

**BRIDGEPORT PUBLIC LIBRARY**  
**REPORT OF THE CITY LIBRARIAN**  
**September/October 2022**

- The Assistant City Librarian and City Librarian had a pleasant and productive meeting with Mark Contreras, CEO of CTPublic. We discussed ways that our two organizations can work together. Their major initiative is bringing local news coverage to Fairfield County over multiple platforms, including a digital platform using apps. Mark has introduced us to two key staff at CTPublic: their Chief Development Officer who is in charge of Civility efforts, and the Chief Underwriting Officer, who can assist the library with media outreach efforts, helping us reach a wider market in promoting our new branches, Digital Navigator Pilot and other initiatives.
- The Table of Organization has been included in the Board packet for approval of the addition of the Support Specialist II position. The Job Description for this position accompanies the Table of Organization.
- The Library has been invited to the MIRA (Mayor's Initiative on Re-entry Affairs) Resource Fair on October 26.
- Andre O'Connor, Digital Navigator Coordinator, Vivian Bordeaux, Advisor to the DN Pilot, and I attended the Connecticut Libraries and Partners for Digital Equity (CTLPDE) meeting at Hartford Public Library on October 5. Individuals from local government, non-profit agencies, and libraries across the state attended to hear Tracie D. Hall, Executive Director of the American Library Association speak about why Digital Equity matters. Bridgeport Public Library was acknowledged for our own efforts towards ensuring digital equity and access to technology and the Internet. It was inspiring to hear the panel of speakers, who described their experiences since covid-19 and their efforts towards digital equity, including municipal leaders in Norwalk, Hartford and East Hartford, and workers in the fields of legal aid, public health and of course, libraries. It was also a great networking opportunity.
- We continue to work with the Central Grants Office to get reimbursement documents in order for Newfield and Beardsley Construction Grant reimbursements. We are also working with Central Grants to gather all needed documents to complete the application for the bond being administered by the State Library, including floor plans, SHIPPO verification and other materials.
- As noted in the Technical Services Report, Baker & Taylor, our major book vendor suffered a major Ransomware attack and has had to cease sending out books nationwide. We have just received an update from Baker & Taylor that we can now start ordering and receiving books again.
- As I will be on vacation during the third week of November, the submission of board reports will be taken care of by the Assistant City Librarian. I remain open to the board's advisement in this matter.

Respectfully Submitted by  
Elaine Braithwaite  
City Librarian  
October 19, 2022