

GRAL Director's Report

MAY 2023

ADVOCACY

-Minnesota Library Association Legislative Activities Calendar

MLA Legislative Updates: 10-10:30 a.m.

6/7/23, 7/5/23, 8/2/23, 9/6/23, 11/8/23, 12/6/23

-MLA Legislative Update

Legislative Update from MLA Lobbyist Sam Walseth, Capitol Hill Associates

Library Funding – Education

The House and Governor are carrying a \$2 million annual increase to Regional Library Basic System Support to conference committee, along with a change in the distribution formula. This is good news. Even better news is the Senate is carrying the entirety of the MLA's Education request to conference committee, found in SF 1919. The Senate is also carrying the entirety of the school library aid program found in SF 1911. To surmise, the Senate bill would increase RLBSS funding by \$4 million/year, with the formula distribution change, and it would link future RLBSS increases to any increases made to the general education formula. The Senate bill would also increase funding to Multi-County, Multi-Type systems by \$700,000 each year, and one-time funding for support to increase more licensed school media specialists. The Senate bill would also pump \$59 million over the next two years into school districts to improve school library programs, and licensed staff.

Library Legacy Funding –

The House and Senate Legacy bills propose \$2.75 million each year for the next two years into the 12 regional public library systems for arts and cultural heritage programs.

Minitex Funding –

The Governor and House have proposed an increase to Minitex funding, growing the current base of \$5.905 million each year by \$650,000 in fiscal year 2024, and then another \$50,000 or so each year beyond that. The Senate, however, did not include the Minitex increase in their omnibus Higher Education bill as they look to provide free college opportunities to more students.

Library Construction & Renovation –

A bonding bill with \$4 million for library construction and renovation grants has passed the House but stalled out in the Senate. Senate GOP members are holding out to see if a social security income tax cut is in the mix before they agree to vote for the bonding bill.

LIBRARY MANAGEMENT

-Library Façade Repair Project

Actions at the 04-24-2023 City Council meeting:

Accepted a low bid from Building Restoration Corporation

Approved a reimbursement resolution

Entered into agreement with Encompass Inc. for construction management services

-Workplace Culture Follow-up

At the 04-13-2023 staff meeting, Human Resources Officer Chery Pierzina informed the group that Dr. Susan Herreid is visiting for follow-up to the organizational development / workplace culture work she started in fall of 2021. Dr. Herreid visited with staff 04-20-2023.

FACILITIES MAINTAINANCE / SPACE

-Summary for Library Façade Repair Project

03-13-2023, City Staff received bids from four contractors for the Library Façade Repair Project, described as:

1. Replace exterior sealant, joints are in poor condition and the material is past its useful age.
2. Repair/replace flashing at front bay windows with a weatherproof membrane and protective cladding.
3. Remove and reset capstones, replace flashing with new material featuring a drip edge.
4. Fix (reinstall) the window in east office, bringing it up to as new condition.
5. Perform sealant maintenance / repair around skylights. Sealant is in poor to fair condition.
6. Clean brick to remove stains and moss, add water repellent product to extend useful life.
7. Spot masonry repairs on estimated total surface area of 1,400 square feet.
8. Repaint exposed steel on building exterior.

I am working with City Administration on a plan to complete the project this summer.

-Media drop installation

Al's Restoration installed the Media drop 5/1.

-Snow Removal

Ongoing – 4/21 was the last plowing.

END OF REPORT

April in Children's

I find it so interesting to see what piques people's interests in terms of Storytime themes. And while Dion has played with titles and word order in her descriptions to see if that correlates to more or fewer views, the jury's still out on the effectiveness of that. Some themes just seem to hit right with folks. But, giraffes? We posted the Giraffe Storytime two weeks ago, and, thus far, it has been viewed 443 times. Now, it has a long way to go to surpass last summer's squirrels, (47,000 views) but, that's an impressive start! 😊

April saw our final installation of Afterschool with Ms. Amy, and our final Lego Club of the school year. Lego club is on the schedule for summer, so, our break will not be long!

Speaking of summer, I have been busy lining up programs. At this point we have five bigger programs, plus Lego Club, book clubs, Book Time (in person,) and we will have a "Mid-Day Movies" series. In addition, we will continue our online presence with Storytime and Artastic. While this is a full schedule, I would like to squeeze in a couple of stand-alone programs, if I can find the right people.

Along with the apparently wildly popular giraffe theme, we also filmed kangaroos, ponds, road trip, beavers, and puddle storytimes. We are nothing if not eclectic. After three years, coming up with fresh material is challenging, and I am writing more of our own material, rather than relying on traditional songs, rhymes, and flannel board stories. I am also learning how to take a theme we've already done, say, gardens, and breaking that theme down to, say, seeds. Yep, we've done birds, but we haven't done robins! My days are often spent trying to rhyme action words to childhood ditties. It's a good life.

I had a chance to talk to the Grand Rapids Area Library Foundation this month. I so appreciate all they do for us, and it is a delight to be able to show them how we are using Foundation funds. I also taped another book review radio segment with Tammy Bobrowsky at KAXE. The highlight of my month, though, might have been our program with Mary Casanova. I have been a fan of her work since 1995, and am delighted when she comes through Grand Rapids with a program, or when I get to see her at a workshop or conference. She is a wonderful author, and I was proud to introduce her.

Cohasset 1st graders visited this month, as did West third graders. We have a handful of school visits left this year, then, hello, summer! I hope you have your beach reads lined up. Happy Reading!

Monthly Report - Overview for Apr 2023

Locations on this report: Grand Rapids Area Library

Checkout

Description	Apr 2023	Mar 2023	%chg	Apr 2022	%chg	2023 YTD	2022 YTD	%chg
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
1st Time	9973	10774	-8	9973	0	38515	36793	4
Phone Renewal	316	373	-16	268	17	1234	1178	4
Renewal	124	176	-30	169	-27	581	905	-36
Opac Renewal	667	721	-8	671	-1	2627	2501	5
Offline 1st Time	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Offline Renewal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dayend Auto Renew	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
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Total	11080	12044	-9	11081	-1	42957	41377	3

Checkout Stock Rotation

Description	Apr 2023	Mar 2023	%chg	Apr 2022	%chg	2023 YTD	2022 YTD	%chg
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
1st Time	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Phone Renewal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Renewal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Opac Renewal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Offline 1st Time	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Offline Renewal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Dayend Auto Renew	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
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Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Checkin

Description	Apr 2023	Mar 2023	%chg	Apr 2022	%chg	2023 YTD	2022 YTD	%chg
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Normal	9235	9212	0	9236	-1	33854	33048	2
Late	1857	2052	-10	1828	1	7298	7017	4
Offline Normal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Offline Late	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
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Total	11092	11264	-2	11064	0	41152	40065	2

Requests Placed

Description	Apr 2023	Mar 2023	%chg	Apr 2022	%chg	2023 YTD	2022 YTD	%chg
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Placed	1926	2185	-12	1785	7	8102	7786	4
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Total	1926	2185	-12	1785	7	8102	7786	4

Requests Resolved

Description	Apr 2023	Mar 2023	%chg	Apr 2022	%chg	2023 YTD	2022 YTD	%chg
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Cancelled	84	125	-33	85	-2	416	368	13
Filled	2731	3217	-16	2877	-6	11902	11711	1
Expired	1	0	100	1	0	10	16	-38
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Total	2816	3342	-16	2963	-5	12328	12095	1

Holds Resolved

Description	Apr 2023	Mar 2023	%chg	Apr 2022	%chg	2023 YTD	2022 YTD	%chg
Picked Up	1829	1899	-4	1685	8	7224	7017	2
Cancelled	7	7	0	6	16	31	15	106
Expired	99	116	-15	104	-5	447	514	-14
Total	1935	2022	-5	1795	7	7702	7546	2

Overdues

Description	Apr 2023	Mar 2023	%chg	Apr 2022	%chg	2023 YTD	2022 YTD	%chg
1st Notice	616	536	14	473	30	1907	1636	16
2nd Notice	2	3	-34	0	100	10	13	-24
3rd Notice	0	1	-100	0	0	3	1	200
4th Notice	1	0	100	0	100	3	1	200
5th Notice	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	100
Final Notice	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	100
Notice # 7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Notice # 8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Notice # 0	173	116	49	126	37	569	409	39
Total	792	656	20	599	32	2495	2060	21

Borrower Delta

Description	Apr 2023	Mar 2023	%chg	Apr 2022	%chg	2023 YTD	2022 YTD	%chg
New (Manual)	86	105	-19	65	32	419	278	50

New (Manual)	657	505	30	522	25	2169	1991	8
Deleted (Manual)	130	300	-57	302	-57	1307	3129	-59
New (Batch)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Deleted (Batch)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
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Total	787	805	-3	824	-5	3476	5120	-33

Acquisitions Activities

Description	Apr 2023	Mar 2023	%chg	Apr 2022	%chg	2023 YTD	2022 YTD	%chg
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Lines Ordered	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Items Ordered	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lines Received	370	320	15	445	-17	1213	1218	-1
Items Rcvd by Ven	381	329	15	455	-17	1246	1237	0
Claims	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
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Total	751	649	15	900	-17	2459	2455	0

Grand Rapids Area Library

Reference Statistics

April 2023

	April 2023	YTD 2023
Door Count	2525	9536
Reference Questions	257	941
Computer Help Over 5 Minutes	38	115
Tests Proctored	0	5
Public Computer Use: Sessions	269	818
Public Computer Use: Hours Used	186	696
Special Computer Sessions	125	499
Passports Accepted	96	476

April 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2	3 2+14 NP C	4 2+14 NP C	5 3+11 NP C	6 0+15 NP C	7 7 NP C	8
	HT 11 11	HT 11 11	HT 11 11	HT 11 11	HT 11 11	
9	10 2+12 NP C	11 6+11 NP C	12 2+17 NP C	13 2+16 NP C	14 6 NP C	15
	HT 11 11	HT 11 11	HT 11 11	HT 11 11	HT 11 11	
16	17 3+11 NP C	18 12 NP C	19 10 NP C	20 2+8 NP C	21 5 NP C	22
	HT 11 11	HT 11 11	HT 11 11	HT 11 11	HT 11 11	
23	24 3+14 NP C	25 1+10 NP C	26 7+8 NP C	27 3+10 NP C	28 8 NP C	29
	HT 11 11	HT 11 11	HT 11 11	HT 11 11	HT 11 11	
30						

April 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3 34643 3	4 346,903 2	5 37,083 2	6 37,365 2	7 37,540 0	8 (9)
9	10 37875 8	11 38,202 7	12 38489 5	13 38843 38837 4	14 39011 8	15 (32)
16	17 39336 4	18 39,703 10	19 40004 6	20 40,194 7	21 40,305 2	22 (29)
23	24 40615 14	25 40974 7	26 41270 4	27 41,546 4	28 41,732 5	29 (26)
30						

Children's Stats

Month April
20 23

Online Storytime

Programs: 4
Facebook views: 252
YouTube views: 589
Total views: 841

Artastic

Programs: 1
Facebook views: 53
YouTube views: 52
Total views: 105
Kits handed out: 150

Book Time

Programs: 3
People: 79

Class visits

Groups/People: 3 / 70

Children's Programs

Programs: 2
People: 35

Name of Program:

• Lego Club
• After school w/ Miss Amy

Reference Questions:

401

Reference Questions

2022: 283

APRIL 2023 401

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2	13 3	14 4	24 5	29 6	24 7 Good Friday NO VAC	8
9 Easter Sunday	24 10	12 11 NO Cindy	21 12 NO Ellen	46 13	7 14	15
16	28 17	14 18	15 19	13 20	4 21	22
23	8 24	20 25	27 26	39 27	17 28 NO VAC	29
30						

GRAND RAPIDS AREA LIBRARY: 2023 Volunteer Report

Month	Regular Volunteers		RSVP Volunteers		Library Board		Program Committee		Teen Advisory Board		Friends of the Library		Library Foundation		Total	Total
	# Vol	Hours	# Vol	Hours	# Vol	Hours	# Vol	Hours	# Vol	Hours	# Vol	Hours	# Vol	Hours	# Vol	Hours
January	30	147.50	6	93.50	9	9.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	11	49.50	2	5.50	36	241.00
February	29	115.25	7	80.75	7	7.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	8	39.00	6	14.00	36	196.00
March	28	147.00	7	116.00	9	9.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	11	59.00	1	5.00	35	263.00
April	29	130.00	6	100.00	5	5.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	10	57.25	5	13.00	35	230.00
May																
June																
July																
August																
September																
October																
November																
December																
Total		539.75		390.25		30.00		0.00		0.00		204.75		37.50	*	930.00