Boyer Reinstein, Lake Shore and West Seneca, there are now 31 libraries participating in the program.

Programs:

Popular Materials Librarian **Michelle Snyder** hosted a Teen DIY (Do it Yourself) program on June 16th in the Teen Room; 8 teens enjoyed the craft activities. Popular Materials Librarian **Britt White** assisted in the presentation of a teen movie matinee: "King Kong" which was presented to 12 attendees. Popular Materials Librarians **Britt White** and **Michelle Snyder** along with Librarian Trainee **Alison Farinacci** participated in the B&ECPL Summer Reading Kickoff Block Party June 20th. There were approximately 50 teen participants. On June 16th, Humanities and Social Sciences Librarian **Kathy Galvin** led the discussion for "Literally Speaking". The book discussed was *The Group* by Mary McCarthy.

The Children's Department hosted or presented the following programs:

June 1st, June 8th, June 22nd -- Children's staff presented stories and songs at the YMCA at Family Court, Museum of Science - School age June 6th, Museum of Science - Preschool: June 6th, 17th and 24th, Movies -June 6th, 13th, 20th and 27th, Battle of the Books informational meeting with Librarians **Kate Puehn** and **Sarah Kelly**, June 23rd Preschool Storyhour and Summer Fun Club June 29th. Programs were also held at Dudley, June 29th - Preschool Storyhour; East Clinton, June 30th Preschool Storyhour; and Frank E. Merriweather, Jr., June 10th Preschool Storyhour. On June 16th Literally Speaking discussed *The Group*, led by Dudley Manager **Kathy Galvin**.

Tours:

More than 145 participated in Cyber Train programs held throughout the System in the month of June. Grosvenor Room Librarian **Rob Alessi** conducted a brief tour of the Mark Twain Room and Rare Book display area for Robert Joly from the Woodbury Community Library (Vermont) who was in town for the IMLS Conference June 18th. Grosvenor Room Librarians **Sue Cutrona** and **Rhonda Konig** led a genealogy-focused tour June 16th for an Erie County RSVP University Express senior citizens group. Popular Materials Librarians **Britt White**, **Andrew Maines** and **Michelle Snyder** along with Librarian Trainee **Alison Farinacci** facilitated the utilization of the Teen Room by 6 students and 2 teachers from Emerson High School's special education program on 3 separate occasions. The class used the Teen Room during regular "closed" hours June 1st, 4th and 11th. Business Science and Technology Librarian **Kevin Wall** gave 3 tours of the small business and nonprofit collections emphasizing the use of electronic resources in conjunction with print reference and circulating materials. June 1st brought 94 2nd graders from Arcade School to the Children's Room. Librarians **Kathy Goodrich**, **Mary Ann Budny**, **Wanda Collins** and **Gwen Collier** conducted the tour for this very enthusiastic group. On June 12th, 24 kindergarteners from School 6 received a tour and

stories from Children's Room Librarian **Gwen Collier**. June 15th brought 9 students from Bennett Park Montessori Special Education Classes, and on June 16th 46 students from the same schools, grades 4, 5, and 6 listened to stories from Librarian **Kate Puehn**. Bennett Park Montessori also visited on June 18th receiving a tour and stories from Librarians **Gwen Collier** and **Mary Ann Budny** – more than 90 students participated. Twenty-three students also participated in storytime. Preschool Storyhours for Bennett Park Montessori School were held June 18th, 19th, 22nd and 24th with a total of 133 attending. Library Card registration, along with storyhour and a tour, was held June 24th for the 2nd through 6th graders. On June 26th, 12 preschoolers from the Mani Childcare Preschool visited the Children's Room.

Other:

William H. Siener and Hadley Exhibits are developing a display for the Buffalo City Hall observation desk. Rare Book Librarian **Amy Pickard** and Grosvenor Room Librarian **Rob Alessi** filled a request for 3 images from our collection to be used in the display. Two images are from the *George Nathan Newman Collection of Vanished and Vanishing Buffalo* found online at "WNY Legacy" while the third is an artist's conception of a proposed United Nations Headquarters on Navy Island.

System Public Services Librarian **Peggy Errington** and Assistant Deputy Director - Development and Communications **Paula Sandy** attended the Big Read Conference in Minneapolis, MN. The Big Read brings together readers of all ages to experience literature in a variety of activities. This year's Big Read is "**The Great Gatsby**," by F. Scott Fitzgerald. The B&ECPL is already looking forward to choosing the title for The Big Read, 2010.

Meetings/Conferences:

Staff, managers and members of the administrative team participated in a vast number and variety of meetings, conferences, outreach and training programs this month. Examples include: *Managing Organizational Change: Navigating the Permanent Whitewater, Understanding, Managing and Embracing Change*, and *Connecting to Collections Conference* sponsored by the Institute for Museum and Library Services at the Albright-Knox Art Gallery, Burchfield Penney Art Center and Buffalo State Art Conservation Department, *Team Building Assembly*, meeting with Erie County Historian Douglas Kohler, conference call with SirsiDynix Service Assurance Manager, WNYLRC Board of Trustees meeting, restructuring meeting, Programming Committee meeting, Collection Development meeting, General Staff meeting, Managers/Directors meeting, Get Graphic, received a tour of the Carl A. Kroch Library at Cornell University, and toured *Charles Darwin: After the Origin* a collaborative exhibit between the Carl A Kroch Library at Cornell University and the Museum of the Earth, Webfeat WebEx demonstration,

Upstate New York Sirsi Users Group meeting, Page Turners, and WNYLRC Regional Advisory Committee's Task Force on Digital Preservation, etc.

Twenty employees directly involved with Central Library reorganization efforts participated in teamwork training provided by Melissa Eloff of Baker Victory Services on June 2nd.

Forty B&ECPL and Erie County employees attended "Understanding, Managing and Embracing Change: Navigating the Whitewater" lead by Kim Willer of Prism Quality EAP on June 3rd in the Mason O. Damon Auditorium. The seminar provided methods and skills to understand and manage ongoing change, including an optimistic and enthusiastic attitude, being tolerant of mistakes and physical exercise to manage energy.

Report of the Chief Financial Officer

Buffalo Branch Projects Update: Work in converting the former retail space at 975 Hertel for use as library space serving in lieu of the North Park facility continues. Adjoining vacant space has been made available for the library to deliver equipment and begin moving the collection from the North Park facility. This will shorten the time needed for set-up once the space conversion construction work is completed, now estimated for the end of July.

Installation of an environmentally friendly rain garden to handle runoff from the roof of the Crane Library was completed in late June. Contractors hired by the City will also complete work on the entry and adjoining window canopies, replacing their roofs and reconstructing the underside of each canopy. The 2 projects have revitalized the presence of this popular Elmwood neighborhood facility. The rain garden landscaping, in addition to being quite attractive, consists of environmentally friendly plantings that are expected to divert 8,000 gallons of rain runoff from entering the sewer system each year. A draft of content for signage to be located along the rain garden is attached for your information. The rain garden is made possible by the generous support of the Vogt Family Foundation, Buffalo Niagara RIVERKEEPER, and Premium Services, Inc. Please stop by to see the improvements!

New York State Construction Grant funded work at several libraries is moving forward. Work to replace the single pane windows at the East Delavan Library with energy efficient units continues, with the second set of windows having arrived last week and being installed this week.

Powered door openers have been installed at the main entryway and restrooms of the East Clinton Library, which is also seeing deteriorated ceiling tiles replaced. Replacement plumbing fixtures that will make the library's restrooms more accessible have arrived and will be installed over the summer.

Another set of powered door openers have been installed at the Jefferson Street entrance to the Frank E. Merriweather, Jr. Library. Now both major entrances are served by powered door openers.

Central Library Use Analysis Request For Proposals Receives Active Interest: The RFP was issued on June 19th and advertised in the Buffalo News and on the Internet. To date 26 firms, both local and from across the country, have indicated interest in responding. A pre-submittal conference held on June 30th was attended both in person and via conference call by representatives of 23 firms. Proposals are due to the Library on July 30th.

Central Library Sidewalk and Fuel Tank Projects Update: The fuel tank project was substantially completed on Saturday, June 27th when the last sections of concrete driveway aprons were poured. We are now simply waiting out the "cure time" needed before vehicles can be allowed on the surface, which is expected to occur later this month. Pedestrian access to the Oak Street entrance has been restored.

Central Library Public Restroom Renovation Project Work Expected to Begin Later This Month: Miller Enterprises will work on the restrooms one floor at a time.

Chewing Gum Popularity Presents Maintenance Challenge: For whatever reason, we have noticed a significant increase of chewing gum deposited on concrete surfaces surrounding the library, particularly the front entry ramp. **Chip Campbell** researched new products and is securing one to test on the front ramp. The key is to remove the material quickly without damaging the concrete aggregate surface.

LIST of VISITS and MEETINGS ATTENDED by BRIDGET QUINN-CAREY
June 15, 2009 – July 13, 2009

JUNE

- 15 Staff structure meeting at Lackawanna Public Library
- 15 Lunch meeting with Literacy Volunteers
- 16 Staff structure meeting at Grand Island Memorial Library
- 16-17 Institute of Museum and Library Services seminar
- 18 Contract Member Library budget planning meeting
- 18 Meeting with Lee Ainsworth-Mahaney, Director Aurora Town Public Library
- 18 Meeting with Victor Rice, President Library Foundation
- 18 B&ECPL Board meeting at Central Library
- 19 Interview with Charity Vogel, Buffalo News
- 22 Staff structure meeting at Audubon Branch Library
- 22 North Buffalo Library Planning Committee – Tour of Merriweather Library
- 23 B&ECPL Development Committee meeting

- 23 Staff structure meeting at Lancaster Public Library
- 23 Meeting with Glenn Luba
- 24 Meeting with Jason Davidson of Fables
- 24 Meeting with John Iorio, Buffalo Public Schools Adult Education Division
- 24 Meeting with Buffalo News - photos
- 25 WebEx demo, SirsiDynix
- 25 Lunch meeting with Anne Conable and Julia Turner
- 26 Erie County Commissioners meeting - Rath Building
- 29 Staff structure meeting at Hamburg Public Library
- 30 Pre-submittal conference meeting - Central Use Analysis RFP

JULY

- 01 Open staff meeting at Central Library
- 01 Meeting with Patrick Martin, Library legal counsel
- 02 Lunch meeting with Thomas Galante, Director of Queens Library
- 07 Central walkthrough with Central Use Analysis RFP bidders
- 08 Contract Member Library Directors/Managers meeting at Julia Boyer Reinstein Library
- 08 Attend Buffalo Museum of Science event
- 09 New Trustee Orientation/Meet and Greet
- 09 B&ECPL Executive Committee meeting
- 10-13 American Library Association Annual Conference - Chicago, Illinois

MEMORANDUM

TO: Bridget Quinn-Carey, Director
Buffalo & Erie County Public Library

FROM: Stanton H. Hudson, Jr., APR, Fellow PRSA
Deputy Director & Chief Development and Communications Officer

SUBJECT: Monthly Report – June 1-June 30, 2009
Development & Communications Office

DATE: July 7, 2009

OVERVIEW

Major activities centered on:

- 2008-09 Annual Fund Campaign
- Alexander Hamilton exhibition-final report
- Development of fundraising event tie-in with Big Read
- Novel Ideas summer sale event

SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES/TASKS/ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Development

- As of June 30, approximately \$62,000 in contributions from more than 1350 donors had been received and acknowledged. The number of donors more than doubled compared to last year's Annual Fund campaign and the dollar amount raised nearly doubled from the 2007-08 figure of \$33,000.
- Plans continue to more effectively integrate development efforts between the B&ECPLS and the Library Foundation of Buffalo & Erie County.
- The 2009 Hamilton exhibition, May 1-June 12, 2009 formally ended on June 12. The exhibition, which encompassed the Rare Book Room, the Ring of Knowledge, and areas adjacent to the Grosvenor Room and the escalators on the main floor of the Central Library, attracted a significant number of individual visitors as well as a number of groups. Although unable to draw a direct correlation between the exhibition's six-week run and visitation numbers at the Central Library during that period, the Library saw more than 17,000 additional people come through the turnstiles compared to 2008. This represents a more than 28% increase in visitations.
- Plans have been finalized for system-wide programming associated with the 2009-2010 Big Read, funded through the National Endowment for the Arts. Program offerings were submitted to all System libraries in order to begin the scheduling process. The \$20,000 grant will be used to underwrite costs associated with the October/November project. Paula Sandy and Peggy Errington attended a mandatory orientation for The Big Read in Minneapolis, MN. This year's title is F. Scott Fitzgerald's classic *The Great Gatsby*. Following approval by the Development Committee, plans are formally underway to hold a moderately priced fundraiser (\$50 per ticket) to be held on Saturday, September 26 at the Central Library to kick off the two-month-long Big Read. The event will recreate one of the lively parties held by Jay Gatsby at his estate in West Egg and will tie-in imagery from the Library's Special Collections depicting Buffalo during the Age of Jazz. A sponsorship package has been developed and partners are being sought. A primary target for the event is those in their 20s through 40s, with a special emphasis upon younger professionals living in downtown Buffalo.
- Planning group continued to meet regarding a joint B&ECPLS/UB initiative to develop and fund an exhibition featuring Charles Darwin. Dates for the exhibition are November 9, 2009-February 12, 2010, to coincide with the publication of *The Origin of Species* and the birth of Darwin respectively. Darwin expert Niles Eldredge of the Museum of Natural History in NYC has committed to speak at the outset of the exhibit.
- A meeting/demonstration with representatives of the Western New York Grantmakers Association (WNYGA) has been set for July 15 at the Central Library to discuss the organization's funding of additional Library sites for the online resources available to both grantseekers and grantmakers through the Foundation Center.

- A major clearance sale of books and gift items from Novel Ideas, the Central Library's store, has been set for July 23 and 24. Weather permitting the Thursday event will be held outside on the Washington Street side of the building.
- Met with representative of BrainFood Inc., parent company of Fables Café, to discuss matters related to the current lease arrangement with the Library System, which is due to end in April of 2010.
- Met with partners from the University of Buffalo for a status report on the planning grant focused on the Great Depression in Buffalo and Western New York (and especially related to several of the Library's major special collections) submitted earlier this year to the National Endowment for the Humanities.
- Monitored sales from Novel Ideas on a weekly basis.

Community Contacts

- Attended Western New York Grantmakers Association meeting—topic was “How to Do Business during Tough Economic Times.”
- Attended Theodore Roosevelt Inaugural Site Foundations meeting.
- Met with the President of Shea's Buffalo Theater to discuss several topics including future collaborations between Shea's and the Library.
- Attended/participated in the planning of Leadership Buffalo Class of '09's Economic Development Day.
- Attended ribbon-cutting ceremony for opening of the Crane Branch Library's new rain garden.
- Attended Leadership Buffalo Class Experience '09 Health Day.

Programming/Public Relations/Marketing

- Met with Development Director of the Buffalo Philharmonic to discuss ways in which the Library System can participate meaningfully in any 75th anniversary celebration planned to coincide with the orchestra's 2010-11 season. A focus would be to incorporate items from the Library's extensive music collection and BPO scrapbooks as well as to hold performances of orchestra ensembles at select libraries during the period.
- Plans have started for the Central Library to be an architectural site during the 2009 Bi-National “Doors Open Niagara” on October 17-18. This first-time participation in the major cultural/heritage tourism event (an “open house” weekend) will feature “behind the scenes” tours of the tiers and the Rare Book Room.
- Continued to meet and discuss plans for exhibits/themes emanating from the Special Collections area for the remainder of 2009 and through 2011.
- With the Director and other Library representatives, met with representatives of Literacy Volunteers of Western New York (LV) to continue discussing how the two organizations might work more collaboratively going forward, given recent administrative changes at LV
- Continued to meet and discuss programming/imagery related to the Special Collections/Rare Book Room exhibition “Double Stars: Men and Women of

Astronomy, slated for July 13-October 24, 2009. Anne Conable, Special Projects Manager in the Development & Communications Department, serves on the planning group for this initiative. Dava Sobel, author of numerous books dealing with science, including the best-sellers *Galileo's Daughter* and *Longitude*, will speak at the Library on September 10, 2009.

- Development & Communications assisted in coordinating various activities related to the June 20 Summer Reading kick-off held in front of the Central Library at noontime. More than 200 attended. A Ring of Knowledge display was developed and mounted at the Central Library by the Library's Graphics area which focused on Summer Reading.
- Coloring and reading contests with ticket giveaways were initiated in conjunction with the HSBC Arena event, *Walking with Dinosaurs*, scheduled for June 24-28. Tickets were also provided to the Buffalo Urban League for use by client families and to students and parents/caregivers participating in Buffalo Mayor Byron Brown's Summer Reading Program who read and wrote reviews of select dinosaur books. The Library received print ad and publicity mentions and various promotional materials in exchange for cross marketing the event in System libraries. A number of libraries raffled off large posters provided by the promoters of the dinosaur event that were on display in facilities throughout the System.
- Various enhancements were made to the Library's website.

B&ECPL Meetings

- Attended/participated in B&ECPL Senior Management meetings
- Attended/participated in B&ECPL Administrative Team meetings
- Attended/participated in B&ECPL Managers/Directors meeting
- Attended/participated in B&ECPL Development Committee meeting
- Attended/participated in B&ECPL Executive Committee meeting
- Attended/participated in B&ECPL Board of Trustees meeting

BUFFALO BRANCHES AND COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS ACTIVITY REPORT JULY 2009

General Highlights:

- Julie O'Neill, Executive Director of Buffalo Niagara Riverkeepers, Library Director **Bridget Quinn-Carey**, and State Senator Antoine Thompson addressed a group of over 40 Riverkeepers and library supporters during a dedication of the Crane Branch Library's rain garden on Friday, June 12th. Also in attendance were members of the Vogt family in recognition of their support of a \$12,000 grant which made this project a reality. From 9:30 until noon, volunteers assisted landscapers from Premium Landscape Services in planting over 50 trees, bushes and plants to bring this project to a beautiful conclusion.

- The Dudley Branch's partnership with PBS and local affiliate WNED is getting under way. *Raising Readers* is a pilot program and Dudley is one of only 20 in the country to trial it. Instructional materials and display items have been received, and program planning for the summer is almost complete. Information Technology Administrator **Toni Naumovski** created a separate profile on 2 children's computers so that participants can access pbskids.org without being able to go onto the wider internet.
- On June 8th, the Juneteenth Festival Committee presented "**State of the Global African Family**" at the Frank E. Merriweather, Jr. Branch Library. This pre-Juneteenth event featured local African residents, students and visitors speaking about issues and concerns in their homeland.
- On June 11th, at the Frank E. Merriweather, Jr. Branch Library, the Office of Attorney General Andrew M. Cuomo and the Juneteenth Festival, Inc. co-sponsored a Civil Rights Forum entitled "Resolving Urban Issues: Do You Know Your Rights?" The discussion included topics on discrimination in employment, housing, and public accommodations.
- Historian and educator Eva Doyle held a tribute to black educators on June 20th at the Frank E. Merriweather, Jr. Branch Library with 18 educators honored in a program in the auditorium. Biographical displays along with their photos will be displayed in the African American Resource Room through the end of July.
- State Senator Antoine Thompson held his annual Pvt. David Evans, Jr. Courage Scholarship Awards program on June 27th at the Frank E. Merriweather, Jr. Branch Library.
- On June 22nd, the Niagara Branch Library hosted, "Pre-K Move-Up Day" – a graduation ceremony for prekindergarten children from D'Youville Porter Campus (School #3.) Many parents and grandparents were in attendance as 25 children participated in the ceremony. Diplomas and awards were handed out. Afterwards, refreshments were served. Tracey Herlon, the prekindergarten teacher, expressed her appreciation for the use of the auditorium.
- Ghost, a dramatic narrative in photography presented by Circulation Department Senior Page **Porsche Jones**, was featured on June 24th from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Several artists displayed their work. Thirty-five art lovers attended the event.

Programs:

- The Buffalo Museum of Science conducted 4 Branched Out programs in June at the East Clinton Branch Library. Attendance totaled 10.
- Children's Room Librarian **Kate Puehn** brought her preschool storytime to East Clinton on June 30th. There were 9 in attendance.
- East Clinton Librarian **Patti Foley** taught a Genealogy class utilizing the genealogy databases on June 20th. Ten persons attended.
- Eight people attended the Crane Book Club's spirited discussion of *The Glass Castle* by Jeannette Walls.

- Fifty adults and 33 caregivers attended **Miss Nancy's** storytime at the Crane Branch Library.
- Preschool storytime was held at the Dudley Branch on June 27th. Librarian **Sarah Kelly** brought her trademark dance program, which was a hit with the children attending. Total attendance was 14.
- **Kathryn Galvin** taught a computer class for adults on June 22nd at the Dudley Branch. The topics were searching the catalog and using My Account. Five people attended.
- On June 2nd, the initial meeting of the Adult Book Club at the East Delavan Branch Library had 14 participants. The program is sponsored by Read to Succeed and facilitated by Librarian **Jamie D. Smith**. The Teen Book Club, also sponsored by Read to Succeed, had 12 participants at its initial meeting on June 3rd.
- The Branched Out Young Explorers program at the East Delavan Branch had 45 participants in June.
- Adult Computer Class on Thursday evenings and Saturday afternoons at the East Delavan Branch had 50 participants in June. Kim McMurphy of Buffalo Public School Adult Education conducted the classes.
- Fifteen children from Cyn's Heavenly Angels Daycare visited the East Delavan Branch on June 19th.
- The Young Explorers Club, directed by Museum of Science staff, held 4 sessions in June at the Riverside Branch. A total of 21 children attended the Science Made Fun Friday morning sessions.
- The Museum of Science Branched Out series held 4 sessions on Thursday afternoons in June at the Riverside Branch. Museum staff educationally entertained a total of 19 children for the 4 events.
- Library Associate **Sean Goodrich** continued Riverside's Thursday evening movie time with the showing of Bedtime Stories on June 4th and Bride Wars on June 18th. A total of 21 people enjoyed the movies with snacks.
- Librarian **Kerra Alessi** conducted a class visit of the Riverside Branch by students from Roosevelt Elementary on Monday, June 15th. This included a tour of the children's area, stories, and looking for books. There were 21 children and 5 adults. The class sent letters of appreciation later that week.

Tours:

- On June 5th a third grade class from School #53 visited the Frank E. Merriweather, Jr. Branch Library. Librarian **Sandra Blackman** gave a tour to 18 students and 2 teachers.
- Bethel Headstart Preschool came to the Frank E. Merriweather, Jr. Branch Library on June 10th. Children's Room Librarian **Mary Ann Budny** conducted the morning visit (11 students, 2 teachers) and Librarian **Sandra Blackman** conducted the afternoon visit (10 students, 2 teachers).

- Lincoln Day Care visited the Frank E. Merriweather, Jr. Branch Library on June 12th and a volunteer from Literacy Volunteers conducted the storytime.
- Branch Manager **Sandra Williams Bush** provided a tour of the Frank E. Merriweather, Jr. Branch to members of the North Buffalo Library Planning Committee on June 22nd.
- Niagara Branch Manager **Brian Hoth** welcomed 156 refugees from Catholic Charities of WNY during the month of June.
- Seventeen adults received instruction at the Niagara Branch Literacy Volunteers Drop-In Center.
- Literacy Volunteers' SES tutors met with 64 school age children at the Niagara Branch in June.
- The Niagara Branch's Anime Seekers, a teen club, had a total of 30 members meet in June.
- The Young Explorers program at the Niagara Branch attracted 63 preschoolers during the month of June.

Meetings/Conferences/Training/Presentations (not programs):

- June 4 - PBS Raising Readers webinar , WNED Studios, Librarians **Kathryn Galvin, Linda Rizzo** and **Pat Covley**
- June 23 - PBS Raising Readers Teleconference, CTL, Librarians **Kathryn Galvin, Linda Rizzo, Claudia Yates** and **Pat Covley** and Library Associate **Debra Lawrence**
- June 10 - PowerLine Conference Meet & Greet, Librarian **Jamie D. Smith**, East Delavan
- June 10 - Buffalo Schools Library Systems Council meeting, Joseph Mattie, NYS Library, Librarian **Jamie D. Smith**, East Delavan
- June 11 - PowerLine Conference Lunch & Learn Presentation, Librarian **Jamie D. Smith**, East Delavan
- June 13 - PowerLine Right to Literacy Convention, Librarian **Jamie D. Smith**, East Delavan

Other:

- Branch Manager **Sandra Williams Bush** had an information table at Juneteenth on Saturday, June 13th.
- On June 8th, the Michigan Street African American Heritage Corridor Commission met at the Frank E. Merriweather, Jr. Branch. The 17 member commission was appointed by Gov. Paterson to develop a management plan for the corridor -- advancing the preservation and enhancement of historic, cultural, economic and architectural resources of the corridor.
- Niagara Branch Manager **Brian Hoth** dropped off 8 boxes of used books donated from the Crane Branch, Dudley Branch, and Central Library to Friends of the Night People on June 2nd, 8th and 22nd.

- On June 20th, Niagara Branch Librarians **Brian Hoth** and **Maxime Chawki** attended, "A Taste of Diversity" - an ethnic food fair sponsored by the Grant-Ferry Association. Brian and Max set up an informational table and distributed books donated from Project Flight. Since Maxime is fluent in 5 languages, he was able to converse with attendees from many different areas.
- On June 25th, Niagara Branch Manager **Brian Hoth** and Business, Science, and Technology Librarian **Tim Galvin** promoted the Library's many programs and services at Associate's Day at the Adam's Mark Hotel.

Contracting Library Activity Reports - July 2009

Amherst Public Library - submitted by Roseanne Butler-Smith, Library Director

For the summer of 2009, the Amherst Libraries are in full gear for what we believe and hope will be an exciting time for the patrons in the community. Our summer will kick off on July 1st with 2 special events!

The first event is the introduction of a New Library Card Welcome Kit. The welcome kit will be given to all children who receive a new library card at any one of the 4 Amherst Libraries. This kit consists of a plastic carry case printed with the library logo that is designed to hold the new library card, a mood pencil and various literature that helps the new user become familiar with the B&ECPL System. This kit was made possible by a gift made to the Amherst Library.

The second exciting thing that will occur on July 1st is that 4 bicycles, (one -20 inch boy, one 20 inch girl, one 16 inch girl, and one 16 inch boy) will arrive in each of the 4 branches that will eventually be raffled off to the child who was able to enter our contest for merely visiting and checking out books this summer at any Amherst Library. Monies for the 16 bicycles came from profits made from ongoing candy bar sales.

The not so secret word for patrons visiting the library will be Summer Programs, and boy can they find something here!!!!!!!!!!!!!! Anyone in the County looking for something to do, that is both free and fun, can check out what we have to offer.

This year, as last year, we have planned an exciting reading program for adults... the theme is "Going Green"; a list of "green" titles will be provided to all who inquire. Adult readers will be given a "green" plastic book bag, one they will hopefully use each time they travel to and from the library.

Over 225 individual programs geared for children, 1 ½ to 11 years of age, are planned to take place over the course of the summer at any one of the 4 branches. Programs for

children include the basic storyhour program to Thomas the Tank Engine, a flower design workshop, and even a "use your manners session".

Teens were not forgotten in our summer plans, as over 25 various types of programs are to take place. Teen reading is also being encouraged with a reading program that was specifically geared for the 11 - 16 year olds of the community. This program involves each participant to sign a reading contract where the teen selects how many books they want to read over the course of July and August. Any teen who reads 5 or more books will be entered into a very popular drawing... a chance to win a \$50.00 gift certificate for Galleria Mall.

Knowing the state of the economy, the Amherst Libraries have done a lot of planning with family needs in mind. Families from all over the community will be invited to attend any one of the **free** Family Fun Nights. One night per week, Monday - Thursday, each branch has planned a fun-filled program that is intended for the whole family, infant to grandparent. Family Fun Nights consist of a variety of activities including...movie nights- Mother Earth Film Festival, game nights, various performers: Glenn Colton, Story Teller Jeff Criden, reptiles from Nickel City Reptile and even a Medieval Art demonstration.

Even with all the programs that are planned, 2 of the branches will see some major construction projects. The Clearfield Branch will have all new windows installed by the end of July; windows with screens that will actually be able to be opened. In late August, the Main Library at Audubon will get a new roof! Both projects were made possible through the 2009- 2010 New York State Library Construction grant, along with matching funds from the Town Of Amherst.

The 2009 summer will end on a happy/sad note... Librarian, 30 year +++ veteran, **Mary Jane Kibby** will retire, leaving us with a huge void. Her plans are to relocate to be nearer to her 2 grown children... and Owen! who currently reside in Ohio. Even though I have only had the chance to work with Mary Jane for a little over 2 years, I will greatly miss her, as she truly has been a great employee!!!!

**All of us from the Amherst Libraries wish you
all a happy, safe and busy summer!!!!**

PS. Look for more information regarding a new program/event that will take place on October 30, 2009... "Trunk and Treat".

Orchard Park Public Library - submitted by Dawn Peters, Library Director

To highlight a few happenings at the Orchard Park Public Library is always tough. The library recently completed major renovations and subsequently was able to resume regular scheduled storyhours as well as the many entertaining and educational programs supported by the Friends of the Orchard Park Public Library. Because of the Friends wonderful generosity, the library was able to provide many special programs to the residents of this community and the surrounding areas. Many of the following programs were made possible by the Friends. The Friends are very dedicated and hard working and this community benefits greatly by their tireless efforts.

May 9, 2009 - The Primate Sanctuary program drew over 60 in attendance. Children and adults alike enjoyed this primate program. It was a fun-filled hour of Monkey Business entertainment and education as 5 different primates were presented. Sponsored by the Friends.

May 30, 2009 - Doug the Bubbleman drew 60 in attendance. This was a family program featuring Doug and his bubbles. Sponsored by the Friends.

June 6, 2009 - Legislator John Mills held his 3rd annual Hot Dog BBQ Fundraiser for the Orchard Park Public Library. This event coincided with the Friends of the Library Quarterly Book Sale.

June 11, 2009 - Family Movie Night. The feature film was Madagascar 2.

June 13, 2009 - The Wondermakers program drew 15 in attendance. Three folktales were presented in a theatre style presentation. Sponsored by the Friends.

June 18, 2009 - Jaycees Earning by Learning sign ups, over 60 attended. The Jaycees program is designed to encourage children in grades 2-5 to read. For every title the children read and can answer a few simple questions, they will earn a dollar. This is a very popular program here at the Orchard Park Public Library.

June 22, 2009 - The Aquarium of Niagara drew over 120 in attendance. As was the case last year when we provided this program, the turnout was fantastic. People of all ages thoroughly enjoyed the program. Sponsored by the Friends.

Agenda Item F.1 - Authorization to Negotiate Contract with Library Foundation of Buffalo & Erie County for Administrative Services. Ms. Quinn-Carey reminded trustees that back in April the Board passed a resolution authorizing Stanton Hudson to negotiate an agreement directly with the Library Foundation to provide administrative services. As time proceeded, a number of concerns were raised and this was taken back to the Executive Committee to see if there was a better way to approach this. The

consensus between the Executive Committee, Mr. Hudson, as well as members of the Library Foundation she spoke with, was that because there is a precedent between the two organizations to work together under memorandums (there is an existing memorandum with the Foundation as far as administration), it might be a better way forward to have the agreement of sharing staff resources come between the two organizations rather than with Mr. Hudson as an individual. This resolution authorizes Ms. Quinn-Carey to go forward and negotiate this on the Library's behalf. The final agreement would come back to the Board for final approval. Ms. Panty moved for approval. Ms. Horton provided a second.

Trustee Rossetti pointed out he has a problem with having Board members that are the same for the Library and Library Foundation and feels this is dangerous and tenuous. Trustee Leary recognized his point and, as a prior Director of the Library Foundation, gave a history of the Library Foundation and spoke of precedent at other libraries where foundations have agreements with libraries of this nature. Mr. Berlow added to this, stating the issue of same board members is a different topic that can be addressed at a later date if desired. Ms. Summer voiced the idea was approved in principle already, and this resolution is just changing the mechanics of doing it. After further discussion involving questions as to Mr. Hudson's salary and termination clauses, Ms. Summer called the question. The vote was twelve to one, with Trustee Rossetti voting in the negative. The motion was carried to approve Resolution 2009-37.

RESOLUTION 2009-37

WHEREAS, Resolution 2009-19, approved in April 2009, enabled the Chief Development and Communications Officer (CDO) to negotiate a personal services agreement with the Library Foundation of Buffalo and Erie County (Foundation) to serve as the Foundation's Executive Director, and

WHEREAS, Resolution 2009-19 also enabled the Library to request Foundation support for additional clerical work related to the administration of the Foundation office, and

WHEREAS, in the effort to implement the provisions of the personal services agreement several issues were brought to staff and Executive Committee attention that warranted additional discussion, and

WHEREAS, it is now the general consensus between the CDO, legal counsel, the Executive Committee and the Foundation that the proposal for all elements of shared staffing be negotiated between the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library and the Foundation directly, rather than through a personal services agreement between the CDO and the Foundation, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Library Director is authorized to negotiate a contract agreement with the Foundation and the proposed agreement be presented to the Board for final approval.

Agenda Item G - Public Comment. No public comment.

Agenda Item H - Unfinished Business.

Agenda Item H. 1 - Election of Vice Chair. Chair Thomas stated at the June Board meeting we called for nominations for Vice Chairman of the Board to finish out 2009. Mr. Rick Lewis' name was put forth, however, he has withdrawn his name. Mr. Lewis verified this, responding via conference call. The other name put forth was Mr. Jack Connors. Trustee Rossetti moved for approval and was seconded by Mr. Berger. Approval of Jack Connors as Vice Chair for the remainder of 2009 was unanimous.

Agenda Item I - New Business.

Agenda Item I.1 - Extend Personal Services Contract - Anne E. Conable, Consultant. Ms. Quinn-Carey explained this resolution is to extend the contract we have with Anne E. Conable to provide event-related coordination services for the Library System through December 31, 2009. Ms. Panty moved for approval and was seconded by Ms. Horton. Approval was unanimous.

RESOLUTION 2009-38

WHEREAS, the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library (B&ECPL) has contracted with Anne E. Conable to provide professional consulting services associated with the recent Alexander Hamilton exhibition, and

WHEREAS, the current contract will expire on July 31, 2009, and

WHEREAS, Anne E. Conable, with whom the Library has worked successfully, has become integral to the planning and implementation of a number of other high profile initiatives slated to take place between August 1 and December 31, 2009, and

WHEREAS, Ms. Conable is eager to continue her work on behalf of the B&ECPL, under the terms and conditions set out in the proposed contract between the B&ECPL and herself, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees authorizes the Library Director to extend this contract and enter into agreement with Anne E. Conable.

Agenda Item J - Adjournment. Chair Thomas reminded trustees our next Board meeting, September 17th, will be at the Grand Island Memorial Library. In addition, the Executive Committee will meet on September 3rd at the Central Library and all trustees are invited that are interested in attending. There being no further business, on motion by Ms. Panty and seconded by Ms. Summer, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 5:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Frank Gist,
Secretary