

MPL Director's Report

August 28, 2024

Community Engagement

Led a tour for the Mansfield Center's Big Sky Leadership Forum of 20 high school juniors from across the state preparing to be Montana's next leaders.

Met with Families First Director to discuss a revitalized shared position partially funded by an OPI Grant they received.

Planned for the arrival of the new bookmobile. Organized vendor-led training sessions for staff.

Worked with the County to sell the WOW Bus at auction. The buyer plans to use the bus for technology instruction in Austin, Texas.

Regarding the NIH grant, we are asking for a no cost extension, reserving the money for change orders but we are moving forward with using \$37,000 in funds to complete tribal co-created items. The City is going to subaward the Library with the remaining funds, which is standard procedure. Reviewed design proposal for tipi play structure, which will include sound elements.

On own time, participated on hiring panel for the new Executive Director of the ZACC and voted to serve as Board Chair for the Missoula Food Bank & Community Center for 2nd year.

Attended the LVL First Friday Art reception and "Becoming Little Shell" book release event.

Met with Elections Department Director to learn more about Mill Levy process.

Scheduled bookmobile launch party for Saturday, September 28 at 5:30.

Helped design and select new merchandise for the Store. T-shirts, totes, and postcards with designs by Aspen Decker and Stella Nall will fund future initiatives related to Indigenous culture.

Core Services

Regular one-on-one meetings with direct reports.

Slaven worked 5 hours of desk time, including monthly Saturday hours.

Co-chaired Labor Management Committee meeting. Attended Library Foundation and Steering Committee meetings.

Met with Baker & Taylor to purchase opening day collection for the bookmobile. The collection is funded by grants and donations.

Sustainability and Wellness

Discussed electric vehicle charging grant opportunities with the City of Missoula.

Interesting Reads

Missoula judges assist unhoused population in shelter (MPL provides services)

https://www.montanarightnow.com/missoula/missoula-judges-assist-unhoused-population-in-shelter-court/article_74ad1bf2-4968-11ef-a4e4-c38fa11e0cb7.html

Missoula 'shelter court' connects lower-income offenders to resources

https://missoulian.com/news/state-regional/crime-courts/missoula-municipal-shelter-court-homeless/article_af47bd0e-4f61-11ef-b31c-af893ce800c5.html

Libraries can help end the culture wars. That's why they're under fire.

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/2024/07/24/libraries-end-culture-wars-book-bans/>