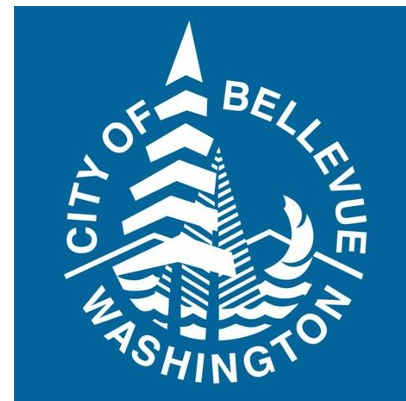


Bellevue Library Advisory Board Report to Bellevue City Council

March 20th, 2017



4 KCLS Libraries within the City of Bellevue

Bellevue, Crossroads, Newport Way & Lake Hills



Objectives of Report

Create Dialogue

- As an advisory board appointed by the City Council, we are committed to more regularly informing the Council about what's happening in our city's libraries, what's been working well, challenges, things that are upcoming, etc.
- We would also like to create the opportunity for you to ask questions, raise issues or topics of interest and provide feedback.

Provide Insights

- Given our position as a conduit between citizens of Bellevue, the City and the King County Library System, the Library Advisory Board is in a position to offer a distinct perspective.

Raise Awareness...

- ...of the library as a significant resource to the Bellevue community and of the role of the Library Advisory Board

Support for City Priorities

Bellevue libraries offer programs focused on priority issues such as:

Education

- Global Reading Challenge
 - 65 teams of six 4th & 5th grade students from Bellevue Schools
- eCard Program for every student in Bellevue School District
 - 20,000 new e-card accounts
- Summer Reading Program for adult, teens and children
- Summer Meal Program for low-income students
 - 1,580 meals provided
- Study Zone & Tutor.com
 - Free in-person & online tutoring & homework help



Community

- Chow Downtown at Ashwood Park
- Bellevue Arts Fair
- Hosting Congressman John Lewis at the Bellevue Library
- Pianos in the Park
- Arts & cultural programming



Support for City Priorities

- **Diversity/Changing Demographics**

- Naturalization ceremonies
 - 22 new citizens from Canada, China, Ethiopia, India, Russia, Sweden, Syria, the United Kingdom & Vietnam
- Citizenship classes
- Talk Time (Practice for Adult English language learners)
 - Weekly gatherings at Lake Hills, Newport Way & Bellevue Libraries
- World Language Story Times for children
 - Hebrew, Mandarin, Cantonese, Spanish & Japanese
- Library materials in multiple languages
 - Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Gujarati, Hebrew, Hindi, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Marathi, Panjabi, Persian, Polish, Russian, Spanish, Tagalog, Tamil, Thai, Ukrainian, Vietnamese

- **Economic Empowerment**

- Free Microsoft Office specialist certification
- SCORE small business counseling
- Resume writing and job search assistance
- Computer coaching at Mini City Hall

Community Connections

KCLS libraries embraces opportunities to partner with other organizations to find creative ways to engage with Bellevue citizens:

Strong relationships between all four libraries and

- City of Bellevue Arts Commission
- Parks & Community Services
- Neighborhood Outreach
- Environmental Stewardship
- Office of Emergency Management
- Bellevue Police Department
- City of Bellevue's Diversity Advantage program

- Bellevue Downtown Association
 - Supporting winter ice rink, Four on the 4th Dog Walk & (soon) Live at Lunch
 - AARP
 - Free tax help & e-filing
- Bellevue Chamber of Commerce
- Bellevue Youth Theatre
- Bellevue Arts Museum
- Chinese Information & Service Center
- Eastside Pathways

Library branches enjoy strong community support

Bellevue Friends of the Library (BFOL) contributed more than 6,000 volunteer hours and \$50,000 to programming at Lake Hills, Bellevue & Crossroads Libraries in 2016.

Some examples of the impact include:

BFOL financial contributions to...

• Children's Programs	\$18,050
• Young Adult Programs	\$ 9,300
• Adult Programs	\$14,500
• All Ages	\$ 2,000



Directly enables programs such as:

- | | |
|---|--------------------------|
| • Children's story time and puppet show | • Book Discussion groups |
| • Summer reading programs | • Job training seminars |
| • Teen workshops | • Guest author events |
| • Shakespeare and opera programs | • Book give away events |

In addition BFOL volunteers contribute roughly 480 hours per month to stock and staff the Corner Book Shop

Library branches enjoy strong community support

Newport Way Library Association contributed more than 1,000 volunteer hours and \$8,000 in support of the Newport Way Library in 2016. Some examples of the impact include:

Hours

- | | |
|----------------------------|-----------|
| • Ongoing book sale | 469 hours |
| • November book sale | 300 hours |
| • May Book Sale | 64 hours |
| • Global Reading Challenge | 24 hours |



Newport Way Library Association

Dollars

- | | |
|--------------------------|--|
| • Summer Meals | \$116 |
| • Maker Day | \$2032 (3000+ attendees, 19 different programs) |
| • 14 Children's programs | \$1746 |
| • 10 Teen programs | \$2485 |
| • 11 Adult programs | \$1762 |

In addition the Association commissioned & purchased a sculpture by Kentaro Kojima, now placed in the Newport Way Library's art garden.

Bellevue Residents Use Their Libraries

- Items checked out in 2016 - 2,462,940*
- Library cards issued - 17,762
- Number of visitors - 1,560,378
- Number of public programs – 1,770
- Estimated attendance – 58,500

* *Does not include e-books, streaming media & other downloads*



Future Challenges

As a public institution, the library faces a balancing act on number of larger social issues in order to ensure that all patrons feel welcome and safe:

- Homelessness
- Drug use
- Mental illness

NOTE - Support from Bellevue Police Department has been & is greatly appreciated. Continued cooperation from city on this and in other forms is important to help address these issues.

Changes to Downtown

Downtown development in the area has increased demand for parking in the area, despite the new garage, creating a crunch for library staff, volunteers & patrons.

Looking Forward...

KCLS Strategic Plan –

KCLS is in the process of developing its new 3-5 year Strategic Plan.

After a robust public process -- including surveys, public meetings, interviews with community leaders and staff & patron focus groups -- priorities have been narrowed to three potential scenarios: Connections & Navigation, Belonging & Skills Building.

Input from City Council members by March 31st to help further refine the focus welcomed. More information on the process and scenarios as well as a brief survey can be found at:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/draftscenarios>

Bellevue libraries will work to align to the plan in a way that best captures unique needs of Bellevue citizens.

New Advisory Board Members -

The Library Advisory Board will have three seats opening up in June 2017.

APPENDIX

Library Board



Chad Davis, President
Peter Maxim , Vice President
Cris Dreher, Secretary

Judy Bailey
Alice Lee
Loretta Lopez
Barbara Spindel