

# **MORTON GROVE PUBLIC LIBRARY**

## **LIBRARIAN'S REPORT**

### **JANUARY 2007**

#### **Activity Summary**

The Library ended FY2006 with an unspent balance of \$261,063. An anticipated amount of \$74,934 for construction, legal and other costs is expected to be billed in FY2007. These costs can be charged to the FY2006 budget, leaving the Library with an unencumbered unspent balance of \$186,129.

I recommend that \$60,000 be re-allocated to CY2007 to restore some cuts made during budget development. This will also fund an additional part time reference librarian and support for two consulting projects.

The balance of \$126,129 will be moved to savings for future use.

The Resolution to re-allocate, the revised Levy and Appropriation document and a revised Budget with notes are included in the meeting packet.

Petition filing for the April 2007 Consolidated election closed on Monday February 5, 2007. The Niles Township has received five Library Board candidate petitions. Three Board members are seeking to retain their seats two individuals are also seeking election.

The Library has made an offer, which has been accepted, to Brenda Glenn to fill the position of part time Youth Services librarian. This is a one year position (ends December 31, 2007) funded through the Per Capita Grant from the Illinois State Library. Interviews are scheduled for the part time program/events assistant.

Teen Librarian Katie Opderbeck has demonstrated that her ability to serve the teen population is mainly limited by the 50% of her time spent at the Reference Desk. The revised Budget allows for an additional part time reference librarian to allow an increase in focus on teen programs and services.

The Library hosted the Suburban Cook County Home School Spelling Bee. The tension was palpable as the program progressed. Several Staff (and the Director) found themselves both competing (in their heads) and silently cheering for the 25 students. Several parents admitted they came to 'check things out' and several made a point of commenting on the professional and sensitive manner with which YS and Diane Gregg ran the affair. Everyone had a great time.

Estimates have been requested for the various trade work needed to convert the old Local History room into a new Youth Services Activity room. Work should begin by the end of February and be finished in time for National Library week. Turning this space to public use will greatly alleviate the overcrowding in the main YS room.

Work on the new Program/Volunteer office and new meeting room will likely start around the end of March. A preliminary drawing from the architect is included in the packet.

Finally I would ask that Trustees take a moment to review the 2006/2005 Statistical Summary. It gives a very good idea of the Library's strength of service and the changes in patron interests over the last two years. As we move towards adding two new members to the Board and reopening of the quest to obtain an larger facility these numbers can be an effective tool for defining and describing the Library's value to Morton Grove.

## Statistical Summary

Total circulation for January was 26,984 up from 23,694 last month, a 13.8 % increase. January 2007 total circulation exceeded January 2006 by 16.1%.

Adult circulation for January was 14,028 up 8.7% compared to last month's 12,900. It is also up 21.6% compared to last January.

Youth Services circulation is up 10.5% compared to January of 2006. The 12,913 items circulated is a 2,166 item increase over last month.

The Reciprocal Borrowing Program (RBP) accounted for 4,873 items loaned to other communities or 18.1% of total circulation for the month. This is an increase of 283 items compared to December. RBP circulation for January 2006 was 5,072.

Patron registrations remain flat, with 8,636 active cards, with 73 new and 157 renewals. This represents 38.5% of the Morton Grove population with active cards. While both renewals and new registrations were up in January the total number of card holders increased by just 8 people.

Adult reference activity was down -22% compared to last January with 1,705 questions. It is up slightly compared to December 2006 by 204 questions.

Youth Services reference activity for the month was 1,109, up 32% over last January.

Morton Grove residents made 103 Interlibrary Loan requests (up by 61 from last month). 113 ILL requests were filled in December. Other libraries requested 143 items (up by 27 items from last month) from MGPL of which 71 were filled.

Program attendance was 757 for Adults, 1,312 for Youth Services totaling 2,069 for the month.

Website hits from non-staff users were 173,395 for the month (up from December by 12,396.) This is an average of 5,593 hits per day, an 11% increase over last January.

Adult Internet PC usage was 773 compared to 575 in December and down - 1% compared to last January. Construction again reduced the number of available PCs part of the month. Youth Services Internet use was 194, up