

Director's Report
November 20, 2024

Library Safety

Working with the Mayor's Office to acquire approximately 20 lockers of varying sizes. Two units will be on casters with automated/digital locks. Mayor Davis has committed funds.

Community Engagement

Met with Families First interim directors to discuss transition and onboarding new Director.

Social work practicum meeting with UM's Director of Fieldwork. Master of Social Work Practicum program in the library set to begin in Fall 2025.

JEDI (Justice, Equity, Diversity, Inclusion) Summit planning with City of Missoula Community Engagement Specialist.

Attended City Club as a guest of Blackfoot Communications. The topic was about the challenges of building a diverse housing stock in Missoula.

Attended and gave an intro to Buck Hitswithastick program for Native American History Month.

Participated in MCPS sponsored Missoula Reads planning meeting.

Traveled to Ronan to participate in spectrUM's SciNation Advisory Committee. SciNation is "committed to empowering and inspiring the Flathead Indian Reservation and its youth about science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM), higher education, and STEM careers." MPL is partnering and offering bookmobile services at special events. Invited library directors from Ronan and Polson to join.

Guest on UM's "The Right Angle" podcast.

Core Services

Scheduled On-Boarding and training for new On-Call Library Specialist (Reference).

Meet with Consultant to develop Facilities assessment plan. Created surveys for public and AUOR staff. Assessing job descriptions, budget allocations, daily tasks, etc.

Schedule quarterly carpet cleaning.

Scheduled DNA climber repairs and DNA playground tipi design.

Coordinated All Boards Meeting.

Completed annual performance reviews.

Attended regular meetings: Friends of MPL, Management, Steering Committee, Bookmobile Committee, AUOR Executive Leadership, Reference, and 1:1s.

Participated in meeting with County Finance regarding new accounting software.

Worked 4 hours of desk time.

Sustainability and Wellness

Sustainable Libraries Certification kick-off meeting.

Attended MPL pumpkin carving at Free Cycles organized by Staff Engagement Committee.

Interesting Reads

Librarians Face a Crisis of Violence and Abuse*

<https://www.nytimes.com/2024/10/31/well/mind/librarian-trauma-homeless-drugs-mental-illness.html>

Texas Libraries Are Engines of Optimism

https://texashighways.com/culture/texas-libraries-are-engines-of-optimism/?mc_cid=6c22241415

*Courtesy of the Friends of the Library, patrons can access the digital New York Times for free:

<https://www.missoulapubliclibrary.org/home/collections/digital-items/databases-a-z/>