

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BUFFALO AND ERIE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
October 20, 2011

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library was held on Thursday, October 20, 2011, in the Central Library pursuant to due notice to trustees. The following members were present:

Sharon A. Thomas, Chair
Jack Connors, Vice Chair
Elaine M. Panty, Secretary
Richard L. Berger
Phyllis A. Horton
Theodore K. Johnson
John G. Schmidt, Jr. (via conference call)
Judith K. Summer (via conference call)
Wayne D. Wisbaum

Absent: Amy Alvarez-Perez
Frank Gist
Sharon M. Kelly
Anne M. Leary
Jennifer Zivis

Chair Sharon A. Thomas called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m. in the Joseph B. Rounds Conference Room. Trustees Schmidt and Summer were in attendance via conference call.

Agenda Item B - Approval/Changes to the Agenda. There were no changes to the proposed agenda.

Agenda Item C - Minutes of the Meeting of September 15, 2011. On motion by Mr. Berger and a second by Ms. Horton, the Minutes were approved as mailed.

Agenda Item D - Election of Officer. At the September Board meeting, Frank Gist was nominated by Trustee Summer to serve as the Board's Treasurer. Chair Thomas entertained a motion to elect Mr. Gist. Ms. Thomas noted that although Mr. Gist was not in attendance at this meeting, he had previously agreed. Trustee Panty made a

motion, which was seconded by Trustee Summer. Mr. Gist was unanimously approved to be the Board Treasurer.

Agenda Item E – Report of the Chair. Ms. Thomas reported the Library is moving ahead going towards a special legislative district public library and the legislation is being worked on. This information will be brought to the Board in due time.

Agenda Item F – Committee Reports.

Agenda Item F.1 – Executive Committee.

Mr. Connors reported the Committee met on October 13, 2011. Present were Executive Committee member Jack Connors, Trustee Elaine Panty, Director Mary Jean Jakubowski, CFO Kenneth Stone, Public Affairs Manager Joy Testa Cinquino and Consultant Libby Post. Executive Committee members Anne Leary, John Schmidt, Jr. and Judy Summer were present via telephone.

The meeting was called to order at 4:03 p.m. and a quorum was present.

Mr. Connors introduced two action items; Resolution 2011-32 New York State Construction Grant Request – Central Library and Resolution 2011-33 New York State Construction Grant - System Evaluation Ranking and Recommendations. Mr. Stone spoke to each of the resolutions. He made the recommendation for authorization.

- Resolution 2011-32 motion by Anne Leary, second by John Schmidt. Unanimously passed.
- Resolution 2011-33 motion by Judy Summer, second by Anne Leary. Unanimously passed.

The Committee reviewed the agenda for the October 20, 2011 meeting.

Ms. Jakubowski asked trustees to review draft legislation. Legislation will be discussed at the upcoming Planning Committee meeting – Thursday, November 10th.

Ms. Jakubowski also asked trustees to look over educational “Talking Points” and forward comments/edits to her as soon as possible.

Ms. Jakubowski briefly discussed ongoing meetings with local public officials.

Libby Post of Communication Services reviewed her initial Public Education/Outreach Strategy. She also suggested January be the initiation of

outreach with community groups. She asked the Committee members to begin to consider which key groups would host meetings.

Joy Testa Cinquino spoke to the status of the Gala. She requested the Central Library adjust its hours on November 5th so that caterers, entertainment and decorators could begin setting up the area. Jack Connors suggested the Central Library open an hour earlier than usual so as to not lose service hours to the public. Hours of operation for the Central Library, November 5, 2011 will be 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Ms. Testa Cinquino's office will begin to develop signage and other forms of communication to notify patrons.

There was discussion on maintenance of Buffalo Branches.

The Executive Committee meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

Trustee Wisbaum arrived at approximately 4:05 p.m.

Agenda Item F.1.a – NYS Construction Grant Request – Central Library. This resolution was approved unanimously by the Executive Committee on October 13, 2011.

RESOLUTION 2011-32

WHEREAS, up to an estimated \$664,117 in the New York State \$14,000,000 Public Library Construction Grant Program is available to support up to 50% of eligible costs for projects benefiting the public libraries located within Erie County, and

WHEREAS, this grant provides an opportunity to leverage public and private funds to increase the amount available to finance badly needed capital rehabilitation, energy saving and related projects, and

WHEREAS, the Central Library is in need of abating asbestos and reconstructing over 25,000 sq. ft. of space on the Library's second floor and installing additions to the Library's security system, and

WHEREAS, these improvements would provide a more inviting, energy efficient and comfortable environment, and

WHEREAS, estimated costs for these items total \$1,698,145, with the amount eligible to be requested from the State grant totaling \$773,851, and

WHEREAS, if other project requests submitted by member libraries are recommended in full, the grant allocation remaining available for the Central Library Project would be \$542,738, and

WHEREAS, the Library has sufficient resources available to fund the difference between the estimated \$542,738 available grant amount and the total estimated project cost, and

WHEREAS, applications are due no later than October 19, 2011, which is prior to the next scheduled board meeting, and

WHEREAS, Article VI, Section 1 of Bylaws of the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library states: 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, pursuant to the requirements of this grant, that the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees of the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library assures that:

- 1) It possesses the legal authority to submit this application, including all understandings and assurances contained herein and to direct and authorize the person identified as the construction project manager to act as the official representative of the applicant in connection with this application and to provide such additional information as may be required;
- 2) It fully expects the project will begin construction, or continue construction work in the case of a project that has begun but is not complete as of the date of application, within 180 days after receipt of written notification from the State Education Department that State Aid construction funds have been approved for the project and that the conditions of the funding have been met; and
- 3) Pursuant to the terms of Chapter 768 of New York State Laws of 1953, under which the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library was established, the Erie County-owned Central Library building is a public library operated by the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library, which the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library fully expects and intends to operate as a public library for at least the next 10 years; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Library Director or her designee is authorized to submit a \$14,000,000 NYS Public Library Construction Grant Program request for the Central Library in the amount of \$773,851, and be it further

RESOLVED, the Library recognizes that the full grant amount may not be available and thereby authorizes the use of the following funds to make up the difference and provide the balance of funding needed to complete this project:

\$ 250,000 Erie County Allocation for 2nd Flr Central Library Space
Reconfiguration
\$ 150,000 Library Trust Funds (portion of Krieger donation interest earnings)
\$ 755,407 Library Fund Designated Fund Balance for Grant Match
\$1,155,407 Subtotal, and be it finally

RESOLVED, that the Director or her designee is authorized to transmit the necessary grant application, forms and documents in time to meet the October 19, 2011 filing deadline.

Agenda Item F.1.b – NYS Construction Grant – System Evaluation, Ranking and Recommendations. This resolution was approved unanimously by the Executive Committee on October 13, 2011.

RESOLUTION 2011-33

WHEREAS, up to \$664,117 in the \$14 million state-wide New York State Public Library Construction Grant Program is available to support up to 50% of eligible project costs for projects benefiting the public libraries located within Erie County, 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, and

WHEREAS, a total of four projects were submitted for the \$14 million program supporting the Aurora Town, Central, Eden, and West Seneca Libraries, and

WHEREAS, applications are due no later than October 19, 2011, which is prior to the next scheduled board meeting, and

WHEREAS, Article VI, Section 1 of Bylaws of the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library states: 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 pursuant to grant requirements, the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees of the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library recommends approval of all requested projects, in the following ranking and amounts:

Rank	Library	Request	Recommended Award
1)	Aurora Town Public Library Roof Replacement	\$108,200	\$108,200
2)	West Seneca Library Sidewalk Reconstruction	\$ 8,332	\$ 8,332
3)	Eden Library Sidewalk & Curb Replacement	\$ 4,847	\$ 4,847
4)	Central Library 2 nd Floor Asbestos Abatement, Space Reconstruction, & Security Improvements	<u>\$773,851</u>	<u>\$542,738</u>
	TOTALS:	\$895,230	\$664,117, and be it
	finally		

RESOLVED, that the Director or her designee is authorized to transmit the necessary grant application, forms and documents in time to meet the October 19, 2011 filing deadline.

Pursuant to the Bylaws, Resolutions 2011-32 and 2011-33 were mailed to the full Board within three business days.

Agenda Item F.2 - Budget and Finance Committee.

Agenda Item F.2.a - Monthly Financial Report. The monthly report for the period ending August 31, 2011 was distributed to trustees at the meeting for informational purposes.

Agenda Item F.3 - Planning Committee. Committee Chair Rick Berger read the following Minutes from the September 27, 2011 Planning Committee meeting:

**BUFFALO AND ERIE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY
PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Minutes for
Tuesday, September 27, 2011**

Attendees (Present):

*Rick Berger, Committee Chair
*Elaine M. Panty, System
*Sharon Thomas, System via telephone

Sue Alessi, North Collins
Ellen Bach, Whiteman, Osterman & Hanna, LLP
William Chapman, Alden
David Dietz, Town of Tonawanda
Judy Hilburger, Clarence
Suzanne Jacobs, Lancaster
Mary Jean Jakubowski, Admin
George Oliver, Aurora
Susan Sabers Chapman, Alden
Patricia Smith, Eden
Ken Stone, Admin via telephone
Joy Testa Cinquino, Central
Doreen Woods, Central

Meeting opened at 7:05 p.m. in the Joseph B. Rounds Conference Room – Central Library. Minutes from the previous meeting of August 24th were reviewed. It was noted that Patricia Smith of Eden was in attendance but not listed. Minutes were changed and accepted.

Mr. Berger asked Ms. Jakubowski the status of the resolutions supporting the formal procedure to become a special legislative public library district. Ms. Jakubowski reported to date 15 in favor, 1 verbal in favor, 4 opposed, 1 abstention, and 1 no vote. System Board voted unanimously at their September 15th meeting to formally begin proceedings [to become a special legislative public library district].

Ellen Bach asked to describe the procedures. She explained there are 2 tracks: 1. Legislation and 2. Memoranda of Understanding with member libraries.

Ms. Bach explained, although aggressive, she expected the drafting of the legislation to be done by the end of the year. She is the person to draft the legislation with input from trustees and administration.

Ms. Bach then discussed the Memoranda of Understanding. She noted this was a very complex process. She is looking to have a template complete by the end of the year. There will be much involvement from member library trustees. She then noted that the Memoranda of Understanding with the individual municipalities - pertaining to the real property will be done while waiting for the process to happen while the legislation is being worked on by the state delegation in Albany.

The following questions were asked by various attendees and answered by Ms. Bach:

Question: Who sets the initial tax levy? Answer: System Board.

Question: When will the initial tax levy have to be set? Answer: The initial tax levy does not have to be set until the notice of the vote is given; however, it is recommended the levy be determined by very early 2012.

Question: Who is identifying the state legislative sponsors for the bill?
Answer: Ms. Jakubowski has already begun this process. Meetings with state representatives are scheduled. She is also working to secure a meeting with the Governor, as well as the NYS Assembly committee which represents libraries as well as the NYS Senate Education Committee.

Question: What about locally, what is needed? Answer: While a home rule message is not required, it is better to have one. Sponsors of the bill have been more comfortable with a home rule message. Ms. Jakubowski is currently meeting with members of the County Legislature.

Question: How will the "new" trustees be determined? Answer: In a special legislative district public library, trustees are elected. There must be voter parity in the selection of trustees - this can be done by having a trustee elected for every county legislative district or through the election of trustees "at large." You can also combine the two - an example might be 11 trustees - 1 for each of the legislative districts and 4 at large trustees. The number of trustees should always be an odd number. Ms. Bach reiterated that sticking with legislative districts is efficient as the districts are already drawn. The final decision of how trustees will be elected will be that of the System Trustees. Discussion ensued.

Question: When will the legislation be discussed? Answer: The System Board will discuss the legislation first. Member library trustees will also have the opportunity to review and comment - possibly at the November ACT (Association of Contracting Library Trustees) meeting.

Employees and staffing discussed. Mr. Dietz mentioned regionalism “in theory” as a possibility. Ms. Jakubowski reiterated the goal to be increased services and assurances that everyone is being served.

Next ACT meeting will be held after the System Board meeting on October 20th at the Eggertsville-Snyder Branch Library. To be discussed: advisory boards and private funds.

Because of the unique situations surrounding Association Libraries, a meeting with Ellen Bach is set up for Friday, October 21, 2011 at 9:00 a.m. at the Aurora Town Public Library.

Next Planning Committee meeting: November 10, 2011 Central Library Joseph B. Rounds Conference Room. Topic of meeting will be revisions on the initial draft legislation. Note: Ellen Bach, Sharon Thomas and Rick Berger will be on the telephone. It is anticipated that the legislation draft will be distributed to ACT members at the November 19th ACT meeting to be held at the Clarence Public Library.

Motion to adjourn meeting by Elaine Panty, second by Rick Berger. Meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

*denotes B&ECPL System Board Planning Committee Member

To address upcoming meeting date questions, trustees were reminded as presented in the original 2011 Meeting Schedule, the next Executive Committee meeting is Wednesday, November 9th, to accommodate the holiday and report deadlines that week, and the next Board meeting is Thursday, November 17, 2011.

In response to a question by Mr. Connors, discussion ensued on how much time should be given to member libraries to decide if they are on board for the special legislation district public library because the legislation will be written with the names of the libraries in it. Ms. Jakubowski pointed out further discussions need to occur with the member libraries who did not bring a resolution forth to see if they wish to be included. This information is needed to keep on schedule to get legislation to state officials. The timeframe of this was further discussed and discussions with the member libraries will continue. Attorney Ellen Bach of Whiteman, Osterman & Hanna LLP added that if members of the Board have questions that would prompt her to provide legal advice to the Board, they can go into Executive Session at this meeting or any other meeting for the purposes of receiving legal advice on any of these issues.

Agenda Item G – Report of the Director. Ms. Jakubowski asked trustees to send her any comments/edits in the next 10 days regarding the “Talking Points for Staff/Board on Library District Initiative (LDI)” document she and Libby Post of Communication Services worked on and sent out to trustees prior to the Board meeting. The plan is to get this into a format each trustee can carry with them to answer people’s questions.

Ms. Jakubowski reported having some great meetings with state representatives regarding consideration of the district option and will continue to meet with additional state delegates and the City of Buffalo Common Council.

Earlier that day together with Ellen Bach, she had a conference call with the State Education Department, Division of Library Development, Michael Borges Executive Director of the New York Library Association as well as Libby Post to discuss next steps on what information they need from the Library in order to proceed forward with their duties, tasks and responsibilities for the district measure. She will be contacting the local Board of Elections to begin initial discussions. She will report back to the Board.

Ms. Jakubowski concluded her report by sharing with trustees some recent “fun” things going on at the Library; a Comics Fest with “Star Wars” characters with over 500 people in attendance; Kick-off of Disability History Awareness Month with an estimated attendance of over 300; and the National Trust presence at the Central Library who enjoyed the Library’s exhibit *Lafayette Square: Then and Now*. Ms. Jakubowski thanked those who worked on this exhibit. Ms. Jakubowski also had the pleasure of meeting with some dignitaries from the Ukraine from the Ministry of Education and she passed around the table 2 gift books from them. A group of Buffalo Seminary students also toured the library.

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

Monthly Report of Library System Activity October 20, 2011

1. PUBLIC SERVICES

Programs, Learning Opportunities, Outreach and Events

Jennifer Orr of MetroWNY media outlet toured and interviewed Rare Book Librarian **Amy Pickard** about the current exhibit *Lafayette Square: Then and Now*. Her article was in the *Buffalo News* the next day.

A group of 16 students and 2 adults from Lancaster High School’s 11th Grade U.S. History class came to research women and Native Americans. Students first went to

Forest Lawn and found the gravesites of their assigned historic person using GPS units before coming to the Grosvenor Room. Each student will write a biography on their assigned person using information found in Grosvenor resources. Grosvenor Librarian **Charles Alaimo** assisted teacher Ursula Lundgard to initially find information on the list of persons (9/29). Ms. Lundgard returned with her class to complete their research (9/30) with the assistance of Grosvenor Room Manager **Claudia Yates** and Librarians **Susan Cutrona, Amy Pickard and Carol Pijacki**.

Roger Rosen, President of Rosen Publishing, was given a brief tour of the Grosvenor Room by **Carol Pijacki**. Mr. Rosen is working in conjunction with the Buffalo Board of Education to research sources for an upcoming history text. **Carol Pijacki** also conducted other brief tours for 8 visitors from such places as Alaska, Florida, Long Island and Vermont. One gentleman was a former president of the Rochester Genealogical Society.

Updated Grosvenor Room brochures were sent to the New York State Council of Genealogical Organizations for inclusion at their table at the two-day Central New York Genealogical Society 50-Year Anniversary Conference. The conference will be held October 14th and 15th.

Carol Pijacki presided at the Literally Speaking Lunchtime Book Discussion of *Zeitoun* by Dave Eggers (9/20). **Suzanne Colligan**, Manager of the Dudley Branch Library, led the discussion. **Carol Pijacki** also conducted the Literally Speaking Committee Annual Planning meeting (9/14) for the 2012 season.

Grosvenor Room Librarian **Rhonda Konig** compiled a list of New York State digital historic newspapers and posted it on the Grosvenor Room blog.

Grosvenor Room Librarian **Rhonda Konig** updated the following guides: Town Historians, Church Records by Location, Church Records by Denomination, Jewish Genealogy, Buffalo and Erie County Biographical Resources and Latin American and Caribbean Genealogy.

On September 17th, **Rhonda Konig** attended the Western New York Genealogical Society meeting. The meeting was held at the Amherst Museum and a tour was given.

Peggy Skotnicki, Assistant Deputy Director - Special Collections, retired as of September 29, 2011. The staff of the Rare Book Room entered a special note about her retirement on their blog at <http://grorarebookroom.wordpress.com/>.

Buffalo City Branches

- The Crane Branch Library began the second round of Cyber Thursdays with 3 classes this month.
- Wordflight was held on September 19th at the Crane Branch.

- South Buffalo Charter School first graders and their teachers (including group leader Jillian Tefft) stopped by the Dudley Branch Library to become familiar with the library and to get cards. Eighty-three visitors came by September 26th. Manager **Suzanne Colligan** talked to the students about library services and promoted upcoming programming.
- Bud Lyons brought his daughters and his grandchildren to Dudley to get library cards. Bud says he looks forward to using his Kindle to take advantage of the materials the Library offers via Overdrive. The photo of Mr. Lyons and his family was posted on the Dudley and Central Facebook pages.
- The East Clinton Branch Library advertised and offered a prize for Library Card Sign-up Month. Staff registered 26 new adult borrowers and 12 youth borrowers.
- East Delavan Branch Library continued to put the Wii out on Saturdays from 12-2 p.m.
- In cooperation with Read to Succeed Buffalo (RTSB), East Delavan Library has a story hour which is open to the public, but is geared to RTSB partner day care centers. The program was put together by **Nancy Smith** from the Children's Programming Team and Felicia Santiago from RTSB. Every Friday the children are at East Delevan from 10 a.m. until noon for stories, songs, crafts and lunch which is provided by Read to Succeed. On September 30th, the program began for the fall with about 35 participants.
- Adult computer classes at the East Delavan Branch Library resumed on Wednesday, September 21st. The 2 classes in September drew 16 participants. The computer class is run by Kim McCarty who is a Buffalo Public School teacher. The fall session will run 10 weeks.
- The F.A.M.E. (Fun and Making Experiments) program conducted by First Hand Learning, began meeting at the Frank E. Merriweather, Jr. Library on September 12th with sessions every Monday and Wednesday. The program offers students the opportunity to perform safe, fun science experiments at the library.
- Merriweather Library participated in the 3rd annual "Community Days" on Saturday, September 24th with a display of cars in the parking lot from members of the Buffalo Antique and Classic Car Club, various information tables and a community drum circle. Erie County Legislator Barbara Miller-Williams presented a resolution from the legislature proclaiming September 24th as "Frank E. Merriweather, Jr. Community Day".
- A Friends of the Merriweather Library Group has been formed and 2 meetings were held in September.
- First Hand Learning's TEAM Buffalo went live at the Niagara Branch this month. Student mentors from area high schools invite local children to participate in hands on experiments. They met twice in September and are building a following. Staff has noticed that teens are more successful than adults in recruiting children in the building to attend the program!

- Early in the month, Children's Librarian **Matt Kochan** held his traditional pizza wrap-up party at the Niagara Branch Library for the kids who participated in Battle of the Books.
- Librarian **Gwen Collier** continued outreach to Niagara Day Care in September. She visited the site 4 times this month, with themes including "Your Library Card", "Going Back to School" and "You Can Do It by Yourself".
- With summer over, meeting room use at the Niagara Branch has resumed in earnest. Journey's End "Let's Go to the Library" started their Saturday afternoon program for refugee children on the 17th. Myo Theng of Journey's End used the meeting room for a gathering of Burmese immigrants to explore mutual support and concerns. On a separate date, Jibril Ghelle of the Buffalo Somali community also held a meeting in the community for similar issues with Somali refugees. A small group of students from the high school next door is using the stage to practice their routine for DaVinci Day. They have been coming almost every weekday. As they said when signing up for the meeting room, "We've gotta beat the seniors!"
- North Park's Craft Crazy Monday program was held 3 Mondays in September. Senior Page **Sarah Barry** made fun crafts such as paper plate turtles on September 12th, construction paper trees on September 19th, and painted names on September 26th! In total, 16 children and 5 adults attended the programs.
- Library Associate **Sean Goodrich** and **Sarah Barry** ran the End of Summer Reading Ice Cream Social on September 14th. All the children who attended told the staff about what they read over the summer, made a summer 2011 reading journal, and were treated to prizes and sundaes! In total 15 children and 6 adults attended the program.
- Buffalo Museum of Science held Family Fun Night at the Riverside Branch Library on September 1st; attendance totaled 10.
- A Coloring Galore Craft Table was available at the Riverside Library. Attendance was 5 children who colored a variety of coloring sheets provided by staff.
- On September 24th, Riverside Library patrons made banks out of old coffee cans with the help of Page **Cait Goodrich**; eight children attended.
- **Linda Rizzo**, Manager Buffalo Branches, represented the Niagara Branch at an Open House for School 3, D'Youville Porter Campus, on September 22nd.
- Council Member David Rivera's Drop-in Night resumed on September 13th at the Niagara Branch Library. His office staffs a table there every Tuesday from 4-7 p.m. so constituents can easily get in touch with their councilman.

Children's Programming Team

Fall and winter programs began at libraries across Erie County. Along with going "out on the road" the team was busy wrapping up summer programs, preparing for spring programs and 2012 Battle of the Books, fine tuning fall/winter programs as well as planning and developing the winter YSG meeting (set for November 16th). Librarian

Kerra Alessi distributed materials (bookmarks and caution tape) for Banned Book Week to the branches. The Graphics Department created a template for “banned posters” while Kerra added content to these posters so libraries could display them.

The Online Summer Reading Challenge for kids and teens ended on September 4th. This year the lucky winners were Adeline Ford (child) and Harmanpreet Kaur (teen). The teen winner received a \$50 Target gift card and the child winner received a \$50 gift card to Barnes & Noble and a backpack filled with school supplies. Adeline was thrilled with her prize. Adeline’s mother told us that this 2nd grader loves to read and is looking forward to entering the winter reading challenge!

“Ticket to Read”, the system-wide summer teen program, also wrapped up in September. Young adults sent in 2,154 tickets which were collected at libraries throughout the county. Raffle winners from this program won \$50 Barnes & Noble gift cards. Congratulations to the following winners: Molly McTernan (Angola), Michael Rodriguez (Crane), Claire Brawdy (Eden), Cloey Olkowski (Eggertsville) and Jess Keenan (Marilla).

Class visits and tours to the Central Library returned with the cooler weather. The Enterprise Charter School’s kindergarten class kicked off Library Card Sign-up Month on their visit on September 8th. The children mingled with Buster Bison, Sabertooth and the Buffalo Bandits mascot Rax. They also received library card applications to bring home. On September 21st, the Bennett Park Montessori preschool class made their first visit to the Central Library. Librarian **Kasey Mack** presented a fall/ABC theme that included stories, a falling leaves game and a leaf wreath. Each child left with an “I visited the library today!” sticker. On September 23rd, 50 third grade students from School #76 visited the library. Senior Page **Nancy Smith** shared stories with the group and handed out their library cards. Librarians **Becky Pieszala** and **Kerra Alessi** took the students on tours of the building.

Kasey Mack presented “Stinky Story Time”. Children listened to stories, played “guess that smell” and hot potato, and made garbage cans out of tin foil and styrofoam cups filled with popcorn. Librarian **Mary Ann Budny** presented the Pizza Lovers’ Book Club on September 17th. The participants appreciate the opportunity to share their favorite books peer to peer. The children made a “Happy Autumn” picture craft and ate pizza! **Kasey Mack** presented the Lego Club on September 24th. The theme was “Crazy Vehicles”. Children were encouraged to make vehicles out of Legos. Pictures were taken of the completed projects and posted on Facebook.

Toy Time with **Kerra Alessi** and Senior Page **Laura Raichel** returned on September 26th to the delight of the youngest patrons. Children and their caregivers were invited to come and play with educational toys, socialize and listen to stories and songs. **Nancy**

Smith's fall session of "Hold my Hand" story hour began on September 28th. Children enjoyed stories, songs and play!

Highlights of System programs - **Mary Ann Budny**, **Matt Kochan** and **Kerra Alessi** presented the "Stinky Story Time" program at the Newstead, Elma, Hamburg and North Park Libraries. This program was a family story hour for children ages 3 and up with their caregiver. "Goodnight Sleep Tight" was another family program presented in September. **Becky Piezsala** and **Matt Kochan** presented this program at the Kenilworth and Lancaster Libraries. Children enjoyed milk and cookies while listening to stories.

Mary Ann Budny presented the Martha Speaks Book Club at the Lackawanna Library on September 24th. This month's theme was "First Dogs at the White House". Children made a fun foam doggie magnet. This program is part of the PBS Martha Speaks Read Aloud Book Club that is taking place at several libraries.

Preschool story hour themes this month were autumn and squirrels. Children listened to stories, made either a squirrel mask or used coffee grounds to color a squirrel template and got up and moved to the squirrel dance. Librarian **Wanda Collins** presented story hours at Clearfield, Clarence, Lackawanna and Lancaster Libraries. Library Associate **Cyndy Lenzner** presented a story hour at the Williamsville Library. **Mary Ann Budny** presented story hours at the Reinstein, Kenilworth and Niagara Libraries. **Becky Piezsala** presented story hours at Riverside, Alden and Audubon Libraries. **Nancy Smith** presented story hours at the North Park, Crane and East Delavan Libraries. **Kasey Mack** presented story hours at Angola and Hamburg Libraries and **Kathy Goodrich** presented a story time at the Dudley Branch Library.

Kasey Mack had a wonderful turnout at the preschool story time she presented at the Hamburg Library. Twenty-nine children had a great time listening to stories and talking about animals that sleep during the winter concentrating on frogs, bears, bats and snakes. Kids had a great time "meeting" the puppets Kasey brought along and talking about them. This was a great start to the fall preschool schedule!

Children's Programming staff also continues to present stories, songs and puppets to children at the YMCA at Family Court.

Children's Programming Team member **Peggy Errington** and **Linda Rizzo** coordinated with First Hand Learning staff to set up science learning environment programs in the Central Meeting Room and several City Branch Libraries for teen mentor's students participating in TEAM F.A.M.E. which will be meeting weekly throughout the fall.

The Read Down Your Fines program, coordinated by **Meg Cheman** finished another successful summer. Over \$3,800 in READING BUCKS were earned by children all

across Erie County, simply by signing in and reading in the library. Teens could earn double BUCKS if they read to another child. The earned READING BUCKS were then used to reduce kid's library card fines allowing them to continue to borrow materials from their favorite library. This popular program will be back next year!

Central Library and Adult Services

September was Library Card Sign-up Month and through outreach efforts of Community Connections, 119 new library card applications were processed.

On September 9th, Programming and Outreach Librarian **Susan Kriegbaum-Hanks** presented a one-hour session on Job and Career Resources available through the Library to 1 trainer and 10 clients of ECC One Stop in Orchard Park.

Also, on September 19th, **Susan Kriegbaum-Hanks, Kenneth Wierzbowski** and Senior Page **Melissa Kania** attended Project Homeless Connect, hosted by the Western New York Coalition for the Homeless. This event, held at the Buffalo-Niagara Convention Center, is a national best practice model that fuses political and civic will in a one-day, one-stop array of resources to provide hospitality and support to the homeless or transitional individual. Library staff manned an information table and demonstrated how service providers and the general public can access needed library resources. Over 400 individuals and service providers attended this event and 12 new library card applications were accepted.

September 21st, **Susan Kriegbaum-Hanks, Kenneth Wierzbowski, Hadeen Stokes** and **Melissa Kania** attended the Diversity Job Fair held at the Convention Center. Over 700 people were in attendance and very interested in the Library's career and employment resources. Many of the attendees took advantage of a chance to sign up for library cards at the table after speaking to our staff. There were 36 new library card applications.

September 21-22, **Peter Lisker** attended LMHF (Labor-Management Healthcare Fund) Healthy Heart retreat at Holiday Valley Conference Center. Mr. Lisker spoke to participants about health and wellness information available through the B&ECPL website. The lecture was well received by the 44 attendees.

September 27th, **Dan Caufield** coordinated two 2-hour training session on the library database ReferenceUSA. Bill Loges, a representative of Reference USA visiting our city, conducted the training sessions. The morning training was open to all B&ECPL staff and provided very useful information to the 13 librarians and staff who attended. The afternoon session was advertised to the business community and was well received by the 14 attendees. Six new library card applications were accepted after the training and those receiving their cards were very excited to go home and try ReferenceUSA.

September 27th (evening), **Dan Caufield** presented an overview of library resources to a group of families at the Lancaster Community Center. The overview was well received by the 23 people in attendance.

September 28th, **Dan Caufield** helped coordinate and spoke at a SCORE workshop held in the Central Library Meeting Room. Bill Loges, a representative of Reference USA, conducted a training session on ReferenceUSA. Seventeen men and women interested in starting a small business attended and enjoyed this daylong seminar and 4 new library card applications were processed.

Melissa Kania created a Banned Book Week display for the Central Library. Posters, caution tape, and other information concerning Banned Book Week was shipped to all System libraries with ideas of creating their own displays. Many libraries throughout the System took advantage of the materials and created their own displays.

Thirty public technology classes were held during the month of September for 233 attendees at the Central Library and 8 community libraries. The overall satisfaction rating was 4.52 out of 5. Public comments included:

- *I have learned something new in each class.*
- *I am looking forward to future programs with excitement!*
- *Instructor knowledgeable, responded well to questions. Good adult educator. Was open and gave students a feeling they could do it!*

Community Library Staff comments included:

- *Patron commented that the computer classes are a great library service.*
- *Patron was glad we offer this training because cost is expensive elsewhere.*

Central Training Lab Coordinator Librarian **Kara Stock** continues to coordinate Cyber Train bookings for the fall. The schedule is almost fully booked through December!

Kara Stock updated the following classes: *Introduction to Wikipedia*, *Introduction to Twitter*, and *Introduction to LinkedIn*. She also wrote a new class titled: *Resume Creation with Microsoft Word* to replace the dated ResumeMaker class.

The first Open Lab for public technology training was offered in the Central Library Training Lab on September 27th. Attendance was lower than we had hoped for, but we will continue to explore ways to attract users and possibly offer the service in community libraries.

Librarians **Michelle Snyder** and **Pat Covley** and Graphic Artist **Dawn Stanton** each contributed a book review for the *Buffalo Rising* website.

The following events and activities at Central Library were coordinated by **Anne Conable**, Development & Communications:

- “Imagining Buffalo” series – 9/6, Mary Jean Jakubowski, Library presentation (38); 9/13, Doug Swift, developer (42); 9/20, Bonnie Foit-Albert, architect (30); 9/27, Molly Quackenbush, TR Site (45)
- Working for Downtown Brown Bag Lunch series: 9/7, Catherine Schweitzer (27)
- Workplace Violence program 9/9, Isaiah Rashad (18)
- VNA Flu Shot Clinic 9/14
- Collaborative program with UB Libraries on Louisa May Alcott, 9/17 (58)
- Give 4 Greatness press event 9/21 (36)
- Hispanic Heritage Month Kick-off 9/15, displays and programming (92)
- “Hispanics in the US and WNY” talk 9/22, Miguel Santos (17)
- African American History at Forest Lawn Talk 9/23 (28)
- BPOvations@ the Library program, 9/28 at Central (31) and OPK (34)
- UNYTS blood drives 9/1, 9/25.

Additionally, planning meetings were held for the 2012 season collaboration on Babel Writers Series, Just Buffalo and the Disability History Awareness Month Kick-off 10/19.

Central Library will house a daylong session for Buffalo’s National Preservation Conference on Wednesday, October 19th in the Auditorium.

The following graphics were designed by **Dawn Stanton** and **Darlene Pennachi**:

- Gala items – poster, staff raffle flyer, banners, bookmarks, ads, gift gathering invitations
- CEN – Magazine area – new boards
- CEN – Media Room – word cloud on glass
- Comics Fest – promotion and signage
- GRO – display on Buffalo’s Memorial Auditorium
- CEN – new hanging sign at base of escalator
- CEN – entrance to second floor area
- Annual Report
- Signs for JBR, TON, EAU,
- CEN – new computer signage
- CEN – Banned Book Week – promotional materials
- CEN - Mark Twain Room – labels for new display
- CEN – Gluck display – new labels and title
- Bucks for Books – posters

Boston Free Library – submitted by Laura McLeod, Library Director

As the children head back to school and families gear up for fall, the Boston Free Library continues to be a vital part of the surrounding community. The theme for September was “Welcome back to Books” with beautiful displays of books, movies, and media for area families.

Library use has continued to change, with more emphasis on digital downloads, freegal, and of course, Blu-Ray titles. Graphic novels have really picked up as well, and the change from juvenile magazines (all dropped) to comic books has taken off! So as we continue our weeding efforts, every effort is given to adjust the library collection to our community use. But interesting enough, popular fiction and non-fiction titles remain very strong at our little library, with a particular demand for new “fresh” items.

We ended the summer programming lineup with a visit from Nickel City Reptiles, with 120 children in attendance! While it is sad to see summer go, fall brings new excitement to our little library. We look forward to continuing events such as our Story Hours and Book Club, as well as an exciting fall lineup of special events including a Magic Show, a visit from Hawk Creek with “Halloween Owls” and a “Spooky Craft” program.

Lancaster Public Library – submitted by Jim Stelzle, Library Director

The Lancaster Public Library had another busy summer. There were 65 programs conducted during July and August with 1,734 patrons attending the programs. The best attended programs were Cris Johnson’s “The Magic of Reading” program with 157 children and adults and the “World Safari” program presented by the Zoo Mobile with 130 participants. Three teams represented the library for the Battle of the Books and put in a respectable showing.

September programming included: 4 preschool programs, 4 toddler programs, 1 Lapsit program, 5 teen gaming programs, 1 bedtime story time, a children’s craft program, a family craft and learning program, a program by Hawk Creek entitled “Tiny Talons”, a book discussion program, flu shots by the VNA, and 4 computer training classes.

September began a new marketing campaign which featured library card sign-ups. Applications were dropped off at the schools to encourage new students to get their cards. Also, a new marketing campaign is being developed to send a welcoming packet to new homeowners in the Lancaster area. In addition, a new series DVD section was added for the convenience of our customers.

A large display of “banned books” was highlighted at the library for Banned Book Week. Many patrons were surprised at some of the titles that were banned such as the Merriam-Webster Dictionary.

The library is getting bids for new carpeting in the community room, the director's office and the staff room. New chairs were also ordered for the main reading room.

Moby, a beta fish, has joined the volunteer staff at the library. We hope that he will soon be a resident expert for call number "SF" reference questions! Visit him on Facebook.

Collections: Development and Use

Library eBooks are now Amazon Kindle compatible! Popular and classic eBooks can be downloaded to a Kindle device or any mobile device running the free Kindle app on the Library's OverDrive Downloads 2 Go site <http://bit.ly/nKeF0I> or visit <http://bit.ly/nuboo0> for a brief video explaining how you can browse, checkout and download eBooks from the Library. FREE!

The OverDrive Project Gutenberg collection of more than 30,000 public domain eBook titles without waitlists or holds has been added to the Library's Downloads 2 Go site <http://bit.ly/oyAiCE>. No authentication is needed to access these 'always available' selections. The downloads do not expire and do not count against virtual checkout limits.

As of September 30th, 16,766 new titles have been cataloged by Technical Services Department staff. This number represents an 18.6% decrease from the same time period in 2010. By contrast, 114,007 items have been cataloged which represents only a 4.7% decrease from 2010. The numbers have actually improved (increased) during the third quarter, reflecting the new ordering patterns that have been established by the Collection Development Team.

Collection Development staff responded to 356 patron purchase suggestions in September.

Freemusic downloads continue to be popular. In September, 616 patrons downloaded a total of 3,892 titles.

In September, 650 downloadable eBooks and 146 downloadable audiobooks were added to the Library's collection. On September 21st, most of the library's eBook collection became compatible with the Amazon Kindle.

The Library's Movie Blog, developed by **Michelle Snyder**, has received 4,075 views since its inception in July of this year.

Pat Covley contributed a description of the Chilton Library Database for the Database of the Month.

Rare Book Room Senior Page **Jason Barone** took the *Hypnerotomachia Poliphili* to W.S. Hein for digitization and the images have been made available to 2 out-of-town scholars interested in the marginalia: one a humanities scholar from Champaign, Illinois; the other, a doctoral candidate from Durham University in the UK.

Buffalo State Emeritus Professor of English and Twain Scholar Thomas Reigstad is writing a book about Mark Twain in Buffalo to be published by Prometheus Books. It will include images licensed from the Rare Book Collection.

On September 28th, Grosvenor Librarian **Charles Alaimo** provided digital images of the Rare Book Room title, *Vedute dell'assedio di Roma del 1849...* to an assistant curator at the Getty Research Institute, Isotta Poggi.

On September 30th, Professor Judy Walsh and several of her students came from Buffalo State's Art Conservation Program to consider a couple of paper-based restoration projects for the Rare Book Room.

The B&ECPL was acknowledged in the new book *Olmsted in Buffalo and Niagara* by Lynda Schneekloth, Robert Shipley and Thomas Yots. Thanks were also given to the Grosvenor Room staff in helping find and access material for the book. One of the many items used by the researchers was the *Buffalo Streets Scrapbook*.

A researcher from a local firm doing work for the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers had need of the 1836 Lovejoy map for an internal report dealing with the Black Rock Lock.

The Indiana Historical Society will be producing a DVD series, *The Papers of Lew and Susan Wallace*, utilizing photocopies of 2 letters from the B&ECPL collection. The documents are "Lew Wallace to John W. Corlies, April 14, 1868", General Manuscript Collection and "Lew Wallace to James F. Gluck, December 14, 1885", James Fraser Gluck Collection.

Scribblin' for a Livin': Mark Twain's Pivotal Period in Buffalo by Tom Reigstad will be a book scheduled to be published in the summer of 2012 by Prometheus Books, Amherst, NY. Included will be 5 photographs from the B&ECPL collection.

2. FUNDING

Finances

On September 30th, the County Executive released his recommended budget for Erie County in 2012. The recommended allocation for the Library would allow all libraries to maintain their current public service/open hours in 2012.

The details of the 2012 proposed budget and four-year plan are consistent with his modified 3-year bridge funding plan allowing the Library time to pursue alternate governance and funding:

- The Library Tax would remain at \$18,171,833 through 2014, after which time it is assumed a Library District or other form of independent funding would be in place. The four-year plan clearly shows that the County would not absorb the Library Tax if the Library were to become independently funded;
- Erie County will contribute \$2 million each year for the next 3 from the County fund balance, showing as a "Library Subsidy" in 2012, 2013, and 2014 of the four-year plan;
- Erie County Division of Buildings and Grounds (Real Estate Asset Management) assumes full responsibility for Central Library facility maintenance/cleaning and utilities (electric, natural gas, fuel oil, water and sewer) at no charge to the Library. They also assume responsibility for operating facility maintenance/cleaning at the Buffalo Branch Libraries for an annual charge of \$250,000, a considerable savings to the Library. Combined, these changes reduce Library net operating costs by \$1,702,066.

For 2012, the bridge plan funding will result in cost avoidance to the Library of just over \$300,000 in unemployment insurance expense.

Additionally, improved health insurance utilization rates combined with a prior year's retirement system credit adjustment have lowered the rate of increase in fringe benefit costs estimated for 2012.

Staff are meeting with County representatives on the details of the maintenance function transfer, which is a major change in those operations and not easily done. County Real Estate and Asset Management leadership has expressed their strong commitment to making this approach work.

Switching to the Capital Budget, 4 library projects (3 contracting libraries and the Central Library) are under review for funding under the New York State Library Construction Grant program. A total of \$664,117 in grant money is available to fund up to 50% of eligible project costs. Proposed projects include replacing the roof at the Aurora Town Public Library, sidewalk and curb replacement at the Eden Library, sidewalk reconstruction at the West Seneca Public Library, and asbestos abatement and related space reconstruction at the Central Library. Library System funding recommendations are due to the New York State Division of Library Development by October 19th. If the process follows the same pattern as in recent years, grant awards

would be announced sometime in March – April 2012 at which time grant budgets would be established.

Fundraising

From **Joy Testa Cinquino**, Public Affairs Manager: The Library's Anniversary Gala, *A Rare Affair* (November 5, 2011) has 41 confirmed tables (410+ guests), \$2,775 in flat-out donations and \$3,500 in program book ads as of October 11th. The event will also feature both live and silent auctions and many items have been donated for those including a rocking chair used by Mark Twain. Volunteers have assisted with the planning and selling of tables and library staff including Central's maintenance staff have cleared, cleaned, mopped and waxed the former Business, Science and Technology (BST) space. B&ECPL Trustee Anne Leary is co-chairing the event with Stan Lipsey of the *Buffalo News*. We expect the event to be close to a sellout. Thank you to trustee Amy Alvarez for hosting a gift gathering party on October 20th – all trustees are invited. Also thank you to B&ECPL Trustees Judy Summer and Elaine Panty for assisting with stuffing and stamping the invitation packages. New B&ECPL Trustee Ted Johnson of Hadley Exhibits has provided expertise in space planning, setting the theme and many of the design elements. A Gala auction preview can be found at www.biddingforgood.com/BuffaloLibrary.

The Bucks for Books campaign has reached \$170,000 in donations including \$50,000 from Stan Lipsey and \$10,000 from the *Buffalo News* in matching gifts. The ads run nearly every day and will continue through October 30th. Library employees **Linda Bohan** and **Debra Lawrence** with assistance from **Tracy Palicki** of the Business Office have processed more than 950 donations to date. All funds, as specified by the *Buffalo News* will go toward the purchase of new children's and adult print books in 2012.

The Library System is planning for a yearend direct mail and online giving campaign to drop around Thanksgiving. Our goal will be to solicit those who have not donated to the Bucks for Books or Gala campaign, but have supported the Library in the past. Last year, over \$80,000 was raised from the yearend appeal.

The Library Foundation held their quarterly meeting on September 22nd. Updates were given on the Gala, Bucks for Books and the postponed online book auction.

3. OPERATIONS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Technology

As part of the reallocation and consolidation of public use space at the Central Library, over 40 computers were moved from the 2nd floor department formerly referred to as BST and moved to the 1st floor. IT Administrators **Toni Naumovski** and **Stephen**

Hovey, along with part-time IT staff **Elijah Terrell**, **Shawnterio McIver** and **Maurice Skinner** spent most of the day Sunday, September 11th moving the hardware and reconfiguring the software to prepare for a complete public opening on Monday at 8:30 a.m. Upon completion of this move, now all collections and public computers are located on the 1st floor.

New PCs have been acquired to replace old models in the Central Library Training Lab. **Stephen Hovey** developed Windows 7 profiles for the Dell Vostro 3300 computers. It is anticipated that the new equipment will be fully configured and ready for public deployment early in October.

RFID (Radio Frequency Identification) tagging and encoding continues at the Central Library and several community libraries. The next scheduled 'go live' implementation is scheduled for the City of Tonawanda Public Library in late November 2011.

OverDrive CEO Steve Potash met with **Carol Batt**, **Toni Naumovski**, **Stephen Hovey** and other B&ECPL staff to discuss in-library audiobook, video and eBook downloads. As a result of that meeting, the Library has added Project Gutenberg (public domain eBook titles without waitlists or holds) to our Downloads 2 Go site <http://bit.ly/oyAiCE>, and received OverDrive Download Station software for audiobooks and videos. The process for in-library eBook downloads continues to be evaluated along with associated problems (eg. the risk of a user erasing their entire purchased library if authentication is not handled appropriately).

Library Webmaster **Terri Dickson** and **Stephen Hovey** have begun laying out plans for a mobile friendly version of the main public website, and the drupal redo of the staff intranet.

Staff Development

In September, 7 training classes were conducted by members of the Technology Training Team for 37 staff members at the Central Library and in community libraries with an overall satisfaction rating of 4.82 out of a possible 5. Attendee comments included: *"Probably the best class for my job yet. Very good!"*

On September 6th, Information Technology and Technology Support staff participated in a conference call with SirsiDynix Library Relations Manager Vera Maeser to discuss server migration issues, e-Library (a new online catalog) implementation and BookMyne's Android version which went to beta test at the end of September with an end of October release.

Assistant Deputy Director **Carol Batt**, Library Information Technology Administrator **Stephen Hovey**, Technical Services and Technology Support Manager **Maureen**

McLaughlin and all other Technical Services and Technology Support Managers participated in the Manager/Director meeting on Strategic Planning with June Garcia and Susan Kent, September 14th. Now retired Assistant Deputy Director **Ann Kling** and all Public Services Managers and Branch Managers also attended this meeting.

Technical Services Manager **Jennifer Childs**, Special Projects Coordinator **Meg Cheman**, Grosvenor Manager **Claudia Yates**, Buffalo Branch Manager **Nancy Mueller**, Orchard Park Public Library Director **Dawn Peters**, Information Services Librarian **Jamie Smith** attended a Disaster Planning committee meeting on September 14th to further discuss the upcoming presentation for the Manager's meeting in October. **Jennifer Childs** attended a Preservation Committee meeting at the Western New York Resources Council (WNYLRC) on September 21st.

On September 21st, **Maureen McLaughlin** joined other Central Library staff members to view the PLA-sponsored webinar *Check out E-Readers! Sacramento Public Library Did It, and You Can Too!*

Librarian **Allison Lund** attended a CONTENTdm training webinar on September 13th and joined several other staff members for the Northeast Document Conservation Center's Fundamentals of Digitization webinar series, including *Introduction to Image Capture*, on Thursday, September 22nd.

Library Associate **Cindy Zubler** and **Diane Doster** attended a Western New York Library Associate's (WNYLA) Getting to Know You workshop on September 22nd at UB's Anderson Gallery.

Technology Trainer, Librarian **Nell Aronoff** attended Reference USA training September 27th.

Jennifer Childs attended WNYLRC's Committee Members Thank You Breakfast on September 29th.

Librarian **Peggy Errington** attended a 3M Cloud demonstration on September 6th and Strategic Planning workshop on September 14th. Children's Programming Team members **Peggy Errington**, **Kerra Alessi**, and **Kathy Goodrich** participated in a Guys Read/Books for Boys webinar featuring Jon Scieszka sponsored by School Library Journal on September 15th. **Kerra Alessi**, **Kasey Mack** and **Wanda Collins** attended a daylong conference on infant and toddler play featuring the "Ooey Gooey Lady" sponsored by the WNY Infant and Toddler Resource Network on September 17th. **Peggy Errington** also attended a Reference USA database seminar on September 27th.

Grosvenor staff (**Claudia Yates, Charles Alaimo, Rhonda Konig, Carol Pijacki**) attended webinars: Fundamentals of Digitization: Intro to Image Capture (9/22) and Fundamentals of Digital Projects: Digital Project Planning (9/27).

Carol Pijacki attended lunchtime talks: Workplace Violence (9/9); BPOvations (9/28).

4. COMMUNICATIONS AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Media Coverage / Media Releases

Media releases were sent by **Joy Testa Cinquino** for:

- Comics Fest at Central Library (story expected in the *Buffalo News*, *Artvoice*)
- Author of “*American to the Backbone*” Presents Free Lecture
- Lafayette Square Then and Now Exhibit in the Rare Book Room (covered by *Buffalo News Gusto* 10/8 and *Metro News*)
- Llama In Pajama’s visits at Niagara and Dudley Libraries
- Library System Board Approves Creation of Special Library District (covered by the *Buffalo News*, WNED, WBFO, Channel 2,4,7)
- In Search of the Oldest Library Card Holder (covered by the *Buffalo News* and *Metro News*)

Additionally, Director Jakubowski was interviewed by Denise Jewell Gee (*Buffalo News*) regarding the Erie County budget, and WSPQ radio/Springville about current events and activities of the Library System.

There were also articles/photos about a chess tournament at the Central Library.

The Library System Annual Report for 2009 and 2010 has been completed and is posted on the Library website.

Twenty-five patron comments were received via e-mail/hardcopy. Comments ranged from questions about book clubs in various libraries to requests for ordering books .

Library 2.0: Facebook.

The Central Library Facebook page has **2,708** fans, an increase of 32 since August. The average number of monthly active users to the B&ECPL Facebook page is **1,898** with the overall number of “likes” totaling **2,707**.

Despite some confusion about ANOTHER Facebook update, these B&ECPL posts (among others) attracted some attention:



[Buffalo & Erie County Public Library - Central Library](#) Great authors James Fenimore Cooper (1789), Agatha Christie (1890) and Loren D. Estleman (1952) were born on September 15th. And these authors and illustrators of wonderful children's books were also born on September 15: Robert McCloskey (1914) and Tomie dePaola (1934). Can you name their most famous books?

[6 people](#) like this.  [Christina Wos Donnelly](#) And one aspiring great author, too.



[Christina Wos Donnelly](#) Happy Birthday to one of my children's favorite authors, Tomie dePaola



[Buffalo & Erie County Public Library - Central Library](#) It's here... Library e-Books are now Kindle compatible! Downloads are available on our OverDrive Downloads 2 Go site. For details, instructions and title selections visit <http://bit.ly/nKeFOI>

[6 people](#) like this.



[PhilipJames Jarosz](#) There is a Sign in Stone at The City of Boston, MA Public Library. "FREE TO ALL." Libraries enabled people who couldn't afford schools at the time to be able to enlighten themselves and have the opportunity never to be denied the knowledge of their peers. Today, thanks to donations and taxpayer support all our citizens can take advantage of what a free society has to offer.



[Patrice Hornsby Allen](#) Woohoo!

Library 2.0: Twitter

The Library's Twitter account @buffalolibrary now has **2,022** followers, an increase of 47 since August. In addition to many RTs (re-tweets), tweets mentioning the Buffalo Library included:



[NHSsouthbuffalo](#) NHS of South Buffalo. [@buffalolibrary](#) Is hosting a free class tomorrow in computer basics! Pass it on! Here's the registration info: <http://bit.ly/pccoMo>



[TheonnaQueen](#) Angela Davis. Got my prize from [@buffalolibrary](#) for summer reading [#sweet](#) Garmin GPS



[WNYHeritage](#) WNY Heritage Press. Did you know September is National Library Card Sign-Up Month? [@buffalolibrary](#) turns 175 this year - Read about it in the Summer Issue too!

Library 2.0: Flickr. The Buffalo & Erie County Public Library posted 37 photos to **Flickr** in September. "All time" photo views totaled 32,817 up from 30,373 in August; an increase of 2,444. This month's highlight was the National Library Card Sign-up Month featuring Buffalo sports mascots visiting the Central Library <http://bit.ly/qXDPdX>



Partnerships

September 13th, Programming and Outreach Librarian **Dan Caufield** met with members of the SBA, Straight Talk Steering Committee and began planning for Straight Talk 2012. Straight Talk is a nationally recognized event held at the Convention Center each January and provides a single day of outreach to existing and potential business owners informing them about the agencies and resources available to help them succeed. Mr. Caufield will again be working with members of the Small Business Development Center to conduct a Business Basics workshop. After speaking at this meeting, 7 new library card memberships were accepted and processed.

5. SPECIAL PROJECTS

Re-Imagining

The Re-Imagine Committee met on September 13th to discuss and compile goals for the Re-Imagine project that promote and compliment other system-wide initiatives, changes and improvements.

Governance Models

Attorney Ellen Bach of Whiteman, Osterman and Hanna, LLP has begun drafting legislation for the creation of the Special Legislative District Public Library. Libby Post of Communication Services is working with this writer and Communications Officer **Joy Testa Cinquino** on the development of educational tools including talking points for staff and trustees, public information, etc. Ms. Post will also begin to work with additional staff to construct social media tools, website design, etc.

This writer continues to meet with local and county leaders (54 meetings to date) to inform and educate these key stakeholders on the developments within the B&ECPL's

re-governance efforts. In addition, meetings have begun with state officials (4 meetings to date) in an effort to seek sponsors for the legislation. A letter requesting a meeting with Governor Cuomo has been forwarded to Albany. We await response.

Meetings with the Association of Contracting Library Trustees also continue.

**LIST of MEETINGS and EVENTS ATTENDED by
MARY JEAN JAKUBOWSKI
September 2011**

MEETING / EVENT

September 2, 2011	Conference Call Library Strategies International
September 2, 2011	AFSCME
September 6, 2011	Presentation Imagining Buffalo
September 6, 2011	Aurora/East Aurora Supervisor Jeffe & Mayor Kasprzak Joint Mtg.
September 7, 2011	Mtg. Literacy Volunteers
September 7, 2011	Staff Forum: Q&A w/ Library Director
September 7, 2011	Special Collections Meeting
September 7, 2011	Lackawanna City Mayor Norman Polanski, Jr. Mtg.
September 7, 2011	Alden Supervisor Smith & Mayor Kegler Joint Mtg.
September 8, 2011	Admin. Team Mtg.
September 8, 2011	Library Card Sign-up Month media/press event
September 8, 2011	Mtg. UB Libraries
September 8, 2011	Conference Call Library Strategies International
September 8, 2011	B&ECPL Executive Committee Mtg.
September 9, 2011	Mtg. Explore and More
September 9, 2011	Collins Supervisor Merle Harvey Mtg.
September 9, 2011	North Collins Mayor Vincent George Mtg.
September 10, 2011	ACT (Association of Contracting Library Trustees) Mtg.
September 12, 2011	Library Strategies International
September 12, 2011	Project Flight Mtg.
September 12, 2011	Orchard Park Mayor John Wilson Mtg.
September 13, 2011	Library Strategies International
September 13, 2011	Gala Committee Mtg.
September 13, 2011	Mtg. Architectural Resources/Library Strategies
September 13, 2011	Re-Imagine Mtg.
September 13, 2011	PULISDO Conference Call

Minutes of the Board of Trustees

Page 30

September 14, 2011 Library Strategies International
September 14, 2011 Mgrs/Dir Mtg Strategic Planning
September 15, 2011 Library Strategies International
September 15, 2011 Hispanic Heritage Month Kick-off
September 15, 2011 B&ECPL Board of Trustees Mtg.
September 16, 2011 Brant Supervisor Pero and Farnham Mayor Caber - Joint Mtg.
September 17, 2011 Medaille College Students Meeting: Role of Literature in Society
September 19, 2011 Concord Supervisor Gary Eppolito Mtg.
September 19, 2011 Mtg. Erie County Legislature Republican Caucus
September 19, 2011 Conference Call Library Strategies International
September 19, 2011 North Buffalo Library Mtg.
September 20, 2011 Boston Supervisor Martin Ballowe Mtg.
September 20, 2011 Legislator Thomas Loughran Lunch Mtg.
September 20, 2011 County Executive Chris Collins Mtg.
September 20, 2011 Assembly Member Dennis Gabryszak Mtg.
September 22, 2011 Booktoberfest
September 26, 2011 Grant Loomis Mtg.
September 26, 2011 Mtg. Floating Collections and Collection HQ
September 26, 2011 Akron/Newstead Mayor Patterson/Supervisor Cummings Joint Meeting
September 27, 2011 Mtg. RBDB Grant: Criterion
September 27, 2011 Assembly Member Kevin Smardz Mtg.
September 27, 2011 WNYLRC Budget and Finance Mtg.
September 27, 2011 County Executive Chris Collins - Buffalo News Interview Mtg.
September 27, 2011 WNYLRC Board Meeting
September 27, 2011 B&ECPL Board of Trustees Planning Committee Meeting
September 28, 2011 Maintenance Dept. Mtg.
September 28, 2011 Cynnie Gaasch - Young Audiences Mtg.
September 28, 2011 Assembly Member Robin Schimminger Mtg.
September 28, 2011 Mtg. Branch Heads
September 28, 2011 Mtg. Patrick Martin, Esq.
September 28, 2011 Town of Tonawanda Supervisor Anthony Caruana Mtg.
September 29, 2011 WNYLRC Committee Breakfast
September 29, 2011 Assembly Member Jane Corwin Mtg.

Agenda Item H – Report of the Foundation. Anne Conable reported on behalf of Victor Rice and Anne Leary on the November 5th *A Rare Affair* Gala. She reminded Board members they were invited to the final gift gathering party at Trustee Amy Alvarez-Perez’s house that evening. If any trustees still wish to attend the Gala, they are to contact Joy Testa Cinquino. Ms. Testa Cinquino reported 46 tables of 10 have been sold and include a gamut of wonderful people attending. Seating lists will be sent to the Board prior to the Gala.

Agenda Item I – Public Comment. There was no public comment.

Agenda Item J – Unfinished Business. Trustee Panty inquired as to the status of the Fables Café contract. Mr. Stone explained due to other priorities there is nothing new to report and the current agreement remains in effect until replaced; this will then need Board approval.

Trustee Schmidt asked when the Board will have the opportunity to vet the draft legislation as a group. Ms. Jakubowski remarked the Board can go into Executive Session and will also bring this to the November 9th Executive Committee meeting. Ms. Jakubowski noted there are some additional decisions that need to be made and this draft legislation is an initial starting point for discussion. At Mr. Schmidt’s request, it was agreed Executive Session would be added at the conclusion of New Business to reiterate his concerns. Mr. Wisbaum also suggested Mr. Schmidt submit a memo to the Board with his reservations/concerns.

Ms. Testa Cinquino provided a brief update on the *Buffalo News* Bucks for Books campaign noting it ends October 30th and to date has raised \$209,440 including \$60,000 from Stan Lipsey and the *Buffalo News* which will go towards books in the Library’s 2012 budget. She expressed immense thanks.

Agenda Item K – New Business.

Agenda Item K.1 – Appointment of Deputy Director. Proposed Resolution 2011-34 was distributed to trustees. Ms. Jakubowski asked Carol Batt, current Assistant Deputy Director, to stand. After taking into consideration resumes received and after speaking with the Chair and Vice Chair in regard to an appointment to the Deputy Director position formerly held by Ms. Jakubowski, Director Jakubowski recommended to the Board the appointment of Carol Batt as Deputy Director. On motion by Ms. Panty and seconded by Ms. Summer the following resolution was unanimously approved:

RESOLUTION 2011-34

WHEREAS, the Unconsolidated Laws of the State of New York authorize the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library Board of Trustees to appoint Deputy Directors for three-year terms, and

WHEREAS, the Library Director has determined that Carol A. Batt is the most qualified individual to fill the position of Deputy Director, Chief Operating Officer, and

WHEREAS, Carol A. Batt exceeds all civil service and other requirements for the position, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees hereby authorizes the appointment of Carol A. Batt to the position of Deputy Director, Chief Operating Officer, at an initial salary of \$92,500, for a three-year appointment to be effective October 22, 2011.

Chair Thomas conveyed congratulations to newly appointed Deputy Director Carol Batt.

Agenda Item K.2 - Resolution to Honor Ann Kling. Chair Thomas invited former Assistant Deputy Director Ann Kling to step forward. She presented Ms. Kling with a framed resolution, which Ms. Thomas read in its entirety. The following resolution was unanimously approved, on motion by Ms. Panty and seconded by Mr. Berger.

RESOLUTION 2011-35

WHEREAS, ANN KLING began her association with the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library (B&ECPL) as a Senior Page in the Business and Labor Department of the Central Library in 1973, and

WHEREAS, she received her Master of Library Science from the State University of New York at Buffalo in 1974, and

WHEREAS, she worked first as a Junior Librarian and later as a Librarian I part-time among the Buffalo branches until September, 1976 when she was affected by layoffs resulting from the Erie County Budget Crisis of 1976-1977, and

WHEREAS, she returned to library service in October, 1977 in a part-time capacity as a Librarian I at the Crane Branch Library, and later in a full-time capacity in June, 1978, and

WHEREAS, she was then reassigned to the Central Library's Area 7 and Area 6 Departments, providing reference and information services to the public

where her work ethic and talent lead to her promotion in 1979 to the title Librarian II, and

WHEREAS, in 1986 she joined the Library's TOLIS automation project as Assistant Project Coordinator, supervising automation teams in converting the collections of B&ECPL's 52 library outlets to machine readable format, and

WHEREAS, in 1994 she was appointed director of the Lancaster Public Library, where for six years she lead staff in providing quality library services, and

WHEREAS, in 2000, she promoted to the title Librarian IV in the Acquisitions Department, overseeing the acquisition of all B&ECPL materials, and

WHEREAS, in 2004, she was promoted to the title Librarian V, where her expanded responsibilities included not only acquisition but cataloging, processing and technology support across all B&ECPL outlets, and

WHEREAS, in 2009 her ability and broad experience lead to her appointment as Assistant Deputy Director – Public Services, overseeing the Central Library, Buffalo City Branches, Institutions, outreach, circulation, collection management, adult, children's and young adult programming and interlibrary loan, and

WHEREAS, throughout her career she has consistently provided professional leadership and expertise through her participation and service to, among others, Western New York Library Resources Council, the New York Library Association and the American Library Association, and now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that in acknowledgment and gratitude for decades of skilled librarianship and dedicated service, the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library Board of Trustees expresses on behalf of the Library, staff and the community at large its profound gratitude and respect as she departs after 38 years of faithful and committed service.

Ms. Jakubowski shared with trustees that Ms. Kling has accepted a position as Director of the Clearview Library District in Windsor, Colorado which will be much closer to her family.

Agenda Item K.3 – Resolution to Honor Peggy A. Skotnicki. Ms. Thomas asked former Assistant Deputy Director Peggy Skotnicki to step forward. She presented her with a framed resolution honoring Ms. Skotnicki for her years of service. Following Ms. Thomas' reading of the resolution, Mr. Berger moved for approval of Resolution 2011-36. Ms. Panty seconded, and the motion was approved.

RESOLUTION 2011-36

WHEREAS, PEGGY A. SKOTNICKI, after receiving her Master of Library Science degree from the State University of New York at Buffalo in 1984, transitioned from a career as a research chemist to that of a librarian, and

WHEREAS, she worked for two years as a children's librarian/assistant branch head at the Orient Heights Branch of the Boston (MA) Public Library, and

WHEREAS, after returning to Western New York she began her association with the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library in 1985 as a Librarian I in the Children's Department, quickly promoting to a Librarian II and became Children's Room Department Head in 1987, followed by a promotion to Librarian III in 1995, and

WHEREAS, in 1997 she assumed responsibilities as Manager - Central Library Special Projects, where she coordinated the Central Library's Retrospective Conversion (RECON) project, and

WHEREAS, she promoted soon after as a Librarian IV as Service Evaluation & Planning Coordinator, acting as liaison to contract library directors, coordinator of System output measures, state/national statistical reports and surveys and supervised the system-wide Process Improvement Project, and

WHEREAS, promoted to Librarian V, as Central Library Administrator she oversaw all Central Library public service functions including collections, budgets, reference, as well as new construction for rare book preservation, successful grant projects that included *Alexander Hamilton: The Man Who Made Modern America* and *Get Graphic*, rare book digitization and coordinated partnerships such as The Western New York Genealogical Society and the Polish Genealogical Society of New York State, and

WHEREAS, in recognition of her expertise and accomplishments, she was appointed in 2009 as Special Collections Administrator, and later Assistant Deputy Director - Special Collections, where she was responsible for the Grosvenor Room's unique and regionally significant materials held by the Library, and where she continued to develop partnerships with regional organizations, identify and prioritize collection needs and develop long-range plans to showcase the Library's numerous treasures, and

WHEREAS, throughout her 26-year career she has consistently and concurrently provided professional leadership and expertise through her roles as President of the B&ECPL Librarians Association union, as well as participation and service to the American Library Association, the New York Library Association and President of the Western New York Library Resources Council, now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that in recognition and appreciation for the decades of leadership and commitment contributed to librarianship and this institution, the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library Board of Trustees expresses on behalf of the Library, staff and the community at large its profound gratitude and deepest respect as she departs after 26 years of faithful service.

On motion by Mr. Connors and seconded by Mr. Berger, the Board adjourned to Executive Session at approximately 4:47 p.m. to discuss a legal matter. Ms. Jakubowski, Mr. Stone and Ellen Bach were invited to remain for Executive Session. On motion by Mr. Connors and seconded by Mr. Berger the Board concluded Executive Session at 5:29 p.m. No action was taken.

There being no further business, on motion by Ms. Panty and seconded by Mr. Horton, the meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine M. Panty
Secretary