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HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES MEETING December 20, 2016

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Library Recognition: Executive Director Jason Kuhl shared two certificates of appreciation presented to AHML for 1) “outstanding support of students and their future” through our involvement with entrepreneurial students and interns in High School District 214’s Career Pathways program, 2) from J.J.’s List for making disability awareness training a priority for staff training.

Strategic planning: Presented plans for creating a new 3-year Strategic Plan, with the committee’s first meeting set for January 13, to be followed by a staff/board brainstorming and refinement of the Vision, Values, and Priorities.

Inspiring Understanding: Jason shared American Library Association president Julie Todaro’s focus on diversity and inclusion: “Our nation’s libraries serve all community members, including people of color, immigrants, people with disabilities, and the most vulnerable in our communities, **offering services and educational resources that transform communities, open minds and promote inclusion and diversity.**”

As the Library Administrative Team (LAT) continues to reflect on 2017 planning, it has become clear that we can and should keep this focus top of mind. We know it is so important that we are adopting **Inspiring Understanding** as a formal theme for 2017, and we will be incorporating it into many of our program and service offerings as we work toward advancing a culture of openness.

LATE OPENING FOR STAFF INSTITUTE DAY 2017

The Board authorized the delayed opening of the library at 1 p.m. on Wednesday, February 15, 2017 in order to provide our once-a-year training opportunity for the entire staff. We will be featuring a conference-style presentation by the Chicago Regional Organizing for AntiRacism (CROAR), a partner of Crossroads Antiracism Organizing & Training.

The goal is to raise awareness and create a common understanding of what it would mean for our library to start on the path to become a truly inclusive institution.

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We will learn about and have the opportunity to discuss:

- What is culture? What is dominant culture?
- What effect does power have on equity?
- How do our institutions (such as our library) become complicit in perpetuating racism and segregation by cultural differences?

Following the Chicago ROAR presentation, senior staff will address next steps in developing the library's critical cultural competency. We will also honor staff who have earned recognition awards for 10-, 15-, 20-, 25, 30 - or more years of service to AHML.

2017 BUDGET AMENDMENT

The Board approved a budget amendment to the recently approved 2017 Budget. This amendment will add the Director of Administration position to the Administration budget. The dollars are being reallocated from other budget lines from across the library, which represents no change in the overall amount of 2017 budget.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Strategic Planning Committee: Friday, January 13, 9:30 a.m.

Annual Breakfast with Village of Arlington Heights Board of Trustees: Saturday, January 14, 8 a.m., Cardinal Room

Board of Trustees Meeting: Tuesday, January 17, 7:30 p.m – Board Room